



Little Bees Childcare Centre Newsletter

Centre News/ Events...

Welcome to the November edition of the Little Bees Newsletter. As we head into the end of the year, below are some important dates to add to your calendar.

- Arctic Room Graduation- 14th December
- Little Bees Christmas Party- 19th December

Little Bees has turned the centre into a Christmas Wonderland to start celebrating the Christmas season. It has been great seeing the children's excitement over the Christmas tree and decorations going up in each of the rooms.

We love and encourage all members of our families to provide new and interesting ideas to the centre's programming. This can take be in the form of photos and anecdotes of family trips away, birthday and family celebrations, visits to attractions or general information about a topic your child/ren are particularly interested in. As you continue through this newsletter, you will read about the various topics of interest each group are following.

If your child is set to move up to the next room shortly, please don't hesitate to chat with your child's educators about the transition. They can take you to the new room and answer any questions that you may have. If your child will move up to a new room in 2019, you will not have to re-enrol. All children progress through each room as they turn the next age. So, don't stress!

Sadly, the end of a year means that most of our pre-schoolers will finish up at Little Bees to go to Big School. It never gets any easier saying goodbye, but we wish all our graduates the best with their primary school journey and hope they will come back to visit us in their new uniforms!



Christmas Holiday Closed Period

Closed from **Tuesday 25th December 2018**

Reopens **Wednesday 2nd January 2019**



Important dates for December and community Links ...

- 14th December- Graduation for the Arctic children who are going to Primary School
- 19th December- Christmas Party at the centre for all the children from 2pm to 4pm
- 25th December- 2nd January- CENTRE IS CLOSED

Happy Birthday to...

1st

Yugan
Oliver

2nd

Aadith



3rd

Rashid
Oscar
Vihan

4th

Mohnish Laxman
Max Matthew
Vinayak Simo
Dhwani
Neerveek

5th

Pranav
Advay

Healthy Living...

Why not serve your children their greens vegetables in a tasty smoothie! It is delicious, and they don't know what goes in it! It is Vegetarian, Vegan, Dairy and Gluten Free.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup coconut water (can substitute with any nut milk or water/ice)
- 2 big handfuls washed spinach leaves – add cucumber, celery or any other green veggies if desired
- 1 cup chopped fruit – such as banana, kiwi fruit, berries or pineapple (include fruit that adds a creamy, thick texture such as banana, mango or even avocado)
- 10 or more mint leaves

Method:

1. Add liquid, spinach and mint to blender.
2. Blend until smooth so you don't have to chew the spinach.
3. Add your choice of chopped fruit, seeds and nuts.
4. Blend for 20-30 seconds until smooth.



Sustainability tips for home and School...

Everyday sustainability

- We put paper in the recycle bin so more trees don't have to be cut down. Trees make our world beautiful, make homes for animals and keep our air clean.
- We take our own shopping bags instead of using plastic bags at the shops to help protect birds and animals in the ocean.
- We recycle our glass bottles to save resources and reduce greenhouse gases to keep our air clean.
- We try to fix things instead of throwing them out.
- We always turn out lights when we're finished to save energy which helps our environment.
- We put our kitchen waste in the compost bin or worm farm to create food for our garden.
- We try to choose environmentally friendly products when we go shopping.
- We reduce waste water by turning off the taps and using the half flush button on our toilet.

Sustainability tips for home and School...

How to be Sun Smart

1. The Cancer Council's SunSmart Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek, Slide program is a simple and effective way to reduce the risk of skin cancer.

Slip on clothing to cover skin	<p>Put on clothing that covers as much skin as possible.</p> <p>Choose lightweight, loose-fitting clothing that won't make your child too hot.</p>
Slop on sunscreen	<p>Use SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen on your child's face, arms, hands and any other skin that is not covered.</p> <p>Apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outside and reapply every two hours.</p> <p>Sunscreen does not completely block out all UV radiation and should never be the only method of sun protection.</p>
Slap on a hat	<p>Choose a hat that shades your child's face, back of the neck, eyes and ears, and is a suitable size for your child's head.</p> <p>Broadbrimmed, Legionnaire or bucket hats are best. Baseball caps and visors are not recommended.</p>
Seek shade	<p>Try to use shade whenever possible. If you can, choose a shady place for your child to play, such as under a tree, shade sail or umbrella.</p> <p>UV radiation can burn even when you are in the shade, so it is important you and your child also wear sunscreen, a hat and appropriate clothing.</p>
Slide on sunglasses	<p>Sunglasses are labelled with <u>protection category</u> ratings, which indicate how well they protect the eyes from UV radiation. Choose wrap-around sunglasses that are labelled category 2, 3 or 4. Category 1 or 0 sunglasses do not provide enough UV protection.</p> <p>A soft elastic strap will help to keep sunglasses in place for babies and toddlers.</p>

Room News- Beach Room (0-2)

During the month of November, we have celebrated Yugan's 2nd birthday and Oliver's 1st birthday. We would like to wish both children a very happy birthday and all the best for the future.

