

I'VE LEARNED THAT PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU SAID, PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU DID, BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL. – MAYA ANGELOU



ON *this* MONTH

AT SEAFORTH CHILD CARE

Orientation Evening----- 2

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Melbourne Cup Day -----	3
Outdoor Classroom Day -----	5
Orang-utan Caring Week -----	8-14
National Recycling Week -----	9-15
Remembrance Day -----	11
World Kindness Day -----	13
Food Safety Week-----	14-21
Universal Children's Day -----	20

HELLO WELCOME TO NOVEMBER

The end of the year is approaching fast and we have been busy rethinking some of our famous end of year events such as pre-school graduation and our Family Christmas party as we need to do things a little differently this year.

To all our preschool families - you will have received details about our Covid safe preschool graduation celebration. Any queries or RSVPs please get in touch.

Sadly Covid has resulted in a change to the way we normally celebrate Christmas. Whilst our usual Family Celebration will not proceed, we have been busy planning a FULL WEEK of festive fun for the children. We may also be in negotiations with the North Pole to organise a COVID safe visit from the big red man himself!

We know the cancellation of these events is disappointing but rest assured we are working our Christmas magic to give your child a truly memorable Christmas celebration for 2020!





NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK – NOVEMBER 9-15

Planet Ark's National Recycling Week is now in its 25th year! The week provides an important opportunity for councils, workplaces, schools and individuals to improve their recycling knowledge, build better recycling habits and build trust in recycling.

This year's theme is 'Recovery - A future beyond the bin' invites you to value your resources, giving them a second life by reducing virgin resource use, reusing and recycling. **Find our more here.**

REMEMBRANCE DAY – NOVEMBER 11

At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns on the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare. Each year on this day Australians observe one minute's silence at 11 am, in memory of those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts. **Check your local council website to find out what COVID safe Remembrance Day services are happening near you.**

CHICKEN MEATBALLS AND PESTO SPAGHETTI



PREP 20 min | COOK 10 min | SERVES 8

INGREDIENTS

Chicken Meatballs

- 1 kg chicken mince
- 1 cup (40 grams) fresh breadcrumbs, soaked in a 1/4 cup milk
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup (125 grams) parmesan cheese, grated
- 1 tablespoon garlic, minced
- sea salt and pepper, to season

Basil Pistachio Breadcrumbs

- 2 cups fresh basil leaves
- 1 cup baby spinach leaves
- 2 garlic cloves
- 1/2 cup (60 grams) pistachios
- 1/2 cup (60 grams) parmesan, grated
- zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 3/4 cup (180 ml) extra virgin olive oil
- 500 grams spaghetti, cooked according to packet instructions reserving 1 cup of cooking water

METHOD: Chicken Meatballs: Place the mince, breadcrumbs, eggs, parmesan, garlic, salt and pepper into a large bowl and mix thoroughly to combine. Take 2 heaped tbs of mince and roll into rounds. Heat a little olive oil in a fry pan over medium-high heat. Add meatballs and cook 6-8 minutes, stirring occasionally or until the meatballs are golden and cooked through. Set aside. **Basil Pistachio Pesto:** Place the basil, baby spinach, garlic, pistachios, parmesan, lemon juice and zest into the bowl of a food processor. Blitz for 1-2 minutes or until finely chopped. With the motor running, slowly add the olive oil and continue blitzing until thoroughly combined.

To Serve: Pour the pesto over the cooked spaghetti with a splash of the reserved pasta water and toss to combine. Top spaghetti with cooked meatballs, fresh basil leaves and a grating of parmesan cheese. **Enjoy x**

Recipe and Image from 'mylovelylittlelunchbox.com'

App reviews

A mixed bag of apps to keep pre-schoolers entertained and learning.



MIXIMAL

YATATOY | AGE 3+ | \$3.99

MIXIMAL is an entertaining game based on the traditional flip books we all know from our childhood. We have taken this old-fashioned model and generated sweet handcrafted animations and sounds to compliment it. Create wacky animals and find out their wacky names.

