



Families and Children's Newsletter

September/October 2022

Email: office@therangecc.org.au Phone: 03 9397 8244

Monday – Friday 7:00am – 6:00pm

CODVID Update

Any child or staff member that tests positive to COVID-19 must now isolate for a minimum of 5 instead of 7 days. If they are asymptomatic, they may return to the early childhood education and care (ECEC) service on day 6. If they are symptomatic, they must remain in isolation until day 7. If symptoms continue after 7 days, they are strongly advised to stay home until their symptoms have resolved.

As additional risk mitigation, the Department of Health strongly recommends that staff, parents, carers and children (aged 8 years or older) attending a service after isolation, wear a face mask when away from home, both indoors and outdoors, and when they cannot physically distance. Those leaving isolation on day 6, should wear a mask for 5 days but particularly the first 2 days. Those leaving isolation on day 7, should wear a mask for 4 days but particularly the first 2 days. Masks can be removed when staff are actively teaching and clear enunciation or visibility of the mouth is essential.

Additional information can be sourced at:

www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au



The Range Children's Centre would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families and thank our existing families for their continued support.

Calendar of Events



1st – First Day of Spring
4th – Father's Day
7th – Early Childhood Educator's Day
8th – International Literacy Day
19th – 0 International Talk Like a Pirate Day
21st International Day of Peace
24th AFL Grand Final



1st – International Day of the Older Person
4th – World Animal Day
4th – 10th – World Space Week
24th – Diwali
22nd - 30th – Children's Week
31st – Halloween

Committee of Management

Committee for 2022

President: Aislinn **Secretary:** Rebecca

Vice President: Lauren **Treasurer:** Matt

Kindergarten Consultative: Kirsten

Reconciliation Action Plan Rep.: Alistair

Garden Consultative: Nicole

General Members: Peter, Adrian, Chris, Daniel

Email: committee@therangecc.org.au

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 25th October 7pm

The Committee of Management would like to invite you to attend our Annual General Meeting.

The AGM provides a great opportunity to get together and share the achievements of The Range during 2022 and discuss what is on the horizon for 2023. We would encourage as many people as possible to come, and hear more about the centre that our families, children and staff are a part of.

The AGM is also a time for the Committee to get your feedback and we welcome your contribution to the discussions about the future direction of the service.

This year we will be having this In-house and through Zoom.

The link will be sent out shortly.

New Child Safe Standards

On the 1st of July, the new Child Safe Standards are put into effect across the state of Victoria. These new changes are being made to update the previous 7 standards established in 2016, which makes the Standards even stronger.

Over the course of the next 11 Newsletters, we will be highlighting a Child Safe Standard and showing you how we are actively complying with that Standard. For more information about all the Standards see the link below or come and see our new Child Safe Standards Display between the two Kindergarten Rooms.

Additional information can also be found at the Commission for Children and Young People at: www.cryp.vic.gov.au

Child Safe Standard 2: Child Safety and Wellbeing is embedded in Organisational Leadership, Governance and Culture

This standard helps build a strong foundation of Child Safety in a service which can assist with scaffolding the new requirements.

TRCC Implements this standard by:

- Our Policies and Procedures, Code of Conduct and Philosophy reflect a culturally safe environment for all children and is strictly adhered to.
- Child Safe Statement provides children, families and educators with the service's commitment to keeping every child safe. Staff sign and uphold the Child Safe Statement.
- Child Safe Champions have been established throughout the Centre to ensure all children and educators are being supported.
- Child Safe Standards and Safe Environments are discussed at every Committee of Management and Staff Meeting.
- Our commitment to child safety is outlined on our website, in recruitment hand induction practices and in relevant documents.

Centre Management Consists of:

Director: Janice
Assistant Director: Nellie
Educational Leader/3IC: Lisa

Bookkeeper:
Thao
Tuesday 8.30 – 5.00
Thursday 8.30 – 5.00
Friday 7.30 – 4.00

Christmas Break Schedule

This year the Holiday break for Long Day Care and
Purple Kindergarten is:

Last Day of 2022 - Wednesday, 21st December
First Day of 2023 – Tuesday, 10th January

The Last Day for Sessional Kindergarten is:

Red Group – Wednesday, 14th December
Green Group – Thursday, 15th December
Blue Group – Friday, 16th December

Our Street is ONE WAY

It has come to our attention that a few people are arriving for drop-off or pick-up, and driving the wrong way down the service road when leaving the service. Once you enter into the service road near Woolworths, the road is one way. Therefore, if you want to go back to Woolworths after dropping or collecting children, you still need to turn left at the end of the car park and turn back around at the roundabout.

It is unsafe to drive the wrong way down a one-way street, so please follow the road laws.

Translation & Interpreter Services

The Victoria State Government, Education and Training has a contract with Language Loop to provide interpreting services to the centre.