We would like to welcome Isaac, Nishita and Naimisha into the beach room family! We are excited to see how we develop these children's interests and form relationships with them and the families.

As a room, we have focused on implementing sustainability practices to encourage the children and families to recycle materials. We have used a box as a ball pit by using the coloured plastic balls. The children seemed to enjoy this as they begin to smile and laugh while being the box. We have made natural material suncatchers using paper plates and loose leaves/flowers.

We have also focused on teaching the children how to identify their peers by showing them their photos and naming them individually. This helps to develop the children's recognition and vocal skills by asking them to repeat the names. Anika, Ariana, and Lakshya are able to identify their peers confidently and independently.

We have focused on teaching the children about fruits and vegetables by implementing activities that require the children to match the photos together while the educator names the item.

As December begins to approach, we have begun implementing Christmas activities such as painting a tree, painting bubals, painting present stencils and working on the Christmas present from child to parent.

Reminders -

- Please bring in a family photo for us to hang onto the family vine.
- As the weather begins to warm up, we may start implementing water activities into the daily routine. So please provide a spare change of clothes for this to be a positive experience.





Room News- Farm Room (2-3)

It's a great pleasure to address our lovely families once again. Firstly, we'd like to welcome our new children, Sri Rana, Geetasree, Mikayla and Clinton to the Little Bees Family. We are very pleased to inform that they are getting used to the new environment happily.

To recall what we have done throughout the month, we have focused particularly on children's interests and from this developed different educational experience. An interest that children enjoyed was the topic about transportation. We have been told by children themselves about their awesome adventures over the weekends like Omar being on a boat and seeing garbage trucks pass his house. The children enjoyed the sensory play very much associated with boats and different art and craft activities associated with the topic. Another topic explored was cooking as we got the opportunities to see parents post photos of their children baking and cooking with them over the weekend. As we realised the children love cooking so much, the children took part in making brownies with Miss Jessica and later enjoyed eating them for afternoon tea. As Rihaan loved super heroes we had some activities based on super heroes too. Science activities and experiments were incorporated into the program plan which saw the children experiencing the world of science. This brought them much curiosity and joy. They participated in the experiments with much enthusiasm, attempting to identify the cause and effect of each one.

During this month we celebrated Diwali Festival in the centre creating a sense of belonging and respect for diversity. It was great to see the children dressed up in their traditional costumes and so did the educators. We did some Rangoli colouring and painted clay lamps to celebrate this special event. We also focused on sustainability practices which the children took part in visiting the worm farm in Arctic Room, planting seeds, watering the seeds and using recyclable materials for art and craft activities. These were very much successful and taught the children to respect and care for the environment.

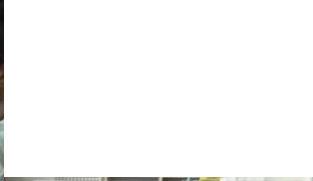
We have also changed the room settings as to provide more welcoming environment to execute the children's interest. The children can independently walk to the art and craft work station and engage in different art and craft activities using their creativity and imagination. We have also added new books to the book shelf to attract the children to develop their language and communication skills.

It is also a pleasure to inform you that our children showed much interest to learn about the days of the week and most of them can identify the days correctly, thus we have included it permanently to our group time. As you may be aware by now, we have stopped doing children's observations and is instead working on doing the children's report. The Farm Room will be holding parent meetings with teachers on the 10th and 11th of December, to discuss the children's progress throughout the year. Parents may fill out their own interview time on the "Parents teacher interview forms" "place on the front door of the room.

As the festive month is coming up, we are looking forward to having lots of fun and hope that everyone is getting ready for that.

Reminders to parents;

- Please label all your child's belongings, especially water bottles and milk bottles.
- Please keep spare clothes in their bags as we will do lots of water and messy play activities.
- Please don't send any small toys with your child as they can go missing easily.
- Every child is requested to bring two sheets for sleeping, one fitted sheet and one blanket.
- Please be mindful when bringing in food from home that do not contain nuts as this is a free nut centre.



Room News- Jungle Room (3-4)

This month Jungle room have been focusing on roads and classroom safety rules, sustainability, sensory activities, celebrating Diwali festivals, Halloween, healthy eating and habits and expressing ourselves through music and dancing.

