Belonging, Being & Becoming

The Early Years Learning Framework also known as EYLF (staff will refer to this as the ‘elf’ document) is what we are governed by with your child and the outcomes we would like them to achieve throughout their time at Kindy. The EYLF is underpinned by principles of ‘Belonging, Being & Becoming’. Staff have been meeting each Tuesday after Kindy to discuss sections of the framework in an effort to gain greater knowledge and understandings of the framework and to implement these understandings into our planning and programming for the children. The conversations we shared at our recent meetings regarding Belonging, Being and Becoming were insightful and led us to consider these elements at a deeper level.

The framework is designed for children from birth to age 5 and through to the transition process to school. It has five learning outcomes which you may have already seen in and around the Kindy or on your child’s work samples within their profile book. They are:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
- Children are effective communicators
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children are confident and involved learners

We are considering what Belonging, Being and Becoming means in our site and intend to come up with some guiding statements which we will seek feedback on at a later date. The framework suggests that is is difficult to consider just one of these elements at a time and in fact they are inter-related meaning that a child cannot experience one without another element at the same time. We wish to promote the notion of ‘being’ in our Kindy and therefore we are working on a plan for Term 4 regarding utilising the Friday Kindy days as days of ‘being’. This may mean that on these days the children will come into Kindy and the experiences that are normally mapped out on the tables will not be there. The tables will be free of items to play with allowing opportunities for the children to select their own tasks and leanings. Of course staff will be there to assist the children and provide them with resources they require such as cutting, pasting, gluing materials etc.

More information will be shared closer to the time however we felt it was important to share this with you now so as to give you information that has led to our careful consideration and program trials. If you have any questions please come in and see us.

Newsletter No. 15 3rd Sept—2013

Kindy Photo Day

Kindy Photo Day is this Thursday 5th Sept. You already have received an envelope with your child’s name on it for ordering purposes. Please make sure it is sent into Kindy by Thursday. We are receiving envelopes already and we are happy continue to do this for you. The children will each be individually photographed as well as a Kindy Group photo. It is a wonderful record of your child’s time at Kindy. Please take the time to view the options available for Kindy Photo’s and return the envelope with money enclosed please. If you have any questions please come and see us.

Bulb Fundraiser

Last week we sent home a BULB FUNDRAISER brochure. In the past this has been a wonderful project for our Kindy in terms of Fundraising. Please get in touch with your family and friends and ask them if they wish to purchase some bulbs in support of the Kindy. Many names can fit onto the one order form. These bulbs are the ‘summer’ bulb range and therefore can be purchased in preparation for Summer time. Orders and money need to be back into Kindy by the end of Week 8 this term which is Friday 13th Sept.

Governing Council Meeting

Next week Governing Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th September at 7.30pm.

Diary Dates

Term 3

Week 7
3 Sept—Kindy Day
5 Sept—Kindy Day

Week 8
10 Sept—Kindy Day

Governing Council Meeting 7.30pm
12 Sept—Kindy Day
13 Sept—Admin Day

Week 9
17 Sept—Kindy Day
19 Sept—Kindy Day
20 Sept—Kindy Day

Children have a strong sense of identity
Children are connected with and contribute to their world
Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
Children are confident and involved learners
Children are effective communicators

Our Kindergarten Values are:
Active Learning

Respect
Wellbeing
Relationships

Governing Council Meeting

29 Edward Street, Meningie SA 5264
PH: 85751290 Fax: 85751735
Email: dl.6553_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Active Learning

Respect

Wellbeing

Relationships

Governing Council Meeting

29 Edward Street, Meningie SA 5264
PH: 85751290 Fax: 85751735
Email: dl.6553_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Diary Dates

Term 3

Week 7
3 Sept—Kindy Day
5 Sept—Kindy Day

Week 8
10 Sept—Kindy Day

Governing Council Meeting 7.30pm
12 Sept—Kindy Day
13 Sept—Admin Day

Week 9
17 Sept—Kindy Day
19 Sept—Kindy Day
20 Sept—Kindy Day

Children have a strong sense of identity
Children are connected with and contribute to their world
Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
Children are confident and involved learners
Children are effective communicators

Our Kindergarten Values are:
Active Learning

Respect
Wellbeing
Relationships

Governing Council Meeting

29 Edward Street, Meningie SA 5264
PH: 85751290 Fax: 85751735
Email: dl.6553_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

Diary Dates

Term 3

Week 7
3 Sept—Kindy Day
5 Sept—Kindy Day

Week 8
10 Sept—Kindy Day

Governing Council Meeting 7.30pm
12 Sept—Kindy Day
13 Sept—Admin Day

Week 9
17 Sept—Kindy Day
19 Sept—Kindy Day
20 Sept—Kindy Day

Children have a strong sense of identity
Children are connected with and contribute to their world
Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
Children are confident and involved learners
Children are effective communicators

