Endless Opportunities for Every Child

Playtime at Port May Newsletter

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April in Action

A quick snapshot of the month that was

Preschool Room:

















The Preschool Room

Space Exploration

Our preschool room has shown a huge interest in space and all things beyond our world! The children have been exploring planets, stars, rockets and astronauts through hands-on learning experiences, creative play and group discussions. Our learning environment is even transforming into a space-themed adventure to encourage curiosity, imagination and exploration.

Learning about space helps children develop important skills such as problem solving, communication, creativity and critical thinking. It also encourages children to ask questions, explore new ideas and build an understanding of the world around them.

We can't wait to continue this exciting learning journey with our preschoolers!

PROCESS ART IN THE PRESCHOOL ROOM

Our preschool children have been exploring process art through painting, drawing, construction and creative play experiences. Process art focuses on the experience of creating rather than the final product, allowing children to freely explore their ideas and creativity. Recently, the children have shown a strong interest in building robots and rocket ships using cardboard boxes, tape and open-ended materials. These experiences encourage creativity, teamwork, problem-solving and self-expression while allowing children to bring their imaginative ideas to life.









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May in Action

A quick snapshot of the month that was

Junior Room:



Topics We Have Been Exploring Throughout May

Over the month of May, the children explored a range of meaningful and engaging topics including:

- Sense of belonging and connectedness
- Daily routines and relationships
- Mother's Day
- Sunflowers and nature
- Construction and building experiences

These topics supported children's social and emotional development, creativity, communication and sense of identity through hands-on learning experiences and play-based exploration.













The Juniors Room

Baking Bread and Turn Taking

THE CHILDREN RECENTLY ENJOYED MAKING CINNAMON AND BROWN SUGAR BREAD TOGETHER WHILE LEARNING ABOUT SHARING AND TURN TAKING. THEY HELPED MIX THE INGREDIENTS, KNEAD THE DOUGH AND EXPLORED THE EXPERIENCE THROUGH THEIR SENSES, WITH HARVEY ASKING IF WE COULD SMELL THE YEAST.
WHILE WAITING FOR THE DOUGH TO RISE, THE CHILDREN ENJOYED SINGING, DANCING AND BALLOON PLAY TOGETHER. HARVEY WAS EXCITED TO SEE HOW MUCH THE DOUGH HAD GROWN, SAYING, "IT'S GOT BIGGER!"
THESE EXPERIENCES SUPPORT CHILDREN'S TEAMWORK, COMMUNICATION AND SENSORY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH FUN, HANDS-ON LEARNING.

JUNIORS TRUCKING TEAMWORK

Throughout the month, the juniors have been exploring construction, teamwork and sensory play through a variety of hands-on experiences. Recently, the children enjoyed engaging with dump trucks, diggers, tractors and construction vehicles in messy "cement" made from sand, shaving foam and paint.
The children eagerly explored the mixture by digging, scooping, burying the tractors and driving the vehicles through the sensory tray to create tracks and patterns. Educators supported the children in developing their sharing and turn-taking skills through role modelling, language prompts and practicing our "please" and "thank you" Auslan signs.
These experiences have supported the children's social development, communication, sensory exploration and teamwork skills through fun and meaningful play.









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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.

17TH JUNE — **LIBRARY VISIT**

18TH JUNE — **DENTAL VISIT**



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



WE RECENTLY WELCOMED THE PORT MACQUARIE LIBRARY CHILDREN'S TEAM TO OUR SERVICE, AND THE VISIT WAS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE FOR THE CHILDREN. THE TEAM SHARED A STORY, INTRODUCED A FANTASTIC SELECTION OF BOOKS, AND HELPED SPARK MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS AROUND LITERACY AND IMAGINATION. THE CHILDREN THOROUGHLY ENJOYED THE VISIT, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LIBRARY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AS WE FOSTER A LOVE OF READING AND STRENGTHEN OUR CONNECTION WITH OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.

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PLASTIC FREE JULY

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 New Faces

INTRODUCING PRAB
WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME PRAB TO OUR TEAM! PRAB IS A DEDICATED AND MOTIVATED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION STUDENT CURRENTLY UNDERTAKING A GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY. SHE IS PASSIONATE ABOUT SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S LEARNING, DEVELOPMENT, AND WELLBEING WITHIN A SAFE, INCLUSIVE, AND NURTURING ENVIRONMENT. PRAB BRINGS A DIVERSE EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, HOLDING A MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING FROM CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY, PORT MACQUARIE, AND A BACHELOR OF COMMERCE. HER STRONG ACADEMIC FOUNDATION, COMBINED WITH HER PASSION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, ALLOWS HER TO BRING VALUABLE SKILLS AND PERSPECTIVES TO OUR SERVICE.
PRAB IS EAGER TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING HER PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SECTOR AND IS COMMITTED TO CREATING POSITIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES THAT SUPPORT EACH CHILD'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE THRILLED TO HAVE HER AS PART OF OUR TEAM AND LOOK FORWARD TO THE POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS SHE WILL MAKE TO OUR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND EDUCATORS.





Work Placement students

Over the last month, we have welcomed two work placement students to Playtime Port Macquarie.
Ila and Mckenzie
Work placements provide students with valuable real-world experience in the early childhood sector, allowing them to develop their skills, build confidence, and gain a deeper understanding of working with children.
We are proud to support the next generation of educators and have enjoyed sharing our knowledge, experiences, and passion for early childhood education with them. Thank you to our students for their enthusiasm and willingness to learn—we wish you all the best in your studies and future careers!

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