Welcome to all our new families and welcome back to our continuing families!

**Diary Dates**
- Family Sausage Sizzle - Monday 13th of February 5.00pm
- Proposed Swimming Excursion - Wednesday 22nd of February
- Governing Council - AGM Monday 27th of February 7pm
- Public Holiday Adelaide Cup - Monday 13th of March
- Mount Pleasant Show-18th of March
- Stay and Play- 20th of March
- Pie Drive -April
- Seager’s Farm Visit - Monday the 10th of April
- Last Day of Term- 11th of April

Please remember to wear cool clothes, pack spares, bring a broad brim hat, **label** all your children’s items including their lunch boxes and drink bottles!

**Fees** Governing Council has approved the fees for 2017. Fees will remain the same as last year at $135 per term and our preferred payment method is by electronic transfer or correct money can be placed in the fees box near the sign in sheet.

**Catastrophic Fire Day**
Just a reminder we may be closed on a Catastrophic Fire Day as staff travel through high risk areas. If a Catastrophic Fire Day falls on a Kindy day staff will notify you the night before/ morning of if the centre will be closed.

**Sessions Times**
- Monday and Tuesday (9am to 3pm)
- Wednesday (9am to 3pm) every even week of term

Please remember to be on time as we are setting up until 9am each day and begin staff meetings after children leave.

Mount Posh OSCH is available at Mount Pleasant Primary if you require this service.

**New Kindy Phone**
As many of you are now aware we have purchased a Kindy mobile phone to help assist us in sending out group text messages, in case of emergency and to also allow families another form of communication to text us messages regarding illness/ absence from sessions. As this is currently prepaid to see how much it is utilised we are only using for texting if you would like to call the centre please feel free to use our landline or leave a message on our answering machine. We will aim to check the mobile before, during and after our sessions.

**Staffing for Term 1**
Jo and Janet are teaching each Preschool Day and Janice is here on Tuesdays to facilitate Occasional Care as well as Mondays and Wednesday’s as support.
Clothing
Please remember to wear old clothing and pack a change of clothes. We have lots of fun at Preschool with many different and sometimes messy activities. We will be taking t-shirt orders soon so keep an eye out for these we also have some in stock if you are interested.

Fundraising
Governing council organises fundraisers throughout the year and this term we will have a stall at the Mt Pleasant Show and a Pie Drive. Please keep your eyes open for rosters to help and order forms for the pies. If you can support us by donating an hour of your time that would be kindly appreciated.

Family celebration
Kindy families are invited to a sausage sizzle and play on Monday the 13/2/17 between 5-6pm. Please feel free to come along and meet staff, other families and have a play with your child weather permitting.

Swimming Excursion
During the next few days we will send a note home regarding a possible visit to the Woodside Swimming Pool. We would be traveling in private cars due to the small number of children and we are unable to hire a bus due to the cost. If we have enough volunteers and interest this excursion would occur on Wednesday the 22/2/17. Please keep an eye out for this note and have a think if you would be able to assist us.

Occasional Care
Our Occasional Care sessions are very full so please notify us if your child is sick/ unable to attend a session. This will allow us to contact another family on our standby list to attend.

Payment is due on day of session so please remember to bring this with you.

Immunisations
As you may have heard preschools and schools are beginning to collect immunisations records. During the term we will be asking to see your child’s records (immunisations schedule/ blue book) so we can copy and place in your child’s file. This will allow us to contact appropriate families when we need to about certain illnesses. If your child is exempted from immunisations please see Jo and she will forward on the correct paperwork for you to complete with your doctor.

Playgroup
Playgroup is held on Fridays at the Preschool between 9.30am-11.30am please bring a piece of fruit to share and come for a play.

Governing Council AGM
Will be held at the Kindy on Monday the 27th of February at 7pm. This is a great way to meet new people and great insight into how the Kindy is managed. We aim to meet twice a term at a time that is convenient to those on the council. This has been previously afternoons but could possibly be evenings and is decided at our first meeting. If you have any questions please see Jo.

We are allergy aware
We have previously had children attending who have had reactions to egg, dairy, pistachios, cashews and sesame seeds. We ask that families please be aware of what they pack for lunches and strongly suggest foods containing nuts not be provided.

Our learning program is located on the pin up board near the sign in sheets
In line with the National Quality Standards we use the Early Years Learning Framework - Belonging, Being and Becoming as a basis for our learning program with the specific emphasis on play based and interest based learning. Our program is located on the pin up board near the sign in desk for you to access and read and is updated each fortnight. We also have introduced a program ideas sheet which we update daily with children’s individual interests and ideas. This is a valuable tool in planning for all our children. We are beginning to make this more visual by displaying photos, creative work and collections from our day for all parents/ caregivers to enjoy around the centre. Don’t forget to check out our floor book near the sign in sheet. This is full of photos, jottings and authentic comments from the children as
they learn through play. It is located under our program - please feel free to sit and take a look with your child.

**Learning Dispositions**

These are the attitudes towards how we learn. While there are many different dispositions, the following ones have been shown to be particularly important in supporting children to be effective life-long learners:

* Being Curious
* Being Cooperative
* Being Confident
* Being Resourceful
* Being a Communicator
* Being Purposeful and Persistent

During the year we reflect on these through a ‘learning through play’ lens. Throughout term one we tend to focus on children being confident and helping them to become familiar and confident in our Kindy environment and with our routines. Please read the attached handout for more information.

**Other Websites**

There is a wealth of information on the DECD website including your chance to have your say about education matters so well worth a look.

- [www.greatstart.sa.edu.au](http://www.greatstart.sa.edu.au) has lots of educational activities too
- [www.mtpleasantkgn.sa.edu.au](http://www.mtpleasantkgn.sa.edu.au)
- **Check us out on Facebook** for updates and photos we have our own page *Mt Pleasant and District Kindergarten*

If you have any questions please ask staff. A really good time to do this is at the end of the day once we have said goodbye to all the children.

Jo, Janet & Janice