Dear Families

Thankyou for your cooperation in ensuring a smooth start to the Kindy Year. Children are following their new routines well – sorting out bottles/snacks/lunches in the morning, lining up for group times, joining in our packing up teams and wearing their hats for outside play. Our Kindy routine is clearly labeled with visual cues on a board so children can check and see what part of the day it is and how long until Mum/Dad or grandma comes. Friendships are forming as children get to know each other.

We do have a number of clothing items in our lost property box already though so please make sure all your children’s items are clearly labelled.

We hope many of you will attend our Kindy Family Picnic tomorrow night for a chance to meet and socialize with other families and staff members.

We have had a very high level of attendance this term. Thankyou for your cooperation. Not only is regular attendance important for your child’s learning and development but our staffing is funded on your child’s attendance. The census occurs each term in weeks 2/3 so if possible can family holidays/appointments can be scheduled outside of these times.

You would already have received your invitation to our Kindy Picnic. This is an informal picnic which will also incorporate an informal AGM which should take around 5 minutes.

530 Start
630 Acceptance of nominations for 2015 Governing Council and presentation of 2014 Annual Report
700 Close

Please bring a picnic basket for your family. This is not a shared picnic to allow for possible allergies/food preferences etc. We will provide some chairs and picnic rugs outside and plenty of water/cups. You are welcome to come inside the Kindy to view our Program Board and some of your children’s portraits and Letter Art which will be on display. However we will be encouraging outdoor play/family time for the children. Staff will be attending however please supervise your own children. There is still time to nominate for Governing Council and you can nominate on the night as well. A focus of the work on Governing Council this year will be improving our outdoor play areas as well as the Kindy Disco fundraiser in Term 3 and coordinating a Sausage Sizzle at Masters Hardware Store later in the year. All great opportunities to be involved and contribute to your child’s time at West Beach Kindergarten.

We require a large number of parents/caregivers to be on Governing Council to allow for possible absences – we need a quorum of 10% of the Student enrolments at each meeting.

Current enrolments are:
Group A Mon/Wed: 26
Group B Tues/Thurs 32
Total enrolments 58

As our capacity is 36 per session we currently have vacancies in both groups. All Governing Council members need to have a current DCSI Screening. We will have application forms available on the night if you require one. Any queries to Rosa/Bronwyn.
Staffing Update

Group A  Mon/Wed
Bronwyn Ruciak  Co-Director
Rhondda Smith  Teacher
Ines Samic/Amanda Pretty  Early Childhood Worker
Debbie Wannan  Preschool Support Worker
Yvonne Bampton  Volunteer

Group B  Tues/Thurs
Rosa Pryor  Co-Director
Rhondda Smith  Teacher
Amanda Pretty/Ines Samic  Early Childhood Worker
Sofie Yankou  Early Childhood Worker
Danielle DeNadia  Preschool Support Worker
Sara Batool  Bilingual Support Worker
Yvonne Bampton  Volunteer

Child and Youth Health Preschool Screening Checks

These occur every alternate term for each group. Children are eligible for Preschool Health Checks – vision/hearing/development once they are 4 years 3 months. Our first one for the year is Thursday Mar 26.

Quality Improvement Plan

Each year we must submit a Quality Improvement Plan – this year by March 6. In order to facilitate a whole staff team approach to our QIP we will use one of our eligible Pupil Free Days on February 26. Please make alternative arrangements for your child for that day. The other Pupil Free day will also be on a Thursday but later in the year. We choose Thursdays to account for Sessions already missed on Mondays due to Public Holidays.

Our Tshirts have arrived! All enquiries to Amanda Tues/Wed

Term Fees

Thankyou to those families who have paid their invoices so promptly. Our finance officer works on Thursdays so receipts will be issued on that day and placed in your parent pockets. If your family has a Health Care Card you are eligible for a discount. Please see Amanda.

DIARY DATES

THURS FEB 12  Kindy Picnic/AGM
530 - 700
THURS FEB 26  Pupil Free Day
WED MAR 4  Beach Excursion
THURS MAR 5  Beach Excursion
MON MAR 9  Public Holiday
THURS MAR 26  CYHS Preschool screening checks
MON APR 6  Public Holiday
WED APR 7  Last day of term
THURS APR 8  Last day of term

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

MON APR 27  First day of term
TUES APR 28  First day of term

Spare copies of this newsletter are placed in the Spare Communication Pocket for each group if your family would like more than one copy.

Regards
West Beach Kindergarten Staff Team

Rosa, Bronwyn, Rhondda, Amanda, Ines, Sofie, Sara, Debbie, Danielle and Yvonne