

## Newsletter Term 1 No. 2

### Dates to remember:

- ❖ Inspector Hector performance Purple Group: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 10am
- ❖ Obstacle-a-thon Green Group: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April
- ❖ Inspector Hector performance Green Group: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 10 am
- ❖ Obstacle-a-thon Purple Group: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April. This is also the last day of the term for Purple Group
- ❖ Last day of term for Green Group: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April (2pm early finish).

### Some Term 2 dates to look forward to (Term Planner and more information to follow):

- ❖ First day of term 2 for Purple Group: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April.
- ❖ Henny Penny Hatching arriving to provide an incubator and eggs for us to observe the wonderment of chickens hatching all week.
- ❖ Wednesday session 1<sup>st</sup> May is Purple Group - week one Wednesday is Purple Group every term.
- ❖ First day of term 2 for Green Group: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.
- ❖ Preschool Photos week 2- Purple group Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May, Green Group Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.
- ❖ Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum Information Night at Preschool, 7pm Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May.
- ❖ Excursion to Dream Big – The Gruffalo for Green Group, Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.
- ❖ Excursion to Dream Big – The Panda House for Purple Group, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May.



Curriculum: During Harmony Week at Preschool we acknowledged and celebrated our wonderfully diverse and multicultural community. We used greetings from around the world, read stories reflective of diversity, getting

along and peace, and incorporated orange, as the chosen colour of peace, into many art experiences. Both groups provided delicious orange fruits and vegetables to share together, and we made orange jelly as a special treat. Many children spoke about their holidays overseas to visit family, and we hope to continue learning about this next term, and also to include more shared cooking experiences with families based on favourite cultural dishes. Persian New Year (Nowruz) coincided with Harmony Day on March 21<sup>st</sup>, and Hengi shared items from her home and made a beautiful display. Hengi prepared a cutting activity based on an orange fish swimming, which is symbolic of 'life goes on' with the start of spring in Persia. Both groups of children contributed to making our amazing rainbow mural, collaborating, designing, estimating, counting, cutting, pasting, colour mixing, painting and having fun together, after reading a peace book based on rainbows.

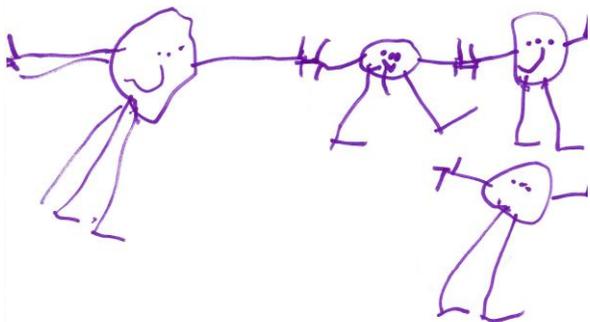
We also participated in Purple Day for Epilepsy with our Purple Group, wearing purple, making purple kites, necklaces and purple berry smoothies, and talked at group time about looking after each other if we see someone unwell.



Our small learning groups have commenced in the mornings. Our focus has been on giving children opportunities to participate in numeracy games, speaking and turn taking, sharing stories, discussing the sounds and letters our names start with, and identifying feelings. Numeracy concepts have been based on the '4 Top 5 of



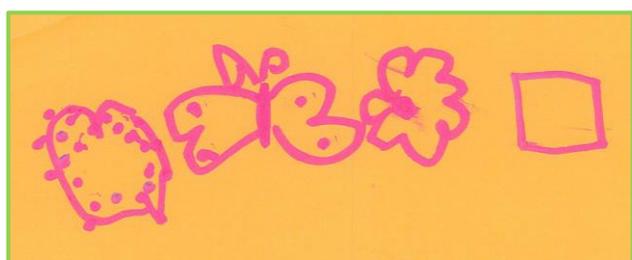
Numeracy' model, 1<sup>st</sup> Top Five, - with concepts including finding two items that are the same (sorting a collection), matching dot cards, acting out rhymes, using numbers in play and learning to subitise (subitising is recognising the amount in a group without counting). Establishing these basic skills is essential to developing further and deeper understanding of mathematical concepts, and will be reinforced throughout the year, always through fun and play based experiences.



The teacher of your child's small group will be responsible for writing their First Term Summary and Statement of Learning. We are currently busy compiling and writing the First Term Summary, which will be distributed to families in week 1 of Term 2.

You may have noticed recently a number of our team have been absent, participating in a range of professional development experiences. It has been fantastic to have the support of our wonderful and hardworking relief staff, who make sure it's 'business as usual' at Preschool during these times.

We are looking forward to our upcoming Obstacle-a-thons, which give children a fun opportunity to participate in gross motor challenges, with parents invited to watch (please refer to attached note for further details), and visits from Inspector Hector to finish the term. We also hope to see more Monarch butterflies emerging from their chrysalis's... the children have been very excited to observe their amazing lifecycle and metamorphosis so far. This leads into the arrival of Henny Penny Hatching eggs and chickens in term 2...



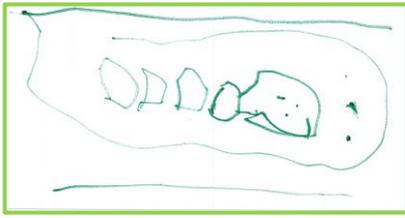
Inspector Hector and the case of the Vanishing Vegetables... Inspector Hector has a mystery to solve. It seems in recent times, healthy foods for the five food groups have disappeared without a trace, and they've been replaced with a whole swag of 'sometimes' food. This performance uses mystery, magic, special effects and plenty of laughs to highlight the importance of eating a variety of different foods from all of the food groups, and the importance of drinking water. We are greatly looking forward to meeting Inspector Hector this week! The show will begin at 10am and lasts for approximately 40 minutes. The performance will take place during the preschool session and there is no charge.

