

Dear families,

Christmas and the end of the year is fast approaching (11 weeks until the end of the Rainforest year- Friday 21st December) and we know it is a busy time. To help with your planning, please note the following 'Save-the-date' information: End of Year Celebration and Christmas Party on Friday 23rd November at 7pm and Lizard Graduation on Monday 3rd December at 7pm. Each of these are for approximately 1-1.5 hour

Our policies are reviewed biennially and, when due, are on display for two weeks near the sign in/out iPad. Parents are invited to review these and any feedback provided is truly welcomed. Our folder containing all our policies is located below the sign in/out iPad and can be viewed, on site, at any time.

Also, by the iPad we have the Children's News book where you can write about a particular event your child has experienced. Eg holiday, Wiggle's concert, grandma visiting etc

Lastly, if you have taken a fundraising chocolate box, please return the payment as soon as possible.

Enjoy your long weekend and be careful, be aware and stay safe!

Regards Miss Andrea

Events...

Mon 1st – CENTRE CLOSED - Labour Day Public Holiday

Sun 7th – Daylight saving commences, put clocks forward 1 hour

Mon 15th – Dress Up Day

Tue 16th – Dress Up Day

Thu 18th - Dress Up Day

Fri 19th – Dress Up Day

Fun animal facts:

- A type of 'immortal' jellyfish is capable of cheating death
- An octopus has three hearts
- Cats and horses are highly susceptible to black widow venom but dogs are relatively resistant

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Logan 16/10 (4 years)

Lachlan 17/10 (4 years)

Lucy 17/10 (5 years)

Jack 25/10 (5 years)

Tyler 30/10 (3 years)



Birthday photo chart celebrations are displayed behind our front door.

Outcome 2.1 children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities

Transitioning to school

For children, starting 'big school' can be a very exciting but scary time. So many changes happen within their days and routines that it can be a little stressful. A Transition to School program may impact a child's engagement with school, their wellbeing and ongoing learning.

A transition program differs to an orientation program as an orientation program helps children and families become **familiar with the school**. It can consist of a few visits to the school which provide information for children and families.

A transition to school program provides support to children and their families as they **prepare for school**. Building on children's prior and current experiences helps them to feel secure, confident and connected to familiar people, places, events and understandings. Transitions assist children to understand the new routines, practices and expectations of the setting to which they are moving and help them to feel more confident and familiar with the process of change.

Some of Rainforest ELC transition processes are:

- Lizard Group Learning skills, eg pen grip, cutting skills, practise writing name, contributing to discussion groups, turn taking, independent learning and supporting peers etc
- Practise our literacy and numeracy skills
- Lizard Group Homework books and readers – coming Term 4
- Lunches in lunchbox – coming end of Term 4

Some things you could do at home are:

- Practising using scissors, glue sticks and pencils
- Practise safety whilst walking to and from school
- Practise packing their schoolbag each night, ensuring that it is ready for the next day
- Practise putting their jumpers on and off with no assistance (including independently turning their jumpers right way out to put back on)
- Begin practising ABC sounds and numbers 1 – 20. Make it fun by looking at labels, street signs, favourite books and magazines etc
- Make sure children can follow 2-3 step instructions (eg please go to room, get your bag and put your shoes on)
- If needed, start to get your child into regular sleep and waking hour routines so they are dressed, fed and ready to leave the house by the required 'school day' leaving time

Our Transition to School Booklets and information have been handed out to all Lizard parents / carers last month which gives greater detail on the journey our Lizard friends are starting.

For more information: <http://k6.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/go/parents/transition-to-school>

Source: www.transitiontoschool.nsw.edu.au

Aboriginal Totems

In traditional Aboriginal life, every baby had two totems, one that their mother gave them and another inherited (bloodline connection).

The totem is a symbol of the connection between people and the land and a spiritual link between all Aboriginal people.

The totems could be animal, plant, place or condition. The clan then protects these.

For your animal totem, you need to make sure you will look after its habitat. You can never, ever kill your totem animal.

Totems are also extremely important in all individual and group celebrations and ceremonies. Totem images appear in paintings and carvings and on tools and implements.

Totems were extremely important in traditional culture because they showed loyalty to the past. Today totem systems are still used by Indigenous people as a way of continuing and maintaining connections with the land, the Dreamtime and their ancestors.



Australian Aboriginal Anthem

There is an Australian Aboriginal anthem written by Hollis Maris (1934 to 1986).

I am a child of the Dreamtime People
Part of this land, like a gnarled gum tree
I am the river softly singing
Chanting our songs on my way to the sea
My spirit is the dust-devils
Mirages that dance on the plain
I'm the snow, the wind and the falling rain
I'm part of the rocks and the red desert earth
Red as the blood that flows in my veins
I am eagle, crow and snake that glides
Through the rainforest that clings to the mountainside
I awakened here when the earth was new
There was emu, wombat, kangaroo
No other man of different hue
I am this land
And this land is me
I am Australian.

www.weekendnotes.com/aboriginal-facts-you-should-know

