



# Noah's Ark Preschool Newsletter Feb 2019

Celebrating 20 years  
1999-2019



Welcome to Noah's Ark Preschool; our celebration year, 20 years of Noah's Ark, we shall be having a huge birthday party to celebrate Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 9.30am with a special church service followed by the biggest party ever. All current and past children, families and staff invited, spread the word.....

All the educators look forward to developing a partnership with all our families, as we work together to promote a play-based learning environment for your child to grow and develop to their best potential.

## Important Date for your diary;

Parent Information Night Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 7pm

Come and meet the staff and board members, learn about the program and upcoming events at the centre.

## -Preschool School Photos-

Monday-4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> & Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March  
(if your only attends on Tues/Thurs, please bring them in 9.30 for photo) taken by Sandpit Photos-



## **Hippo News (Preschool Program Monday to Friday)**

All the educators in the Hippo room would like to welcome all the children and families to our room. It has been a busy couple of weeks and the children have been busy meeting the educators and making new friends.

The children have enjoyed participating in a variety of indoor and outdoor experiences where they have been able to express their ideas and creative skills through multiple mediums. With the playdough the children have enjoyed feeling the texture and using different mediums to make their special sculptures. Some of the children have been using their fine motor skills to make their sculptures. In the block corner the children have enjoyed making tall towers and 3D buildings, where they have placed roofs and made doors to go in and out of the building. Home corner has been a busy corner where the children have enjoyed cooking food for their friends or their babies. The children have enjoyed role playing with the doll's house and barbies, the children have been busy changing their cloths and arranging furniture.

Due to the rainy weather and hot weather, the children have enjoyed playing in the sandpit, The children have dug big holes and the educators have watched the children race the trucks along the veranda. The children have enjoyed our Acknowledgement to country where the children have taken turns to play our tapping sticks, we have had a great time of reflection and listening to the words of the Acknowledgement.

In group time the children have enjoyed researching about Australia day and listening to cultural music of our country. We talked about different Australian music and we looked at animals of our country and land marks of our country. On the Thursday we made some lamingtons and we listened to some YouTube videos on how Australia was colonised. We have also been looking at some fun stories about hippos as we are in the hippo room.

Starting in the month of Feb will be our Classroom mascot and our sharing bags. If you are planning to go on holidays, please feel free to bring in any photos or artefacts from your trip for your child to share with their peers at this special time.

If you wish to ask any questions about your children, please feel free to ask any of the Hippo educators.

God Bless

Joanne, Julie, Leonie, Vanessa, Callista and Abbey.



## **Monkey News (Toddler Program Mon-Tues –Wed)**

Greetings and a big welcome to all our new Monkey children and families as well as our few families from last year that have returned for another year.

This year we have only 10 children each day due to the high demand for preschool positions, so we have Angela and I who are the Monkey Educators for 2019. We are looking forward to getting to know your children and yourselves as we watch your children grow and develop. I am sure it will be a very exciting year for us all.

So far this year we have had a busy start with many children still quite emotional when they are left. This will settle down with time as they become secure in our environment. We encourage parents to ring us throughout the day to check on your children for your own peace of mind. We assure you things will become less challenging with time.

The children are enjoying painting, sandpit and the playdough which they seem to be drawn to quite a lot in this age group. Water play is also very popular so please pack lots of extra clothes for changes. Some of our Monkeys are also very interested in the bathroom with the toilets and taps so changes of clothes are important.

The Monkey children are enjoying lots of cuddles from staff and reading books which is always very settling for them. Please ensure you put sunscreen on your children at drop off time. We are currently using a new zinc product which we are also selling if you are interested.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns please talk to Angela or myself. We are happy to talk with you at anytime.

God Bless

Vanessa & Angela

## **Giraffe News (Preschool Program Thurs-Fri)**



Welcome to 2019, we are looking forward to a great year of learning in the Giraffe room, it was great to see our giraffes from 2018 return; Toby, Jonathan, Tyler, Sally, Emma, Henry D, Lyric, Mia, Harrison and the Monkey children moving into the preschool room; Jacob and Hunter, the Hippo room; Brandon, Liam, Jacob, Charlee-

Rae and Alp as well as the new children to Noah's Ark; Hayden C, Isaiah, Kenzie, Grace, Elijah and Ezra all full of energy and excitement to start a new year. We have started our first few weeks focusing on getting to know the children and encourage new relationships to be formed between peer groups, already we can see some lovely friendships forming, and interests shared together; dinosaurs, exploring the sandpit with lots of cooking and digging, the dramatic play area; caring for the babies and cooking lots of dinners, working on puzzles and building with lots of construction sets, lots of creative work; cutting, painting, drawing and gluing in our art studio and the playdough is always lots of fun. All these experiences promote partnerships with each other, build secure attachments with educators as they interact and encourage inspiring conversations to improve children's communication skills and allow children to express their personality and uniqueness, as they embrace their curiosity and creativity. We have been using our group times to learn lots of things and extend our knowledge; learning about 'Giraffes' we discussed what we know and what we learnt after watching a you tube, learnt about Australia Day with lots of discussions about Aust Animals and food, making lamingtons, fairy bread and having a sausage sizzle and have been learning each other's names. We have also learnt about sun -safe practices, why we need to drink water. The Giraffe children have also been interested in music and instruments as we made our band, playing to The Music Man book. Please remember to return your child's interest sheets and photo albums, as they are valuable tools for educators to extend your child's learning, a huge thank you to the parents who have already returned them. We look forward to another month, full of fun – Carinne and Renae

