Dear Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful break with your children, and are refreshed and ready to begin term 2. In the holidays the kindy yard was extended and it looks like a beautiful and natural extension of our play spaces! This week the children have enjoyed tinkering in the new area. We have also made red poppies for Anzac Day, made Tanzy’s delicious Anzac Slice recipe and read two children’s picture books about the Anzacs.

**Attendance**

DECD Attendance target is 93% and I am very pleased to say that we were slightly above this target in term 1. At Crystal Brook Kindy, attendance will continue to be a focus where staff and parents will work collaboratively to ensure children are attending regularly.

‘By working together we can support the regular attendance of your child at preschool and set up good learning habits for life’ (Preschool Everyday Counts poster—CBK noticeboard).

This DECD focus promotes preschools and schools as a system to support and engage children and their learning. As a staff we will provide quality learning programs each day, so that engaging children and maximising their attendance at Kindy will result.

To support CBK’s focus on attendance I will

⇒ Inform our Kindy community each week what our attendance figure was.
⇒ Contact families if children have unexplained absences
⇒ Communicate with families if children are not feeling comfortable at our kindy and resolve any issues surrounding this.
⇒ Text message families at the end of the term acknowledging those whose children attended that term above our goal of 93%

Families can support our attendance by

⇒ Phoning the kindy (86362411) or messaging the kindy mobile (0427172529) if your child is going to be away.
⇒ Keeping your child away if they do have an infectious disease or illness to avoid sharing any unwanted bugs!
⇒ Speaking with Karena (or another staff member) if you have concerns about your child’s time at kindy so we can work together to resolve any issues.

Our data reference period monitoring our children’s attendance is during weeks 2 and 3 of this term. We would love to have 100% attendance during these weeks!

So far...
Term 2, 2015
Week 1 Attendance: 85.18%
**Kindy pupil free day**

Monday 18th May for the Centre

Please make alternative care arrangements for your children. Staff will be involved in increasing knowledge about Work Health Safety and carrying out tasks to ensure our Centre meets compliance levels by June 30th. Staff will also be reviewing our Centre's Quality Improvement Plan progress thus far.

**Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training for Volunteers in our Kindy**

As part of the DECD requirements all volunteers that wish to spend some time at the kindy, or attend excursions must have a DCSI form approved. They are also required to attend a 2 hour Introduction to Mandatory Reporting Session. This has been organised for **Wednesday 6th May at 7pm** and is open to any other parents who wish to assist the kindy as a volunteer. This is the only session to be run this year for the kindy and will be held in conjunction with parents and volunteers from Crystal Brook Primary School. This session will be held at CBPS. Please see Karena asap if you still wish to be involved as a volunteer this year and need to fill in the required form. You will be required to attend this session too.

**DCSI Volunteers at the Kindy**

Jocelyn Venning will continue to garden with children on a regular basis. This provides a great source of enjoyment for the children and their learning about fresh produce, caring for gardens through composting and worm farms has been fantastic.

Margaret Collins will play a selection of nursery rhymes and sing-a-long songs for all to enjoy. Children will receive a booklet of songs that we will sing and you can practice at home! This will occur on Monday afternoons in even weeks.

George Spry will assist the Kindy on a regular basis to help extend the chook house to include a fenced in run for them! We have some passionate chook loving children who are very excited about this project. It will include planting wormwood plants to keep the environment healthy for the chooks! George has also volunteered to help the children build a mud kitchen and dry creek bed. This is going to provide enormous outdoor learning opportunities for children and we are very enthusiastic about this.

**Library borrowing**

Library borrowing occurs in odd weeks during term 2 on Tuesday afternoons from 1.40pm at the CBPS Library. Please ensure your child brings their library bag on this day.
Bake Sale

**Monday 4th May** from 10-12pm at Foodland. It would be greatly appreciated if Kindy, Occasional Care and Playgroup families are happy to bake something on the day. Items can be brought to Kindy in the morning and Emma will organise to take them down. Alternatively food items can be dropped off at the stall at 10am. Food items will need an ingredient list attached to them.

**Mother’s Day raffle**

The Fundraising committee is holding a Mother's Day raffle fundraiser over the month of April. Raffle books were put in kindy pockets in week 10, tickets are $1 each and there are 10 in a book. The committee appreciate any tickets sold and understand it can be tricky to sell the whole book. **Raffle will be drawn on 11th May.**

The committee are seeking donations of goods towards filling the gift baskets. If you would like to kindly donate, please feel free but there is no obligation. Thank you for your support, it is much appreciated!

**Grandparents Day**

This year we will hold Grandparents Day (or another special guest may be invited) on **Monday 1st June 2015** at the Kindy.

We hold this event each year at the Kindy and coincide it with the Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea. It is a wonderful opportunity for children to show case their kindy and learning environment to their the Grandparents and invited guests. We will organize a range of activities for children to undertake on this afternoon and we will do a special concert of songs we have practiced with Mrs Collins.

Looking forward to a lovely afternoon with our children and guests!

Kind regards

Karena Wilson
News from the Crystal Brook Kindy

**Wet Weather Play—From Netley Kindergarten in Adelaide**

As we head into autumn and winter the weather is bound to be inclement, cold and wet at times. The outdoor learning environment changes and different experiences can be enjoyed by our children.

To encourage exploration and discovery of nature in the wet our children will be able to be outside in all types of weather, provided they are suitably clothed. Kindy has some umbrellas, rain jackets and gumboots available to use throughout the day. However, if you know your child would like to discover and play outside please send them with appropriate clothing to support them in their play. Gumboots, rain jackets, and umbrellas are able to be left at kindy from Monday to Tuesday if you need. Please ensure that all items are clearly named to reduce confusion. Please also remember to send a spare set of clothes for your child to change into if needed (this includes spare knickers and socks as well).

Thank you for supporting your child in experiencing this type of play. We have some exciting projects planned throughout this term and we would love children to be involved!

“There’s no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing.”

---

**GOVERNING COUNCIL 2015**

**Chairperson:** Emma Jeffries  
**Vice Chairperson:** Emma Gulin  
**Secretary:** Anita Hook  
**Treasurer:** Fleur Greatorex  
**Grants:** Karena Wilson  
**Committee:** Beck Nicholson, Carla Hook, Charmaine Richards. Jacinta Huxtable, Kaidi James, Kellie Perry, Kerstin Marshall, Lisa McMinn and Mel Storton (Playgroup).

Thank you to the parents listed above for nominating / accepting the positions on this years Governing Council. We've always had a very supportive and active Governing Council body at the Centre and I look forward to working with parents and caregivers in this capacity in 2015.

All Kindy and Occasional Care parents/caregivers are welcome to attend the meetings.

---

28th April 2015

**Contact Details**  
CB Kindergarten & Occasional Care  
Mais Terrace  
Crystal Brook SA 5523  
Phone 86362411  
Fax 86362002  
Mobile 0427172529

**Important Dates**  
4th May  
Trading table  
6th May  
Responding to Abuse and Neglect training  
CBPS  
10th May  
Mother’s Day  
18th May  
Kindy Pupil Free Day  
20th May  
Governing Council (TBC)  
1st June  
(Grandparent Day)