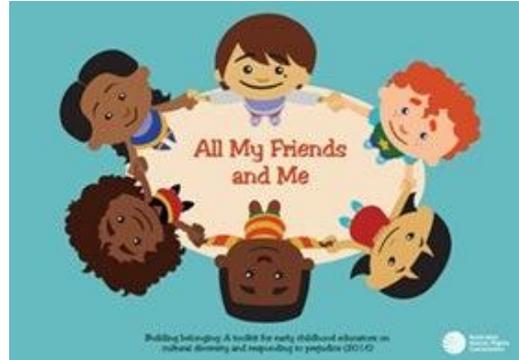
If you know a family who would like to access this, please ask them to pop into the office for more information.

Updates from around the Service

Building Belonging

Building belonging is a comprehensive toolkit for Early Childhood Educators which focuses on encouraging respect on cultural diversity and tackling racial prejudice in early childhood settings.

‘All My Friends and Me’ is an eBook that tells the story of Pax and her friends at preschool as they explore their similarities and differences.



https://humanrights.gov.au/allmyfriendsandme/?_ga=2.158376381.664444995.1663654903-1083711243.1663654903

If you read this story to your family, please offer feedback to the Management Team.

New Educational Leader

We would like to welcome Lisa to the team as the new Educational Leader at The Range. Lisa has been working in the industry for over 15 years.

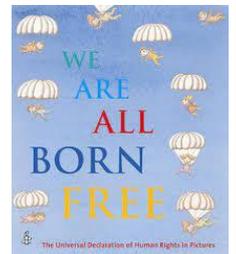
Recently, she has been employed as an Early Childhood Trainer and Assessor.

Lisa will be starting on Monday 3rd October.

Please feel free to stop by the office and say hello!

New Child Safe Resource in the Service

The Range has purchased a couple of copies of a new storybook written and illustrated by the request of Amnesty International. You can find a copy to look through in the hallway, above the Possum Room Children's Lockers to browse through. Educators will develop a program in the older rooms where this storybook can be explored during experiences and group time.



Policy Updates

Each month, the Management Team updates a few policies, which are then reviewed and signed off by the Committee of Management and the Centre Director.

Links to the Child Safe Standards is a new addition to all policies being updated moving forward.

Updated in July

0036 - Supporting Children's Individual Needs

0039 - Complaints & Grievances

0061 - Conditions of Employment

Updated in August

0022 - Healthy Eating

Reminders

Car Park Safety

Please note that the car park speed limit is 5kms. The safety of our children is important and we want to ensure everyone can cross the car park safely.

Please note that it is dangerous to leave children unattended in a car. If you cannot bring your child inside due to a sleeping child, please call staff to collect your child.

Immunisations

Families are required to provide a copy of current immunisation statement for their child that attends care/kinder.

This information can be accessed via your MyGov account and can be emailed or brought to the service for us to make a copy. It is very important to keep our records up to date to stay in line with **No Jab No Play** regulations.

Buying and Selling Days

Just a reminder to all families that the centre allows for the buying and selling of days. If you want to buy or sell a day, please notify Nellie in the office. Nellie will then organise (on a first come, first serve basis) to sell available days for someone requesting it. Emails about buying and selling days can be sent to nellie@therangecc.org.au

From the Educational Leader

We have recently sent out the Summative Assessments to all the families, which had attached a survey. These surveys have been returned and based on the feedback from them, it has come to our attention that some families are unaware of our planning cycle.

Every month there is a new plan made for every room. Once the plan has been written, it is displayed on the Room Planning Board and an additional copy of the plan is placed in your child's portfolio every month.

You can ask the educators in the room where to find the Planning Board for your child's room. This board is also home to the fortnightly Reflections, Music Program and other important information regarding planning.

Every child is provided their own portfolio which consists of all the Reflections, Monthly Plan, Art Work and Learning Stories written about your child over the course of the year.

The Joey Room and the Possum Room portfolios are located in the hallway, just outside their rooms, while the rest of the Rooms have their portfolios inside the rooms for children to access.

We want families to know that portfolios can go home anytime. You and your child can sit together and enjoy some reading time at home. However, we encourage families to sign their child's portfolios out so we are able to keep track of where they are.

Fortnightly reflections can also be seen on our website, if that is more convenient.

Sustainable Projects

Some of the Rooms in the Centre have some pretty exciting projects they want to start but are looking for a little help sourcing some materials. If you have any of these items at home and are willing to bring them in, we would really appreciate it.

Long Day Care Rooms

- Shoe Boxes and Glass Jars with Lids
- Digital and Technology Parts – Keyboards, Mobile Phones and anything we can use as part of imaginative play experiences that features technology that you no longer want in your home.

Purple Kindergarten

- Loose Parts such as pipe cleaners, crates, rims, pieces of timber, natural resources (shells, hollow logs, etc.) and building materials (pipes, boards, etc.)