## Thought for the month

*God always gives HIS best to those who leave  
the choice with HIM.*

*So thank God for what you have and  
trust God for what you need.*



## Did you know.....

-At Noah's Ark, developing genuine relationships with our families is a priority and valued by the management as a key to your child's development, all staff are available to you each day, just to chat, hear about any concerns or share the highlights of your child's day.

-We would love any of our families to share any skills or talents you may have coming in at any time and be involved in our program, maybe playing an instrument, reading a book in your home language, sharing cooking and craft skills, please talk to an educator to share your skills.

-Noah's Ark is a ministry of Quakers Hill Uniting Church, managed by a management board, made up of church and parent reps, who meet once a month to maintain an affordable high-quality centre to our community.

## Noah's Ark is special because:

**-We host our own coffee shop, during 1<sup>st</sup> term,  
Thursdays 9 to 10.30**

-We received an **EXCEEDING** rating from assessment and rating visit in the National Quality Standards, due to the high quality experienced staff, exceptional educational program, high ratio of staff, awesome management board and a philosophy that promotes children's learning through their God given uniqueness

**-At Noah's Ark we don't charge for public holidays, like all other early childhood services, if we are not open you don't pay**

## Donations-

We would greatly appreciate donations of the following items to help to reduce the costs and keep our fees affordable.....

-Box of tissues-Packet of toilet paper  
Thank you to the families who have already donated



**"Play is children's work.**

**If they are successful with this first  
job, it will lead to further success  
later in life"**

## Church News" - What's Happening at Quakers Hill Uniting Church

- Community Congregation Worship 9.30am, Family friendly services. Kids church program during school terms – Ages 3 years and up.
- Filipino Congregation – 2.30pm
- Kids club fortnights Friday's 7 - 8.30 pm, Kindy to year 10 during school terms- see Carinne for dates

**Hear the words of the Lord Jesus Christ:**

**Matthew 7:7 'Ask and it will be given to you;  
seek and you will find, knock and the door**



## Dates to Remember.....

- Noah's Ark Play group starts Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 9am Church Hall
- Noah's Ark Preschool Parent Information Night Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 7pm
- Preschool Photos Monday 4<sup>th</sup>-Wed 6<sup>th</sup> and Fri 8<sup>th</sup> March

## ALL CHILDREN ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A SUN SAFE HAT AND CLOTHING

Please make sure your child has a labelled sun safe hat each day AND SUN SAFE CLOTHING-SHOULDERS COVERED, so we can promote this best practice for your child's wellbeing, and apply sunscreen on arrival to your child, available on sign in desk-THANK YOU



## STAFF LEAVE FEB-MARCH

-CARINNE RDO- 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB  
REPLACED ANGELA  
-RENAE A/L 14<sup>TH</sup>-15<sup>TH</sup>  
REPLACED ANGELA  
ABBEY AWAY 21<sup>ST</sup>-22<sup>ND</sup>  
REPLACED ANGELA  
JULIE A/L 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH TO  
5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL-  
REPLACED RENAE/ANGELA

## Staff and Board Spotlights....



**Staff Member-**                      **Name:** Carinne Wood  
**Family Info:** Married to Mark 35 years,  
3 children - Ben, Sarah, Rob and 6 grandkids- Mia, Oliver,  
Nicholas, Samuel (Twins) Tyler & Charlie  
**Favourite Colour:** Pink  
**Favourite Food:** Thai & Italian  
**Love to do in spare time:**  
Socialising with family and friends, kayaking,  
Camping in our caravan, spending time with  
grandchildren and scrape booking and being involved  
in church activities at QHUC.  
**Best Holiday:** Trip to UK, meeting my dad for the first  
time - Nov 2009 and travelling in my caravan  
**Role at Centre:**  
Director-ECT Educator/Giraffe Teacher  
Nominated Supervisor



**Board Member-**                      **Name:** Nicole Felstein  
**Family Info:** Married to Craig has 4 children  
**Favourite Colour:** Purple  
**Favourite Food:** I love Thai but also anything  
sweet  
**Love to do in spare time-**  
I love to exercise  
**Best Holiday-** Family holiday in Europe  
**Role on Management Board:**  
New Chairperson



## NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL COFFEE SHOP

Come and join us at our coffee shop  
mornings, held preschool foyer

Hosted by Quakers Hill Uniting  
Church

**When: Every Thursday morning**

**During first term**

**9 to 10.30**