Our Kindergarten Values are:
Active Learning

Respect
Wellbeing
Relationships

Governing Council Meeting

29 Edward Street, Meningie SA 5264
PH: 85751290 Fax: 85751735
Email: dl.6553_leaders@schools.sa.edu.au
Excursion Thankyou
Please accept our thanks for the parents who were able to assist on the day of our Excursion to the Shops. The children had a great time with the highlight being decorating donuts at the Bakery! Personal thanks to Catherine Burnett, Eliza Tuckwell, Sam Richards, Orey Hartwig, Faith Hill and Karen Crouch.

Jolly Phonics
This week's letter is Zz. The action for this letter is to pretend to be a bee, with your elbows in and your hands flapping, saying ‘zzzzzzzzzzz’.

Children's Profile Books
We have been sending home the children's books for families to view with the opportunity to provide feedback to your child about their learning. If you still have these books at home we do require them back so we can continue to add their learning journey throughout their time at Kindy.

Eat a Rainbow Program
Next term, for the first five weeks we will be participating in an OPAL initiative entitled Eat a Rainbow. This program aims to increase children's fruit and vegetable intake through a range of activities that allows children to taste, smell and touch a variety of fruits and vegetables in a rainbow of colours. The program encourages children to 'have a go' at trying these foods in a fun, friendly and safe environment. OPAL manager Sheridan O'Brien and Emily Arbon will lead us through this project. A celebration will occur at the end of the five weeks where families will be invited in to share in the fun.

Evacuation Practise
We have had a chance to have an evacuation practice at Kindy. In fact we have had a few practices so that staff can identify areas that we can improve to ensure any evacuation can occur as smoothly as possible. Later in the term we will also have and 'Emergency Invacuation' practice. This is where the children will be taken to a safe place within the Kindy and the doors will be locked to keep children safe from the 'perceived danger or threat'. If you are visiting the Kindy throughout the time of a practice you must also participate in the procedure please. We also had a visit from our local CFS to talk about Fire Safety. Thank you to Adam Hurle and Richard Boscence for giving us your valuable time.

Parent Opinion Survey
Last week we sent home information for you to participate in a Parent Opinion Survey in relation to your experiences with the Kindy. So far we have received the return slip from several parents which is great. I am aiming for a 100% return rate so if you have not yet had a chance to complete this survey please do so as soon as possible. Data collected through the online survey is sent to central office and then feedback to the site to aid improvements in the future, so please have a voice in this worthwhile process. If you require a hard copy rather than online please get in touch with me.

Staff and Study
Some of the families may already to be aware that staff at the Kindergarten have been undertaking study over a number of months and years. Last week Ally Mead and Angela Mason attended their Graduation Ceremonies at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Ally has upgraded her degree by studying a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education and Angela has completed her Certificate 3 in Children’s Services. We also have Sheree Biddle who is enrolled in a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education and Dana Wilson and Narelle Hincks who are both studying their Certificate 3 in Children’s Services. It is wonderful that all staff are dedicated in the work they do with children and to ensure their qualification are improved. I will be sure to advise you when these staff members successfully complete their studies. Well done to all.

Nude Food Day
This coming Friday 6th September is a NUDE FOOD FRIDAY which means that the children are to bring along their lunch and snack items in plastic containers rather than glad wrap, foil or any other packaging. We are finding that this is being well supported and has also flowed onto our other Kindy days. Please remember that this does not mean unwrapping a muesli bar and placing it in the lunchbox ‘nude’ as this is a highly processed food which could be replaced by other foods such as sultanas, strawberries, cucumber, carrots or air popped corn etc.

Parenting Group Sessions run by Centacare
So far I have only had two responses for the Centacare parenting sessions. Recently I was contacted by Sharon Young from Centacare asking whether the families of the Kindy would be interested in parenting sessions. The suggested course runs over 6 session and is titled 'Bringing up Great Kids'. It promotes mindfulness, child development and messages we can gain from our children. The sessions can be run in schools hours with the option of a crèche or after hours without a crèche option. If you are interested in these sessions can you please return the slip below so that I can communicate the best possible scenario for our families.