Inspector Hector is visiting on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April (Purple Group)**, and **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April (Green Group)**.

Sun Smart accreditation: We have just received our accreditation as a Sun Smart centre. As a Sun Smart Centre, we show good practice by encouraging and supporting all children to do the following when the UV is 3 and above:

-  **Slip** on clothes that cover as much skin as possible.
-  **Slop** on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen. Remember to reapply every two hours.
-  **Slap** on a broad brimmed hat or one that covers your head, face, neck and ears.
-  **Seek** shade, particularly over the middle of the day when UV is highest.
-  **Slide** on close fitting, wraparound sunglasses.

**Use a combination of sun protection measures to keep you safe from UV radiation—never rely on just one.**



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**Borrowing Library:** Our borrowing library is now closed for stocktaking. Please return books you have borrowed to assist us with this process, thank you.

**End of term clean up:** If you have any time to spare and are able to assist at Preschool with our end of term clean up, we would greatly appreciate you adding your name to list of jobs on the verandah. Staff and children will also be contributing to our tidy up eg washing chairs and peg racks.

**Lost Property:** Please check our lost property box for items of clothing or missing lunch boxes etc. Please remember to name all items your child brings to Preschool, as unclaimed and unnamed items will be donated to charity in the holidays.

**Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum:**  
Keeping all our children safe is fundamental to our practice at Mawson Lakes Preschool. As part of the Department of Education all educators and sites are mandated to incorporate the Child Protection Curriculum into the teaching program. **We would like to share this important area of our curriculum and will be holding an information night on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May starting at 7pm.**

The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum is based around two main themes;

- The right to be safe
- Having safe networks and people we trust.

These two themes are interwoven throughout our program and all interactions with children.

Attached is a letter explaining the program in more detail or you can follow this link to get more information including information in other languages. <https://www.decd.sa.gov.au/search/child%20protection%20curriculum>

**Kindy photos next term:** Order forms will be placed in notice pockets in week 1, for the kindy photos to be taken in week 2, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May Purple Group and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May Green Group. To obtain the professional photograph package of your child at Preschool, you must return the

consent form and payment prior to the photo day. Although this service is pre-paid, all children present on the day will be included in the group photo unless you notify us otherwise in writing. Individual photos of children will not be taken unless you have purchased your pre-paid package.



*Please find attached to this newsletter some holiday ideas from Nature Play Australia, and a thought to remember if you manage some time away with nature...*

*"The mud will wash off but the memories will last a lifetime." (Author Unknown, but wise).*

Term 1 newsletters  
are produced by  
Margie.

# Meet your educator team

In our last newsletter we introduced you to some of our team ... here are a few more to introduce to you ...



## *Corey Battersby - Teacher*

Hi my name is Corey Battersby. I am 23 years old and it is my second year as a qualified teacher and my second year at Mawson Lakes Preschool! I love my sports and music and will often try to involve this in my teaching!! I live with my family in the western suburbs, which is also where I play my football. I look forward to spending the year with such a great staff team and to meeting all the new families this year!



## *Kimberly Buck – Teacher*

My name is Kimberly, and this is my second year here at Mawson Lakes Preschool. I have been working in the Early Childhood sector for over 10 years and absolutely love what I do. I recently married my fiancé Craig last year and we moved into our new home in the Barossa. I have a younger sister and her name is Kristy. I love spending time with family and friends and enjoy a little bit of photography as a hobby. I am thoroughly enjoying my time here at Mawson Lakes Preschool and look forward to continuing this journey with your children



## *Natasha Leggett*

Hello, my name is Natasha Leggett. I have a husband Aaron, have a fur baby Coco (dog) and am building my first house. This is my first term at Mawson Lakes Preschool, and I am loving it. I have previously been working as a Special Education Educator at Sir Thomas Playford Kindy and Elizabeth Grove Children's Centre for three years. This role required me working with children with physical and intellectual disabilities to support their education. I am currently studying my Teaching degree at Charles Darwin University and looking forward to becoming a teacher in an Early Learning environment. I am so lucky to be able to have the opportunity to be part of your child's education and excited to get to know them.



## *Veronica Gossink – Teacher (HSR & Child Protection Curriculum site teacher)*

My name Veronica Gossink and I will be teaching in the Green group. I would like to say how excited I am to be teaching the children at Mawson Lakes Preschool. I am looking forward to getting to know both the children and families in the community. A bit about me, I am 48 years old and married to my wonderful husband, Don. Between us we have four children, Nathaniel is 11, Connor is 16, Declan is 19, and Brittany is 23. I also have one fur-child (aka dog), known as Patches. I have been a teacher for over 20 years, and have been at our preschool since the beginning of 2017. My teaching experience has been extensively in early childhood education, in a director's role for the majority of the 20 plus years. I look forward to meeting everybody over the coming year. Please feel free to come and see me.



## *Hengi Fahimnia*

Hi my name is Hengi. My family and I have lived in Mawson Lakes for over 10 years. I have been part of the Mawson Lakes Kindy team since 2013, and find it very enjoyable. My hobbies are walking and listening to music. My favourite book is Pete the Cat!