SHAPE GURUS: PRESCHOOL GAME

GEOMETRY LEARNING PUZZLES | AGE 2 - 5 | \$4.49

In this interactive story, children are regularly challenged to complete puzzles based around shape-matching. In one case, a little bird flutters towards the outline of a nest, while five brown triangles wait to be dragged into place. Elsewhere, shape and colour matching creates flowers and a watering can. This app is designed for 2-5 year old's, this game teaches Pre-schoolers math skills of matching, sorting and classifying by shapes and colours.

STAR WALK FOR KIDS - SKY GUIDE

VITO TECHNOLOGY INC. | AGE 3+ | FREE

Star Walk for Kids will teach your children the basics of astronomy in an interesting and unusual way. The app is an entertaining astronomy game for children to learn about astronomy and our solar system while playing and having fun.



FOCUS: Transition to school

A positive start to school is important and depends on everyone working together to make it happen – family, community, early childhood service and the school team. Many states have now given the go ahead for school orientation to commence/resume in Term 4 assuming correct COVID safety guidelines are followed.

The pandemic this year has most likely changed your child's final year of pre-school and prep for big school and this may be concerning for you. However, there are things you can do to ensure your children get the best start to school possible.

Know your child's school Each school community is unique. It's a good idea to attend available transition, orientation or information sessions. Check out their website or subscribe to their newsletters, follow their social media pages. *Show your child pictures and videos of the school they will attend. Locate their school on a map and draw a route to your house.* Where possible meet the Principal or ask staff at the school office for information. Connect with other parents who have children at the school.

Literacy Literacy is a key foundation for learning. Talking and an awareness of word sounds form a strong base for reading success. *Read, rhyme and draw, sing, listen and talk with your child regularly.* This develops literacy skills needed to understand information and communicate ideas. If English is not your first language, continue using your strongest language as well as English to promote multilingual skills and maintain cultural identity.

Numeracy Numeracy is all around us and used throughout life. Your child uses numeracy when measuring ingredients, counting stairs as they climb, sorting buttons or matching socks. When children play with blocks and containers they think 'mathematically' about size, shape and space. *Talk about positions such as behind, next to and above, and inquire 'how many?' 'which way?' or 'is there enough?'*

Friendships Making friends can be challenging for your child. You can help by prompting them to think about games to play, where to play them and how to include others. Your child will develop these skills by watching you – the way you start conversations, handle issues and accept others' perspectives. Encouraging play provides opportunities for your child to 'read' faces and body language, furthering their social skills.



Managing feelings Starting school can produce a broad range of emotions in your child, and understanding how to manage them can take a long time. Give support by listening, acknowledging and accepting their feelings. Help your child to label those feelings and to find appropriate ways to manage them if needed. Your child will learn to manage their emotions by watching those around them.

Good learning behaviours.

- 1. Exploring interests** Your child learns when they are interested, asking questions and exploring possibilities. This helps them to be creative and involved.
- 2. Problem solving** Encourage your child to persist with activities, even when it gets tricky. You can help them come up with their own ways to solve problems.
- 3. Acknowledge efforts** Acknowledge your child's effort when you see them trying, regardless of the result.

You are your child's first and most significant teacher. Being positively involved in your child's learning helps them become successful at school. You can find out more helpful school transition tips by following the link below.

Connect – Child and Family Services (2020) My child is starting school: A guide for parents and caregivers. Retrieved from www.transitiontoschool.net/uploads/2/9/6/5/29654941/english__a4_flyers_connect.pdf



SIMPLE CUPCAKE COUNTING

You will need: Cupcake liners, Marker, Pompoms or similar, Tongs or tweezers (optional)

- Begin by writing a number in each of the cupcake liners. Of course, this is a very flexible activity and can be made to suit your individual child and where their learning skills are at.
- The aim of this activity is for the child to read the number inside each of the cupcake liners and use the pompoms to accurately represent it.
- This wonderful Math activity can also double to help children develop their fine motor skills.

For activity extensions and adaptations **follow the link here.**

Activity and image Source: laughingkidslearn.com



HEALTH & SAFETY: Water Safety

Drowning continues to be one of the biggest killers of Australian children. Every year a number of children are killed and hundreds more are rescued from near drowning situations. **It only takes 20 seconds and a few centimetres of water is all it takes for a child to drown.**

Why children are at risk Children are adventurous and enjoy exploring their environments. They are often attracted to water but have little understanding of the danger that it poses. The physical build of young children also places them at risk as they are 'top heavy' and prone to falling into water due to a lack of balance.