Playgroup
We are pleased to hear that Playgroup is enjoying great attendance at present. With great numbers also comes a responsibility to ensure that the children are looking after the toys and equipment available. Unfortunately upon my arrival to Kindy today I have discovered that my personal CD player used for our Listening Post has been broken. It is difficult to know whether this occurred during Kindy or Playgroup sessions as I realise your most recent Playgroup week was spent outside. Please be mindful of all of our precious resources when you are using the centre. It is also vital for parents to shadow and supervise their children during playgroup times. Whilst it provides a great social atmosphere for parents it is also a time where you are responsible to follow and guide your child.
Parent Visitor Mornings
It has been wonderful to see the parents scheduled for our Parent Visitor Mornings coming into Kindy and sharing in the playing and fun with their child. We have had some parents contact us recently requesting further information about how these sessions are to run. Therefore we decided that maybe it was time to explain in more detail in our Newsletter.

The Parent Visitor Morning (either Tuesday or Thursday) is designed for the time slot of 9.00 through to 10.30am if you wish. This can be negotiated however if this time slot does not suit you.

You come into Kindy with your child and then let the staff know that you have come for your visitor morning. They will welcome you and give you a clipboard with a page that can be completed once you have had a chance to play with your child. Let your child lead the way! See what it is that they would like to show you or play with you. It could be a painting, a puzzle, a book, singing, dancing, climbing, bike riding, sandpit play etc. After a period of time ask your child to come to a table where you can ask them about the playing that you have done together and they can draw a picture of the two of you doing that thing. Share your joy with your child and tell them something positive from the time spent together for example: ‘I am so happy you showed me your favourite thing at Kindy’ or ‘Wow, I didn’t know you knew…..’ or ‘I am so proud of…….’ etc. Once this is complete please hand this into one of our staff. You are welcome to stay longer if you wish or this could be the time you decide to say goodbye to your child.

We hope this information has been useful. If you require further clarification please don’t hesitate to ask.

Hats & Sunscreen
It is that time of the year again when staff and children must wear hats when playing outside. According to our Skin Protection or ‘Sun Smart’ Policy from the beginning of September until the end of April or when the UVR Level is greater than 3 at other times hats and sunscreen will be worn. The details are below:
- All students and staff to wear hats and sunscreen when outside (broad brim or legionnaire type hats are strongly recommended)
- SPF 30+ Broad Spectrum is to be applied to children 15-20 mins prior to outside play. Staff to reapply regularly
- Students are to be directed to play in shaded areas and will be taken to shaded areas during peak UVR times. Outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times where possible
- Appropriate clothing is to be worn. No singlet or midriff tops allowed
- Staff encouraged to be positive role-models of sun smart behaviour by wearing hats and sunscreen
- The Kindy has sufficient shade to provide adequate sun protected areas
- ‘No Hat, No Outside Play’. Children will be directed to play in the shade.

As parents you have a responsibility to ensure your child has adequate clothing that covers their shoulders and their main body (singlet tops or strappy dresses do not comply with our policy) as well as appropriate footwear (no thongs).

YOUNEITLABELS
Meningie Kindy is having an on-going fundraiser with ‘You name it—Labels’. This is a company that offers vinyl and fabric labels that are dishwasher and microwave safe. You can personalise you labels to suit your needs.

Just log on to: www.younametitlabels.com
And place you order, quoting our unique code mksa0213 (all small letters, no spaces). When you order online you will received a 5% discount off normal prices. The Meningie Kindy receives a generous rebate for each order so please feel free to share the code with neighbours and friends.

I have just received my order of name labels and they look great! Don’t forget to get online and purchase some for your child. Great for labelling lunch boxes, drink bottles etc.

Thanks Ally, Sheree, Dana, Angela & Narelle

Centacare Parenting Sessions - ‘Bringing Up Great Kids’
Name: ____________________________

☐ Yes I would like to attend these sessions
☐ No I am not interested in these sessions

☐ Daytime sessions are best ☐ Yes I would use the crèche
☐ Evening sessions are best
MAKE IT A FRESH SNACK – LOW FAT DAIRY MEETS THE MARK!

Did you know...?
> Dairy foods with reduced-fat still contain calcium to help build strong bones.
> Reduced-fat yoghurts and hard cheeses are packed with calcium and make a great snack for kids over 2 years.
> Kids under 2 still need full cream dairy.

to save dollars on dairy foods, buy in bulk and serve out kid-sized snacks in their lunchbox.
> Spoon reduced-fat yoghurt from a large tub into a reusable snack container and pop into the lunchbox with a small spoon.
> Cut reduced-fat block cheese into slices, cubes or sticks and pack with vegie pieces or rice cakes to nibble on.
> Keep dairy foods cool and fresh with an ice brick or non-toxic icepack in the lunchbox too.

For more fresh snack ideas visit [opal.sa.gov.au](http://opal.sa.gov.au)