Endless Opportunities for Every Child

Playtime at Port July Newsletter

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July in Action

A quick snapshot of the month that was

Preschool Room:

















The Preschool Room

The Chicken Journey

The Preschool room has been busy exploring the wonderful world of chickens! Through hands-on learning experiences, the children have been discovering the lifecycle of a chicken, from egg to chick and finally to a grown hen or rooster. We have been learning about what chickens need to stay happy and healthy, including providing food, water, shelter, and gentle care. The children have also enjoyed using their creativity and imagination as they learn more about chickens, including choosing special names for our feathered friends. This experience has encouraged curiosity, responsibility, and a deeper understanding of how we can care for living things.

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

THE PRESCHOOL ROOM HAS BEEN FOCUSING ON THE IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK, FRIENDSHIP, AND WORKING TOGETHER THROUGH FUN AND ENGAGING EXPERIENCES. THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN BUILDING THEIR SOCIAL SKILLS BY PLAYING COOPERATIVE GAMES, HELPING THEIR FRIENDS, AND LEARNING HOW TO COMMUNICATE, SHARE IDEAS, AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER. THROUGH EXCITING OBSTACLE COURSES AND TEAM CHALLENGES, THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN PRACTISING PROBLEM-SOLVING, ENCOURAGING THEIR PEERS, AND CELEBRATING EACH OTHER'S ACHIEVEMENTS. THESE EXPERIENCES HAVE HELPED STRENGTHEN FRIENDSHIPS, BUILD CONFIDENCE, AND SHOW THE CHILDREN THAT WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER, WE CAN ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS!









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Junior Room:

















The Juniors Room

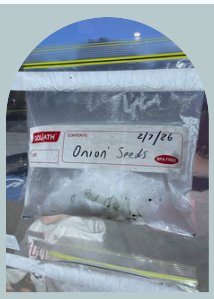
SQUISH, SQUASH & CREATE

THE JUNIORS ROOM HAS BEEN BUSY EXPLORING CREATIVITY AND SENSORY PLAY THROUGH THE EXCITING EXPERIENCE OF MAKING THEIR OWN PLAYDOUGH! THE CHILDREN ENJOYED MIXING INGREDIENTS TOGETHER, EXPLORING DIFFERENT TEXTURES, COLOURS, AND SCENTS WHILE CREATING THEIR VERY OWN DOUGH TO PLAY AND EXPERIMENT WITH. THIS HANDS-ON ACTIVITY ENCOURAGED CURIOSITY, FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT, PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN TO EXPRESS THEIR IMAGINATION THROUGH SHAPING, ROLLING, AND MOULDING. THE CHILDREN LOVED GETTING INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS AND DISCOVERING THAT WITH A LITTLE MIXING AND TEAMWORK, THEY COULD CREATE SOMETHING FUN TO ENJOY TOGETHER!

GROWING LITTLE GARDENERS

THE JUNIORS ROOM HAS BEEN EXPLORING THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF GARDENING AND DISCOVERING HOW PLANTS GROW AND CHANGE OVER TIME. THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN BUSY CREATING THEIR OWN SEEDLING CUPS, PLANTING SEEDS, AND LEARNING ABOUT THE LIFECYCLE OF PLANTS — FROM A TINY SEED, TO A SPROUT, AND EVENTUALLY INTO A THRIVING PLANT. THROUGH HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES, THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN DEVELOPING AN UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO CARE FOR LIVING THINGS BY PROVIDING WATER, SUNLIGHT, AND LOVE. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN EXPLORING BANANAS, LEARNING ABOUT WHERE THEY COME FROM, HOW THEY GROW, AND THE JOURNEY THEY TAKE FROM THE PLANT TO OUR PLATES. THESE EXPERIENCES HAVE ENCOURAGED CURIOSITY, RESPONSIBILITY, AND A GROWING APPRECIATION FOR NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.









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Upcoming Events & Programs Calendar

Here is a detailed look at our upcoming schedule. We invite you to join us for learning, fellowship, and service.

