Christmas Wishes from CELC

From all of the CELC educators, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you back in 2016.

No Jab No Pay

From 1 January 2016 parents who do not fully immunise their children (up to 19 years of age) will cease to be eligible for Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate and the Family Tax Benefit Part A end of year supplement (family assistance payments).

Children with medical contraindications or natural immunity for certain diseases will continue to be exempt from the requirements. There is some debate at present surrounding children with conscientious objection and vaccination objection on non-medical grounds and whether these exemptions will be a valid exemption from immunisation requirements from January 2016. While at present this does not seem to affect our preschool families, it may affect siblings enrolled in primary schools. (to be eligible for child care benefit preschoolers are required to be vaccinated or hold certified conscientious objections from a medical provider).

Families will be informed by the Department of Human Services that their child/children do not meet the immunisation requirements for family assistance payments, and will be encouraged to speak with their immunisation provider about updating their vaccination records or commencing an appropriate vaccination catch-up schedule.

Educator Professional Development Day

While our last day for children is Thursday 17th December, our educators will be involved in professional development courses over the summer holiday period. On Friday 18th December we will be attending a seminar provided by Semann & Slattery around outdoor learning environments and collaborating with our network of preschools. Educators will also be undertaking a CPR refresher course as well as Asthma and Anaphylaxis training.

Community Building Partnership Grant Success

After many years of applying for Community Building Partnership Funding, CELC has successfully achieved a grant for 2016. This means that CELC will be able to achieve the masterplan developed in 2012 for our outdoor classroom in full. Hugh McDermott MP for Prospect announced the news of our
successful grant in week 9 of this term. Our outdoor classroom will include sensory pathways, a water pump, rock climbing, slides, tunnels and a bike track. Plans for the outdoors are on display at the CELC.

We intend to hold a formal opening ceremony once works are complete. An invitation to attend will be sent to all of our families from 2012 to present. It’s sure to be an exciting time for CELC in 2016.

**No Hat No Play 2016**

A reminder to families to ensure that children have a sun safe hat in 2016. Our preschool is an approved sunsmart service because of our strict commitment to children’s sun protection. We have a strict No Hat - No Play approach. Baseball caps are not sunsafe and should not be worn at CELC.

- A sun-safe hat protects the whole face, head, back of neck and ears.
- A hat can reduce the amount of ultraviolet (UV) radiation reaching the eyes by 50%.
- Broad-brimmed, bucket and legionnaire-style hats provide good protection.
- When choosing a hat for children, ensure that it fits correctly.


To support our families enrolling in CELC from 2016, we will be providing children with an approved sunsafe hat as part of their enrolment. They will be required to bring these hats to CELC on each day of their attendance. If children do not have a sunsafe hat, a miscellaneous charge will be added to your account for laundering of a CELC supplied hat.

**Water bottles 2016**

CELC will no longer be providing glasses/cups of water for children who forget their water bottles. We have found that providing cups presents a risk to cross infection for children at the CELC. Should your child forget their water bottle, CELC will provide a water bottle and impose a $3.00 fee to your account for replacement costs. As a not for profit preschool service we cannot continue to provide water bottles at no charge to families, ultimately we are restricting our ability to purchases resources for the learning environment by redirecting funds to supply water to children/families who forget.


**Bunnings BBQ Saturday 19th December.**

Our fundraising opportunity for term four is a Bunnings BBQ to be held on Saturday, 19 December 2015 at Blacktown Bunnings. We are looking for volunteers to work the BBQ. What an opportunity to complete some Christmas shopping while supporting CELC in it's fundraising efforts. We look forward to seeing you at Bunnings.