Drowning can occur quickly and silently - 20 seconds and a few centimetres of water is all it takes for a toddler to drown. It's not only large bodies of water, such as pools and the beach that put children at risk; baths, ponds, buckets, eskies, pet's drinking bowls and other small bodies of water are also drowning hazards.

Common causes –how and when

Children 0-4 years - Swimming pools are the most common location for toddler drownings making up 67% of all cases followed by bathtubs which account for 22%. Children falling into water account for 78% of drownings. Evidence suggests that a large number of drowning deaths in backyard pools are a result of pool barriers that are faulty or noncompliant with Australian standards and the absence of active adult supervision.

Children 5-14 years Lakes/dams/lagoons (22%), the beach (22%) and baths/spa baths (22%) were the most common locations for drowning among this age group. Swimming and recreation was the most common activity being undertaken at the time of the drowning incidents, accounting for 56% of all deaths in this age group. Under-estimating the strength of currents and over-estimating swimming ability are common mistakes for this age group.

Key messages for prevention

Supervision: Keep a constant watch on your children around the water and don't be distracted by your phone. **Active adult supervision involves focusing all of your attention on children at all times, when they are in, on or around the water. Do not expect older children to look after their younger siblings.**



Children have short attention spans and can be easily distracted. Remain within arm's reach of toddlers to ensure you can get to the child in time if something goes wrong. Older children still need to be supervised by an adult who is ready to enter the water in case of an emergency. Always take children with you if you leave the water area.

Reduce the hazard: Use safety barriers, such as pool barriers, to restrict access to water. Remove hazards such as pot plants and chairs from pool barriers to prevent children climbing on to them and over the barrier. Do not prop any doors or gates open as this may allow children access to a body of water. Create a safe play area to separate children from bodies of water such as swimming pools and dams. This is especially important on farms and larger properties as very young children have been known to follow family pets to water over very long distances. Regularly inspect and maintain your pool barrier and gate to ensure that it is working properly. Weather conditions and general wear and tear can affect the performance of your pool barrier.

Knowledge/water awareness Water familiarisation lessons can assist in teaching children to swim while also helping them understand water safety.

Resuscitation Learn CPR and update your skills regularly so that you are prepared in the event of an emergency. Resuscitation posters are a good reminder to keep around pools and spas

For more information see:

- kidsafe.com.au/water-safety/
- www.watersafety.nsw.gov.au/Pages/resources/be-water-safe-not-sorry.aspx
- <https://www.watersafety.vic.gov.au/>

Kidsafe (2019). Drowning Fact Sheet, retrieved from <https://kidsafe.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Drowning-Information-Sheet.pdf>

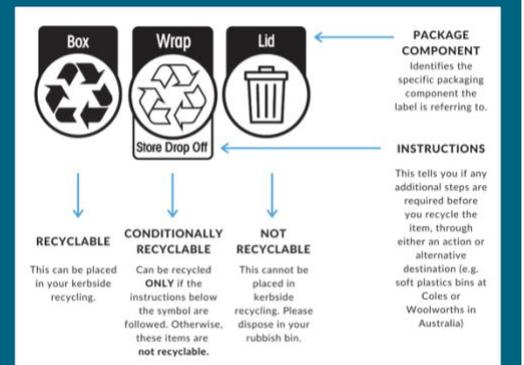


CHECK IT BEFORE YOU CHUCK IT

Check It! Before You Chuck It is a new campaign encouraging Australians to always check the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL) when disposing of packaging.

Always following the ARL ensures packaging is disposed of correctly and can be recovered for future use in new products.

Go to **Planet Ark, Recycling near you** for more information about this and **National Recycling Week** - recyclingnearyou.com.au/arl/



What's happening at Seaforth Childcare – Halloween edition!



We have had a spook-tastic end to the month of October with our Friday Fun Day Halloween celebration that we had on Friday the 30th of October.

The Starfish and Turtles have had a great Halloween week exploring their gross motor skills as well as participating in some sensationally goopie sensory play!

The children have created some wonderful Halloween craft such as witchy faces and string art! The Starfish also enjoyed different matching games with traditional Halloween symbols.

