



# Newsletter

April 2020

Dear Families,

This term has finished in a way that no one could have expected. I would like to thank everyone for returning Term 2 learning mode slip. This information has influenced our decisions with programming and planning. We have had a number of families decide to keep their children home. Please be assured that we are here to support you with continuity of learning at home. We have decided to set up a private kindergarten group for both Turtle and Frog Group using Facebook. The aim of these groups is to connect with families and support families to connect with each other, and to share curriculum content and suggestions. We understand that not all families have access to Facebook, and we will also be using other modes to connect with families, including email, phone calls, and via txt message.

This term.... has been lovely getting to know you all and developing relationships with children. This term learning focus was an inquiry on *'what do I notice inside and outside at kindergarten'* which has centred on noticing what's around us, such as nature, frog pond, bird house, school, etc. As well as noticing ourselves, our feelings/ emotions and others.

We have been learning how to use equipment and play with each other safely and engaged in discussions around *A & B choices*.

At the gym we have been focusing on ball skills, hoops and cross over body movements. Educators highly value the benefits of these gym sessions. Children are developing fundamental movement skills, including - gross motor, coordination, balance, muscle tone, core strength, and learning numeracy and literacy concepts. For example, positional language, spatial awareness, number, following instructions, and much more!

Following the children's interests; a focus on colours, colour mixing, sunflowers, life cycle of sunflower, bees, food and cooking, babies, and frogs.

Children have participated in the *'Musical Muscles Program'*. Children have been introduced to a repertoire of new songs, beats, rhythms, and movements. It's a fantastic program, with lots of beneficial learning.

They engaged in a bee incursion hands on workshop. This connected with children's interest on sunflowers and life cycle.

Next Term.....

Inquiry on Nature and the world around us

Musical Muscles Program will be continuing Term 2. Caleb is currently putting together recordings of the workshops so they can be either accessed at the kindy, or at home for the families enrolled at our kindy. The platform will be YouTube, by private viewing. More information coming soon.

Pupil Free Day, Week 3, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Educators will be attending a Professional Development Workshop formative assessment, and continuation of 2019 LDAR project. Kindy will not be operating on this

day and alternative care will need to be arranged. We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause you and appreciate your understanding.



Due to COVID-19 and minimising cross infections - We will be increasing outdoor play and minimising indoor play – so make sure you send your child in appropriate clothing. You can order water proof onesies from Nature Play SA for \$35 <https://natureplaysa.org.au/product/onesies/>

## Reminders....

- ✓ Please send your child to kindergarten in **appropriate clothing**. If it is cold or raining - pack a rain coat or onesie, gum boots and support your child to dress in layered clothing. We encourage children to play outside, despite the weather and engage in Nature Play.

### Your check list:

- ✓ Pack a water bottle, hat, spare clothes, lunch box and 2 separate fruit snacks.
- ✓ Has your child had their 4yr old Immunisation? If so, could you please bring in their updated immunisation record for their file.
- ✓ Please inform an educator if you have changed or need to update your contact details, address or emergency contacts.

## Covid-19 Minimising Risks and infections

- If your child has a runny nose, cough, or showing any signs of being unwell then please keep them home to stop the spread of infections and viruses.
- Children presenting with any symptoms of being unwell will be sent home.
- Help stop the spread of Covid-19 by keeping your distance. Remember, don't shake hands. Wherever possible stay 1.5 metres apart and practice good hand hygiene.
- Please make drop off and pick up as quick as possible. As soon as parents arrive for pick up, we will be dismissing children to avoid congregation of families.
- Where appropriate keep 1.5metres away from others.
- Educators will be signing children in and out.
- If you need to chat with an educator please respect the 1.5m safe distancing rule or make a phone call.
- Please use the hand sanitizer upon arrival and encourage child to wash their hands for 20s (*singing the happy birthday song twice*).
- Lunch boxes to be kept in bag
- We will continue to provide updates regarding Covid-19, continuity of learning, and site updates via Facebook, text and Facebook.





*Do you have a Facebook account?*

The Kindergarten has created a private Facebook Group for both Turtle and Frog Group, named:

*Frog Group Moana Kindergarten 2020*

*Turtle Group Moana Kindergarten 2020*

Membership Request: There are a series of questions members must answer to be approved for this group as well as group rules. Members must be a parent/ carer of a child in this group whose name and details on the child's enrolment form.

Group Aim: For educators to share curriculum, programming and planning possibilities and ideas. Support families to connect and communicate with each other. Supporting the continuity of learning at home during Covid-19

Please inform the kindergarten if you are keeping your child at home and do not have Facebook or wish to join the group

## Ideas and suggestions for the school holidays

- ❖ Check out Nature Play SA - <https://natureplaysa.org.au/families/nature-play-downloads/>
- ❖ Have a sing and dance along with Caleb from Musical Muscles - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW8cUCtGEPDXGyipw4JsxaA>
- ❖ Do some gardening – can you start a veggie patch?
- ❖ Find a recipe and bake – So much learning happens in the kitchen.
- ❖ Become familiar with 'Our Learning SA' on the Department of Education website – some fantastic easy ideas and links <https://www.education.sa.gov.au/our-learning-sa/prior-to-school>
- ❖ Engage in imaginary play and dress ups. Can you create a shop? Kitchen? Or vets?
- ❖ Have a dance Play a board game
- ❖ Search 'Cosmic Kids' on YouTube for some fun YogaReading challenge – How many stories can you read? Keep a record 📅
- ❖ Make a mud pie Create an obstacle course
- ❖ Turn the dining table into a cubby house Have a picnic in the backyard
- ❖ Paper plane flying competition Draw a picture or write and post a letter to a family member or friend
- ❖ Holding a cupcake/biscuit decorating competition
- ❖ Enjoy a movie marathon

Thank you, Moana Educators