12th & 13th	excursion to Mrs.York's Garden Preeschoolers
18th & 22nd	National science week
24th & 28th	Book Week
3rd Sept	Fathers day celebration
11th Sept	Bravehearts day- Children to dress as superheroes. Gold coin donation or online donation

Stay tuned for more upcoming experiences, incursions and special events across the service as we continue exploring new learning opportunities, community connections and seasonal projects together





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PLASTIC FREE AUGUST

We are excited to share that Playtime has been selected to participate in a Port Macquarie Hastings Council pilot program promoting sustainable birthday celebrations.

Families will be able to borrow a reusable Party Kit containing plates, cups, servingware, and decorations, helping to reduce waste and save money on birthday parties.

We are currently working with Council to determine when the kit will be available at our service and look forward to sharing more information soon.

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Welcoming Our baby chicks

WE ARE EXCITED TO SHARE SOME WONDERFUL NEWS FROM OUR CENTRE — WE HAVE WELCOMED SOME ADORABLE NEW BABY CHICKS! THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN FULL OF CURIOSITY AND EXCITEMENT AS THEY OBSERVE OUR FLUFFY LITTLE FRIENDS, LEARNING ABOUT THEIR NEEDS, BEHAVIOURS, AND HOW TO CARE FOR LIVING THINGS. THIS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE HAS PROVIDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN TO DEVELOP NURTURING SKILLS, RESPONSIBILITY, AND A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE NATURAL WORLD. THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN EXPLORING THE LIFECYCLE OF CHICKENS, DISCOVERING HOW CHICKS GROW FROM EGGS INTO ADULT HENS AND ROOSTERS, AND LEARNING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PROVIDING FOOD, WATER, WARMTH, AND A SAFE ENVIRONMENT. THROUGH GENTLE INTERACTIONS AND DAILY OBSERVATIONS, THE CHILDREN HAVE BEEN PRACTISING KINDNESS, PATIENCE, AND RESPECT FOR OUR NEW FEATHERED FRIENDS. OUR BABY CHICKS HAVE ALREADY BROUGHT SO MUCH JOY, WONDER, AND LEARNING INTO OUR ROOMS, CREATING MEANINGFUL MOMENTS OF CONNECTION, CONVERSATION, AND DISCOVERY FOR EVERYONE AT THE CENTRE.













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Healthy Lunchboxes

A healthy lunchbox helps children stay energised, focused and ready for a day full of learning, play and adventure. Packing a balanced lunch doesn't have to be complicated—simple, nutritious foods are often the best choice!

Great lunchbox ideas include:

🍎 Fresh fruit – apples, pears, bananas, grapes, berries, watermelon or mandarins.

🥕 Crunchy vegetables – carrot sticks, cucumber, cherry tomatoes or capsicum.

🥪 Wholegrain options – sandwiches, wraps, pasta salad, rice or wholegrain crackers.

🧀 Protein-rich foods – cheese, lean meats, tuna, chicken, hummus or chickpeas.

🥣 Healthy snacks – yoghurt, popcorn (age appropriate), rice cakes or savoury muffins.

💧 Water – Please send a labelled drink bottle filled with water each day.

A Friendly Reminder

To help keep all children safe, Playtime At Port is an egg and nut free service. Please check food labels carefully before packing your child's lunchbox and avoid foods that contain eggs or nuts. We also encourage families to limit foods high in added sugar, such as lollies, chocolate and sugary drinks, and instead choose nourishing foods that support children's growth, wellbeing and learning.

Thank you for helping us create a safe and healthy environment for all children!

Links to some healthy and yummy lunch box recipe ideas

Oat Bars -
https://www.womensweeklyfood.com.au/recipe/kid-friendly/oat-bars/

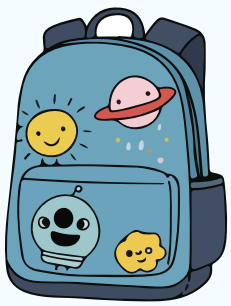
Cornflake cake cookies -
https://www.womensweeklyfood.com.au/recipe/baking/cake-mix-cookies/

Easy Cheesy savoury muffins -
https://www.womensweeklyfood.com.au/recipe/baking/cheese-and-tomato-savoury-muffins/

Things to remember to bring to school

make sure your child has a hat, lunch box, school bag with spare cloths and a drink bottle with water











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