

## Newsletter Term 2, No. 1

Welcome back to Term 2. For most this term looks a little different already with learning occurring either at home or at Preschool. Already the children have settled in quickly (despite the changes to their routines particularly drop off and collection; thank you for your patience and support) and engaging with lots of fun learning experiences. The children have been building new friendships, exploring the new learning environments, learning and investigating and developing new skills through various experiences at Preschool.

### Dates to remember:

Public Holiday Queen's birthday- 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Preschool Closure Day – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Week 10 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July Green group finish at 2pm.



Reminder, until further notice NO families are to enter the Preschool. Drop off and pick up are to be conducted via the entrance gate and a staff member will meet you and bring your child in as well as sign them in. [To assist with gate drop off, could you please have your child's lunchbox out of their bags.](#) If you are late please ring the door bell and a staff member will meet you. Whilst you are waiting please ensure you are implementing safe practices (1.5m social distance).



### Curriculum:

The children have been very engaged with listening to and interacting with our Book Based learning book "Wombat Stew". During term 2, we will use the story in different ways to teach vocabulary ('words'), for example:

- Reading the story
- Re-telling the story with pictures
- Explicitly teaching vocabulary 'words' from the story using 'hands on' activities, demonstrations, video clips and pictures.
- Describing activities (e.g. describing animals)
- Opportunities for the children to retell the story (e.g. Story table with objects, story wall with pictures).

### Learning Packs

During Term 1 Week 11 Pupil free days, staff worked extremely hard to create learning packs for the children at our Preschool. That is an astonishing 130 learning Packs. Inside these packs range from a variety of resources and ideas that you can and your children can participate at home. These will be provided to ALL children. We look forward to you all receiving these and receiving feedback from you.

### Preschool Challenge-

We decided we would do something a little fun as well as encourage the children to engage in fitness (another great strategy to support health and wellbeing). Each week we will be emailing a challenge as well as uploading a copy to our Learning at home page on our website-

<https://mawsonlakespre.sa.edu.au/learning-at-home/>

We would love to see photos and hear about you and your children participating in these challenges each week. Week two is on the last two pages of the newsletter.

### University Student-



Brooke- Meet Brooke, she is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year University student who is currently undertaking her placement here at Mawson Lakes Preschool. Unfortunately you have not been introduced face to face due to the current circumstances. Brooke is looking forward to getting to know the children more, to learn new skills and knowledge

."Hi everyone, I am Brooke and I am a third year Bachelor of Education student at the University of South Australia. I am super excited to be spending the next 5 weeks at Mawson Lakes Preschool learning to be a teacher and working amongst all of your children! I believe that building relationships with children can play a massive role in helping them learn so I will be focusing on that and working amongst the other preschool staff to further develop my skills. I look forward to meeting you! "

### Cooler Weather

With the cooler weather coming and with the weather being a little unpredictable of late, please be sure to pack a few sets of various clothing so they can fully experience all aspects of our curriculum. [We ask you to provide your child with a hat- They are required to wear one when the UV Rays are 3 or higher.](#) If they do not have a hat they are asked to play under the verandah or inside.

If your child owns a pair of gumboots please remember to send them in, you may wish to place them in a plastic bag within their Preschool bag so they are able to change into when they are in the digging patch or engaging in creative experiences.

### Preschool Closure Day...

The Governing Council has approved a Preschool closure day [on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June.](#) The staff team will be involved in a half yearly review of our Preschool Quality Improvement Plan, updating our PQIP wall and professional development on the range of projects members of our staff team are involved with this year.

## Mawson Lakes School and OSHC enrolment for 2021-Enrol now.

The school are now taking enrolments for 2021. Please head into the school front office to enrol your child for school for 2021. If your child will require OSHC in 2021 please ensure you enrol them now also. We have attached enrolment forms and pamphlets with the newsletter for you to fill in. Please do not return them to Preschool staff, you need to go in and hand relevant documents to the school office and OSHC yourself. You can find more information and enrolment forms via the websites:

<https://www.mawsonlakes.sa.edu.au/>

<https://www.mawsonlakes.sa.edu.au/out-of-school-hours-care/>

### Borrowing Library

Our borrowing library is restocked with new books and we encourage all our families to borrow often. Early literacy experiences expose children to develop their oral language, listening skills, imagination and storytelling. A borrowing slip will be sent via email this week- if your child would like to borrow a library book, return the slip and a teacher will send a book home with your child.