Children all got excited the week before Halloween. We used our Halloween crafts to decorate the rooms such as dangling creepy spiders from the roof, fluffy ghosts and webs made from wools. Through engaging in Halloween storytelling and pretend play, children can explore character roles, use their imaginations to develop a range of skills and processes such as express wonders, emotional wellbeing, aspects of role playing and investigating ideas. Especially, children very much enjoyed face painting, they had their faces painted with different characters each day. The most popular face painting children request for were the witch, spider man, vampire and super hero mask.

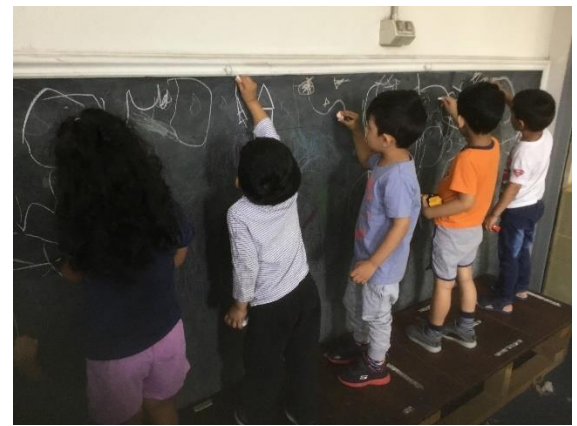
We dimmed the lights and played some music that matched the scary Halloween storytelling; the children showed their feelings through changing their facials expressions. The best part is always a happy ending, rescued by the super Jungle Room children heroes.

We dressed up with traditional clothing and danced in traditional music to celebrate the Diwali festivals. Children explored and celebrated diversity cultures and understanding new opportunities to learn about alternative ways of living.

We continued review and go through again with the Jungle Room children the importance of road safety, healthy lifestyle and ways of nurturing their living and class safety.

The educators always try to encourage children to start their first bite of food with fresh veggies and fruits before intaking other food like crackers, cheese, bread etc. We conduct a group discussion while we are having our meals. Throughout the day, we have discussed range of things such as apple cleans the teeth and make your body strong, water keep you hydrated and lets your blood circulate well and sleep can make you grow strong and tall like super heroes. We have also revised the road safety rules and classroom safety. The educators continue model explicit communication strategies to support children to initiate interactions and join in play and social experiences in ways that sustain productive relationships with other children.





Room News- Arctic Room (4-5)

This month in Arctic room, has been busy busy busy. You may have noticed many changes to our routine and learning environment. We have made these changes to support children to be more independent, confident and involved learners. The smaller learning spaces support children to fully engage with what they are doing in collaboration with small groups of children. Research suggests that small and mixed age learning groups allow children to operate within their zone of proximal development, supporting them to, "observe and emulate models of activities more advanced than their own; and receive emotional support and care beyond that which age-mates could provide" (American Journal of Play, 2011). These smaller mixed age groups have also helped to settle some of the younger members of Arctic room who have been transitioning from Jungle room. The progressive nature of the room routine is designed to further support prolonged engagement with activities. Meaning we no longer take children away from what they are interested in to eat/sleep. However, we do give children multiple opportunities throughout the day to consider aspects of their own interest, health and well-being such as, am I hungry yet? I've been running around, is my body thirsty? What would I like to do? The room has gone quiet maybe I should have some rest or sleep while it's quiet. These questions also support extending on their own interest/choices about their bodies. We also lead school readiness activities that highlight the importance of good health. School readiness is very important at this stage of the year with so many children graduating to primary school, so along with support to be more independent we are giving children the opportunity to develop emotionally. Activities include, recognising body language, understanding physical changes in the body eg: becoming tense when we are angry, and skills to calm down such as counting backwards, deep breaths, and doing the 'noodle' (a physical relaxation activity).

Following the current interest of children we have been giving them various opportunities to draw. The children have all day access to crayons, textas, pens and pencils. To focus on this drawing interest, we have encouraged children to draw their favourite aspect of Christmas which we will display at our Christmas party. We have also added natural resources to extend their knowledge on sustainability and to give children the opportunity to use their creativity and imagination that led to inspirational drawings, paintings and imaginative play using bark, bugs and an indoor beach.

Graduation reminder - Friday 14th December arrival 12:30, Graduation ceremony 1:00

Christmas reminder - Wednesday 19th December 2:00 - 4:00

Family Input: Please bring any of the items from home if you have them

Natural resources - bring in from visits to park (bark, sticks, seed pods, leaves, flowers etc)

Recyclables - from home (bottle caps, plastic bottles/containers, material, scarfs, egg cartons, buttons etc)

