



The Range Children's Centre Newsletter July/August 2021

Families and Children

Welcome to our newsletter

We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new families. This newsletter is circulated bi-monthly. If you have any questions or would like something included in this newsletter please contact the office

Email: office@therangecc.org.au

Phone: 9397 8244

The Committee of Management consists of:

President: Aislinn

Vice President: Carey

Secretary: Jessica

Treasurer: Steve

General Member: Kirsten, Alistair, Jacqui, Rebecca, Jarrod, Simone, Peter, Chris

Kindergarten Constative Rep: Rebecca and Kirsten

3yo Kindergarten Constative Rep Jacqui

Reconciliation Action Plan Representative: Alistair

You can contact the committee via email.

Committee@therangecc.org.au

Management consists of:

Director: Janice

Assistant Director: Nellie

Educational Leader/ 3IC: Robyn

Bookkeeper: Thao

Tuesday 8.30 – 5.00

Thursday 8.30 – 5.00

Friday 7.30 – 4.00

Fee Statements

Your fee statements will be emailed to you every 2 weeks.

Families experiencing difficulties paying their fees should come and speak to Janice.

Changes in 2022 for 3-Year-Old Kindergarten Enrolment

With the role out of 3-year-old funded kindergarten in 2022 enrolments now need to be lodged with Hobsons Bay. Please follow the link to enrol

<https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-services/Families-Children/Kindergartens/Three-Year-Old-Kindergarten>

4-year-old Kindergarten enrolments for 2022 are now open.

Follow the link to enrol your child for next year

If you are interested or need more information about 4-year-old integrated Kindergarten at The Range please speak to someone in the office

Important Dates

Week of 2nd August – Centre photos.

Please go to the link to register and pay

www.hellophoto.com.au/range

Christmas dates:

Last day Kindergarten:

Red Group: 13th December

Green Group: 14th December

Blue Group: 10th December

Last Day Long Day Care: 21st December

Staff Changes

We would like to welcome Belinda as the new Room Leader in the Kookaburra Room. Belinda has an extensive background in Early Childhood and many years' experience working in an Early Childhood setting. Sam (multi age educator) has commenced her maternity leave with her baby due early September. We wish her well and look forward to meeting the new arrival when the time comes.

We would like to welcome Kat to the team. Kat will be covering Sam's maternity leave

COVID Update

Just a reminder to all families that there are certain procedures that need to be followed to remain COVID safe. Please continue to **sanitise your hands** and your child's hands, on arrival and when leaving. A sanitising station is located outside the entrance door.

Masks are required to be worn when delivering or picking up children

Remember to use the **QR code to check in**

Also please do not linger unnecessarily in the halls, foyer or rooms. Conversations between families can take place outside.

Buying and Selling Days

If you are wanting to buy or sell a day, please notify Nellie in the office via email as soon as possible so that the day can be offered to someone who has requested it.

nellie@therangecc.org.au

Please visit our website to find out more information about our service and to access online forms

<https://www.therangecc.org.au/>

2021 Fees

Our long day care fees from 5th July \$124 per day

Kindergarten Term Fees.

3-year-old kindergarten is \$515

4-year-old kindergarten is \$475

Fees need to be paid 2 weeks

Hobsons Bay

Immunisation Program

2021

<https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-services/Families-Children/Immunisation>

Centre Policies

Our Privacy and Confidentiality Policy has been updated to include changes to "Sharing of Information" to read the policy please speak to Janice



Congratulations

Congratulations to Nam who is getting married to Esther on 21st August.

We wish Esther and Nam a happy fulfilling life together

Emergency Evacuation Procedure

Every month an allocated room will call a drill within the centre. These drills may be a fire drill, a lock down or a shelter in place. These drills allow children and staff to be prepared and aware of procedures if at any time a real emergency may occur. When we have a drill, we evacuate to our pre-determined meeting points either in the koala/kookaburra yard by the amphitheatre or in the fairy garden/entry area. These are drill meeting points only. In case of a real event, we would evacuate to the corner of the carpark, opposite the entry gate.

If we need to evacuate offsite, we then proceed to our secondary safety assembly point. This is located next door at Nelson Bros funeral home.

As required under the National Regulations we have an Emergency Management Plan in place. This plan outlines procedures and actions to be followed in an emergency. If you're interested in reading our Emergency Management Plan it is located in the foyer opposite the office on the notice board. Alternatively, please feel free to have a chat to the staff.

eSafety

eSafety is a big concern at the moment. The following link has excellent advice on how to keep your children safe on the internet.