### Fees

At this stage we have been advised to not ask families to pay their fees until further notice. This is to ensure families are not delving into financial hardship in these unforeseen circumstances. If you have already paid your term 1 and 2 fees. It is greatly appreciated as we continue to support your child's learning at Preschool and at home with some fantastic resources. We will let you know when you can continue to pay your fees if you have not done so already.

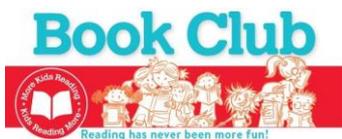


### Photoplay Studio Photos

We were due to have Preschool photos this term. Due to COVID-19 we had decided late last term to postpone these until Term 3 at this stage. We will provide you with further information as things change.

### Book Club

In these unprecedented times, Scholastic Book Club looks a little different this term. They are asking for your continuous support. If you are interested in viewing their recent catalogues and resources available please use the link below and order to your heart's desire.



<https://scholastic.com.au/book-club/virtual-catalogue-1/>

### Numeracy Information for Families

Although children's numeracy development starts in the home, a question that parents often ask is: *What is numeracy?* Numeracy is related to mathematics. It is how a child, or any other person, uses the mathematics that they know, to play, work and solve the problems that they encounter in their daily lives. Some examples of numeracy experiences relevant to Preschool children are:

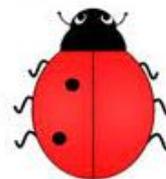
- Count the number of candles on a cake (number).
- Count out enough pencils so that a group of friends have one each (number).
- Select the first (or second or third ...) person in a line (ordinal number).
- Know when a container is full or empty (measurement).
- Know when an object is heavy or light (measurement).
- Know which object is longer or shorter (measurement).
- Know that time passes (measurement).
- Recognise simple shapes such as circles or triangles (spatial sense).
- Draw simple geometric shapes such as squares (spatial sense).
- Identify a regular geometric pattern (spatial sense).
- Understand that some events are certain or that some are impossible (chance and data).

At home you can do many things to develop your child's numeracy:

Play, 'Which does not belong?', with familiar objects when sorting the washing, toys and so on.

- As you compare two objects emphasise the terms bigger/smaller, longer/shorter, heavier/lighter, holds more/holds less.
- Group some toys or items and ask: "How have I sorted these?"
- Ask: "Find a spoon for each plate, an egg for each eggcup ..."
- When appropriate you use the expressions "just as many", "the same number of ..."
- Count, compare and order aloud using the appropriate language: "I need a bigger pot for this soup."

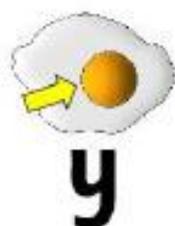
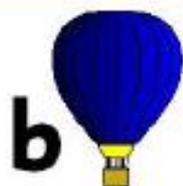
Numeracy learning, like literacy learning, is part of our everyday, and can be explicit, incidental and fun!



(Adapted from Project Good Start parent sheet, NSW Education Department).

On behalf of all of us at Preschool, we hope you all enjoyed the first term at Preschool and look forward to the many upcoming exciting experiences planned throughout Term 2 and hope that we can get back to a more normal Preschool routine and life as soon as possible. Please keep safe and well.

Written by Jasmin

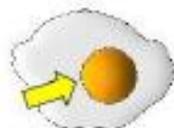
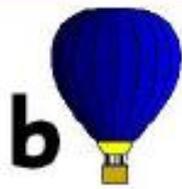


## Week 2 Challenge

Painting with water is an activity that children love and can do for hours! It helps build their creativity and confidence to experiment and develop early writing skills. All you need is a bit of sunshine, a brush (see tip at bottom) and water!



TIP: If you don't have a paintbrush, get creative with painting utensils! E.g. Feathers, bark and leaves!



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**FROG JUMP**

Hop, hop hop! up and down like a frog



**BEAR WALK**

With your hands & feet on the floor, hips high, walk left & right



**GORILLA SHUFFLE**

In a low sumo squat, use your hands to balance and shuffle around the room.



**STARFISH JUMPS**

Jump up and down spreading your arms and legs wide (jumping jacks)



**CHEETAH RUN**

Run in place as fast as you can, just like the fastest animal in the Sahara



**CRAB WALK**

Sitting down, place your palms on the ground behind you, lift your hips and crawl on your hands and feet.



**ELEPHANT STOMPS**

March in place, stomping your feet as hard as you can

Extension: What other animals can you make into an exercise?



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