The Kookaburras have taken the opportunity for Halloween week to explore more of our fine motor skills through a fine motor spider web game and some mindfulness colouring of some Halloween friends.

The children particularly enjoyed doing a mirror drawing experience inspired by bats and skeletons. This experience not only continued to foster their fine motor skills but also allowed children to use their problem-solving abilities and ability to be able to replicate and make interpretations of images.

The Cockatoo's enjoyed a snake sensory tray while working on their fine motor skills! Using tongs the children had to scoop out the snakes from the green slimy jelly! What a tasty way to work on skills the children use when writing and forming letters!

The kingfisher room certainly didn't disappoint in decorations or creativity when getting into the spirit of Halloween. The children have been contributing to the Halloween decorations through some wonderful artworks! In our Kingfisher room the children have explored so many table top activities inspired by Halloween including:

Spaghetti sensory trays to add a sensory element when building on the children fine motor skills.

Hide and count work sheets to help children match, track and identify.

Spooky painting for the children to explore freely or being inspired by different provocations such as pumpkin and spider webs.

We even had one of our families gift the Kingfisher children some gummy worms that the educators then used for class party games! Each child got a jelly snake strung up and had to try catch it only using their mouth! No hands allowed! This allowed the children to engage in a game governed by rules and expectations while also having lots and lots of giggles.

Everyone has really enjoyed getting into the spirit of Halloween this year and with the added COVID restriction we really love seeing the children's faces light up when they can still celebrate one of our favourite times of year.

We would love to see your Halloween celebrations or your child's face paint! Tag us on social media so we can share in the fun! @seaforthchildcare



Feature Article





WILD TASMANIAN DEVILS RETURN TO MAINLAND AFTER BECOMING LOCALLY EXTINCT 3000 YEARS AGO

After what's believed to be thousands of years, there are once again wild Tasmanian devils living on the mainland of Australia. A total of 26 devils have so far been reintroduced to the wild in the Barrington Tops National Park north of Newcastle, NSW. The latest batch of 11 was introduced to a 400ha wildlife sanctuary in the park on September 10, joining the 15 introduced in July.

The sanctuary gives the endangered devils space to roam and freedom to adjust to the wild, while also protecting other animals in the area, and allowing conservationists from animal conservation group Aussie Ark to monitor their progress in the lead up to the 2021 breeding season.

The devils have been fitted with radio collars and there are cameras covering the sanctuary for monitoring.

Tasmanian devils are thought to have disappeared from the mainland around 3000 years ago, hunted to a degree by Aboriginal people at the time but also impacted by the introduction of the dingo, thought to have arrived in Australia — possibly helped by Indonesian seafarers — around 3500 years ago.

A contagious cancer is now threatening the Tasmanian devil population. According to Tasmania's environment department, cancerous devils usually die within a few months of showing symptoms. The disease has caused a massive decline in the Tasmanian devil population, and the species is now considered endangered. It's hoped that a backup population can be maintained on the mainland, free of the contagious cancer, in case Tasmania's existing devil population succumbs to the disease.

Source: <https://www.kidsnews.com.au/animals/wild-tasmanian-devils-return-to-mainland-after-becoming-locally-extinct-3000-years-ago/news-story/a06e4f84ff933a84bdc70170b99956ac>



ALMOST SUMMER!

With the weather warming up it is a great time of year to remind our families to Slip, Slop and Slap.

One of our favourite things about living in this amazing country is the wonderful weather we have all year but especially enjoying those perfect summer days. When your child is here, we like to make sure we are doing our very best at keeping them safe in all aspect including safe from the sun! So please remembers to pack sun safe clothing including covering up shoulder and backs, packing a wide brim hat and making sure you pack any specific sunscreen your child needs.

We provide our own sunscreen for the children and lots of water play to keep everyone cool during the warmer months so spare clothes are a must as well.



FOLLOW ON

Short simple activities to get some active minutes in the day.

Choose someone to start, that person picks an action and everyone participating does 10 sets of that action before someone else takes over, for example – **Person 1)** 10-star jumps, **Person 2)** 10 skips, **Person 3)** 10 squats and so on until everyone has had a turn. Go back to the first person and continue to **Follow on**.

Pop on some music and get moving! It may take a few tries and suggestions to get the rhythm going, but it will be good fun once you do!