Welcome back for Term 3!

Coming up in Term 3…
Can you believe we’re now halfway through the year? Last term was a big one - between Simultaneous Story Time, International Mud Day and our End of Term Celebration, there was never a dull moment. A big thank-you to everyone who celebrated with us at the end of the term and to all families who have joined in with our activities throughout the term.

This term looks to be jam-packed as well. We have already begun Parent-Teacher interviews for the River Room and families in the Nest and Reeds room will have a chance to catch up with educators in Week 7. If you haven’t had a chance to book an interview slot yet, talk with the front desk.

In the middle of the term is Book Week. In keeping with our focus on Literacy, the rooms will plan some book-related experiences with the children and share some of the shortlisted stories. Read on to find out what else we achieved last term and what else is coming up!

Important Dates
National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children’s Day: Thursday 4th August
Governing Council/Annual General Meeting: Wednesday 11th August, 6:30pm
Book Week: Saturday 20th August to Friday 26th August
Nest Parent-Teacher Interviews: Tuesday 6th September
Reeds Parent-Teacher Interviews: Thursday 8th September
End of Term: Friday 30th September

Reminders
Have you been checking our Centre Facebook page? We often update the page with news of upcoming events, reminders and information from other sites and services. You can find us at facebook.com/ForbesChildrensCentre.
Also, in case you hadn’t heard, we are now offering direct debit for bill payments. If you’d like to set up your account so your bill is paid automatically each week, please come and speak with Neetha.

Term 3 Staffing
After completing an interview process last term, we’re excited to announce that Erin has won Jess’ position in the Reeds room while Jess is on maternity leave. Erin has been working at the site as a relief educator for the last couple of months and is quickly settling into the room.

In other exciting news, we would like to welcome two new babies to the Forbes family. Imane from the River room has had her daughter, Ines and Jess recently gave birth to her daughter, Xanthe. We can’t wait to get to know both of you!

News from the Governing Council
The Annual General Meeting is going to be held on Wednesday 11th August, following the Council’s regular meeting. The AGM is open to everybody who wants to join the Governing Council for 2016-2017 and/or anyone who wants to find out more about how the Centre operates. Being on the Governing Council allows you to vote on major decisions for the Centre’s direction and have your voice heard. If you’re interested in attending or joining the Council, speak with Ros or Nat.

Outdoor Environment Update
The plans for our exciting new outdoor environment are ready to go out to tender. Over the next two months, the plans will be finalised and the project should commence over the Christmas holiday period. We will keep you updated as the project progresses!
Feedback Surveys
Last term we sent out two surveys for families: the annual feedback survey and the Food for Families survey.
We have drawn the raffle for the free Food for Families meals: the winners are Sarah Pendrey and Erina Hamilton. Congratulations! Thank-you to everyone who returned feedback. We can’t wait to pass your suggestions onto Jo and see what new meals she’ll come up with.
Our parent feedback survey is open until the end of this term. We are grateful to everyone who has already submitted feedback and we are already discussing how we can address some of the points raised in our planning for next year. The survey can be found in hardcopy at the front desk or online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5G8G6VR.

Parenting Programs
As many of you are aware, we run several parenting programs on-site. These programs are delivered by our Family Services Coordinator and based on the needs of our families. Two courses we’d like to promote this term are ‘Bringing Up Great Kids’ and ‘Circle of Security’.
‘Bringing Up Great Kids’ is a program that asks parents to reflect on the advice they’ve been given about parenting and helps them to form their own parenting style.
‘Circle of Security’ is about learning how to form strong attachments with your child and helping them to feel safe and supported.
For more information about booking into the above courses or other groups, you can check the program at the bottom of this newsletter or speak with Merridee or the front desk.

What’s Happening
Here are some fun things to do in Adelaide during Term 3:

SA Living Artist Festival, 1st August to 31st August, Various locations, www.salafestival.com

Behind the Words, Until 2nd September, 9:00am – 5:00pm, Migration Museum 82 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide


START at the Gallery, First Sunday of Every Month, 11:00am – 3:00pm, Art Gallery of South Australia, North Terrace, Adelaide. www.artgallery.sa.gov.au/agsa/home/Events/START_at_the_Gallery.html

We wish you all the very best during the new term!

Kind regards
Ros, Kim, Nat and Cathy