Sessional Kindergarten

- Recycled Small Parts – Paper towel rolls, container lids, unused straws and general recycled items.

Feedback

We welcome feedback! If you have something you would like to tell us please feel free to drop us feedback. Email and phone number are at the top of the newsletter.

Please visit our website to find out more information about our Centre and to access online forms, room information and more.

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

2022 Service Fees

Our long day care fees from 4th July, 2022
\$128 per day

Fee Statements

Your fee statements will be emailed to you every 2 weeks. Families experiencing difficulties paying their fees, should speak to Janice.

TRCC Website

The Range website has a plethora of information about your children's time in childcare such as weekly menus, room reflections, calendar of events and even this newsletter. Just click the link below and look under the 'Parents Lounge' tab for all your informational needs.

www.therangecc.org.au

Reconciliation Action Plan

Each Year a member of the Staff would work on the Reconciliation Action Plan in conjunction with the Management Team and other Educators.

This year, we have developed a new strategy. We have created a RAP Team with members from each room participating in creating and developing the concepts we would like to implement in the Centre over the course of the next year.

The RAP Team will meet at the beginning of every staff meeting to collaborate and develop what will be implemented into the Service and how it should be done. Then the Team Members will bring this knowledge into every room to implement and discuss with their own room teams for further development.

Birthday Cakes

Just a reminder that Birthday Cakes for the children can still be provided for Birthday Celebrations. Please see the following conditions to ensure everyone stays safe.



- Purchase directly from the supermarket
- Packaging is clearly labelled with all ingredients
- NUT FREE
- As plain as possible with minimal icing or cream
- Must provide receipt with purchase

From the Kitchen



Ingredients

- 1, 500 grams of Nuttalex
2. 3 cups of Caster Sugar-200 grams
3. Vanilla Extract 4 TSP
4. 2 Kgs of Self-Rising Flour
5. 3 TSP Baking Powder
6. 8 Apples – Chopped
7. 750grams of Mixed Berries
8. Canola Pan Spray

Mixed Berry Muffins- summer menu

1. Combine: In a glass bowl, combine nuttalex, sugar and Vanilla. Cream together (with a mixer is best)
2. Add apples and incorporate
3. To sugar mixture, add flour and baking powder and mix to combine
4. Gently fold in thawed berries to mixture
5. Prepare Cooking Trays: Spray tray with Canola pan spray until lightly coated
6. Evenly pour batter into prepared pans and smooth until batter is evenly distributed throughout the pan
7. Bake at 180 C for approximately 30 minutes. Allow to cool completely before slicing and removing from tray

This will serve 72

Pop them into your freezers great for snacks and lunches

TIPS FOR TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT PERSONAL



Article 12 of the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child states that children have the right to have a say in matters that affect them, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.



It is always the responsibility of adults to keep children safe from harm - child abuse is never a child's fault.

IDEAS FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

Children have the right to feel able to speak up, and to be listened to, respected and believed.

When we "tune into" children in everyday situations about even small worries, children are more likely to trust us and feel comfortable to tell us if something big is wrong.

Speaking regularly to children about their safety is a powerful way to build open communication with them.

● Help children to identify trusted adults (both within the family and outside) they can talk to, if they are worried, upset, or don't feel safe. Create a list together. Make sure the trusted adults know they are on your child's list.

● Remind children that they can talk to you or a trusted adult about anything, no matter how big or small their worry might be.

● Talk to children about how they know when they feel safe or unsafe. Help them to listen to their early warning signs (how their body feels), and to trust their feelings and instincts.

● Use everyday activities (such as preparing meals and snacks, going for walks, playing, shopping) as opportunities for conversations. If children are used to having lots of communication, it can make it easier to talk when big or tricky issues come up.

● Be open to talking about all kinds of feelings, including anger, joy, frustration, fear and anxiety. This helps children to develop a 'feelings vocabulary'.

● Show children that you can respond sensitively to negative emotions as well as positive ones when they express their anger, embarrassment, sadness or fear.

● Don't rush into problem-solving. Your child might just want you to listen, and to know that their feelings and point of view matter to someone.

7 Steps to Safety - a tool for families to give children the skills and confidence they need to feel and be safe at home:
www.territoryfamilies.nt.gov.au/children-and-families/7-steps-to-safety

Australian Council on Children and the Media:
www.childrenandmedia.org.au

Office of the eSafety Commissioner:
www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent Raising

Children Network: www.raisingchildren.net.au

Talk soon. Talk often.

A guide for parents talking to their kids about sex:
www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S_T/Talk-soon-Talk-often

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (United Kingdom): www.nspcc.org.uk

Net Aware (United Kingdom): www.net-aware.org.uk



If you work in an organisation that would like to know more about how to create a child-safe culture, contact NAPCAN about available training.



For more information about how you can play your part visit: www.napcan.org.au



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