Please have a look

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/educators>

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/kids>

Retirement

Robyn who is the Educational Leader will be retiring on the 3rd September 2021.

Robyn has been at The Range since 2010 and has been a valued and much respected team member.

Robyn plans to become a Grey Nomad and travel within Australia with her husband Bruno

We will be sad to see her go but wish her safe travels

From the Educational Leader

Summative Assessments for Kindergarten children have been sent home, Long Day Care Summative Assessments will be sent home at the end of July. If you have any questions or concerns, please phone or email the office and a phone interview can be arranged.

Could all parents please complete the short survey and write down two achievable goals for your child to work towards for the remainder of the year.

Parents are welcome to take home their child's portfolio to have a look. Please remember to sign them out then back in when you return them. Please note replacement portfolios will not be available if they are lost or not returned. At the end of the year these portfolios will be yours to keep.

Staff Training

Jenny and Jennifer 16th July

Will attend a Professional Development Presentation on Puppetry funded through the School Readiness Funding (SRF)

Kitchen Audit

The kitchen will be undertaking an Audit on 21st July. This is an independent audit that is carried out annually

Thank you

Thank you to Graeme the bee keeper who visited the kinder children to talk to them about Bees and the amazing work these very important insects do.

Thank you to all the parents for the special things you do to show your appreciation.

If any parent has a special skill or hobby they would like to share please pop into the office and have a chat with Janice or Nellie

Working With Children Clearance (WWCC) is required for anyone providing a presentation

Excursion/ Incursions

10th August

Dinosaurs will be returning to do an incursion for Purple Kindergarten

Clothes

As the colder weather is fast approaching could you please send along some extra clothing. Water play will continue to be available to the children so they may need a change of clothes.

Grants

We have been very busy applying for several grants that have been made available

We will keep you informed of the outcome

Please Phone

Just a reminder to please phone the centre before 10:30 am if your child is not coming in. If we have not heard from you, we will be giving you a call.

This is part of our strategies in the Forgotten baby/child Syndrome Policy

Car Park Safety

Just a reminder to all families that the car park has a speed limit of 5 kms.

Please be careful when entering and exiting the car park as children sometimes detach themselves from their parents and can run off. Also please keep an eye out for pedestrians on the foot path.



We are in need of a handyman. From time to time there are things around the centre that need fixing or assembling. We would like to engage the services of someone who could lend a hand or be paid a small amount to help us out. If interested please speak to Janice or Nellie.

Feedback

We welcome feedback! If you have something you would like to tell us please feel free to drop us a line. You can email us on office@therangecc.org.au or you can give us a call

Birthday Cakes

Just a reminder that birthday cakes need to be:

- purchased from a supermarket or similar where packaging is clearly labelled with a list of all ingredients.
- nut free
- be plain, with no elaborate icing or cream
- accompanied by a receipt



Suggestions:

Menu

The Winter menu is now up and running. For further information please visit our website

Kindergarten Term Dates 2021

3rd term: Monday 12th July – Friday 17th September

4th term: Monday 4th October – Friday 17th December

New Child Safe Standards to strengthen child safety will commence in Victoria on 1 July 2022

The Child Safe Standards (the Standards) commenced in Victoria in January 2016. After five years, we have seen how the Standards improve safety for children and young people.

Changes are being made to make our Standards even stronger.

Organisations¹ covered by the Standards will need to comply with new Standards by **1 July 2022**. Until then, the current Standards apply.

The new Standards set out minimum requirements and outline the actions organisations must take to keep children and young people safe. They provide more clarity for organisations and are more consistent with Standards in the rest of Australia.

The things organisations already do to keep children and young people safe will help them be compliant with the new Standards. In some areas, organisations will need to change or develop their current child safety policy, practices and organisational culture to meet the new Standards.

Further information and guidance will be provided by the Commission and other regulators over the coming months to help organisations move to the new Standards by **1 July 2022**.

From the Kitchen



Potato and Bacon Chowder

(Adjust quantities to suit)



- 1kg diced bacon
- ½ bunch celery
- 4 tsp dried thyme
- 3 tbs butter
- 2 onions
- 4 tbs plain flour
- 6kgs potatoes diced
- 3x 600mls sour cream
- 3-4 litres veggie or chicken stock
- In a little oil cook bacon for about 5 mins. remove from pan
- On a low heat melt butter, add onion, celery and thyme until cooked
- Return bacon and stir. Add flour and cook for 1 min.
- Add stock. Bring to the boil then add diced potatoes
- When tender remove from heat and stir in sour cream

