

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020


ISSUE #3



10 TIPS TO REMEMBER WHEN TEACHING SOCIAL SKILLS

Excerpt from *Developing Social Skills* by Sue Larkey and Gay von Ess

- 1 Adapt activities to **REAL** people and places the child knows. Imagine you are talking to teacher, friend, name a specific student — include real names of people they know.
- 2 Remember that social expectations frequently become more complex as people get older — repetition and elaboration is essential.
- 3 Tell what to do, not what NOT to do. Instead of “NO JAMES” say “James wait, Sarah first.”
- 4 Catch students doing ‘the right thing!’ and reward.
- 5 Do not assume they will generalise, they need to practice in different environments.
- 6 Engage peers as they can be great role models and encourage students in a range of situations.
- 7 Be a role model. Being slightly over-dramatic will help the child identify points you are illustrating; e.g. body language, tone of voice, coping with mistakes.
- 8 Use visuals — a picture is worth a thousand words or more!
- 9 Make teaching quick and fun!
- 10 PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE.



www.suelarkey.com.au

ODD and PDA Social Skills
Anxiety and the Power of Preventative Breaks
How to Support Motor Skills
ADHD Homework
PLUS MORE!

NEW
Emotional Regulation Masterclass Available



Sue Larkey
LEARNING MEDIA

Practical strategies for home and school for Autism Spectrum Disorders

A great way to teach Social Skills. Social skills are so important for all children and adults and are a focus area for us before sending children to big school.

Staff Training

Upcoming Events

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH!

April

2nd- World Autism day- Go Blue for Autism. (Wear Blue on this day)

10th- Good Friday (Centre Closed)

12th- Easter

13th Easter Monday (centre closed)

13th- Wear Green for Premmies day

17th- 28th - Nature play week

22nd-Earth Day- let's use as little power as we can and give back to our planet.

This Month Myself, Miss Nicky and Miss Dee attended a Seminar that focused on Inclusion and how best to care for children who are Autistic or have ADHD. This was a fantastic seminar full of important and helpful information for our industry. We networked with other providers and bought some beautiful stories to read to the children to teach them about inclusion.

Picture Caption: Sue Larkey- The presenter from the Autism & ADHD Seminar.

23rd- World book day

25th Anzac day

Kindergarten News!

How wonderful is it to see the Kindy children learning and engaged every day! I love visiting the kindy room to see the children all using their fine motor skills as they engage in writing, cutting, and glueing and exploring their environment. The children are currently learning about phonics and the different sounds of each letter. They have started with the letter A and I am sure your child will proudly show you their apple they have made using their hand print.

What on Each Day?

Monday- Music with Marnie! This is an all paid inclusive class for all children.

Tuesday- We do have Ginger Sports here for parents wanting to pay for extra curriculum sport. We also have STEM with Miss Kerry!

Wednesday- Kindy program

Thursday- Drama Class run by O'Grady Drama! This is an all paid inclusive class for all children.

Friday- Happy Feet Fitness! This is an all paid inclusive class for all children.



Have you Seen our new Kindy Shirts and Kindy Hats?

We currently have all colours and sizes in stock and for all ages. Our sizes range from 0-6 and the shirts are only \$10 Each!

Our Hats are new and would fit our Older children from Junior Kindy to Kindy. These hats are only \$5 each and look Fantastic. We do ask for cash only purchases as all money collected will be used to purchase new outdoor play equipment to keep the children engaged 😊

Junior Kindy Excursion!

This month we sadly said good bye to Miss Ofel. Miss Ofel has been a part of our team for 3 years and will be missed dearly. We hope she comes to visit often 😊

We welcomed back Mr. Pete to the Junior Kindy room. Pete was in the junior kindy room last year and adds a nice balance to the room with his crazy ideas and experiences. The children will never be bored!

Mr. Pete will work alongside Miss Wendy and Miss Kellie.

Toddler News!

What a wonderful adventure the toddler children have been on. For wildlife week the toddler children explored the local nature reserve and played in all the parks along the way. This month the focus in the room is self-help skills. This age is such a fun age as all children begin to be independent and want to do everything themselves. Our goal is to assist them to confidently explore their independence and self-help skills such as feeding self.



Covid 19

I'm sure you have all seen our emails regarding Covid 19 and our current strategies. Please be assured we are doing all we can to minimise risk.

We have had a few families ask about the potential of us closing. We have been advised from the government that we are an essential service and will remain open so please do not panic.

While I understand that some of you may lose income or jobs over the coming weeks I wanted to advise you all that you can apply for financial hardship through Centrelink. This will provide you with a special CCS that will provide 13 weeks free childcare. You must apply through Centrelink and once approved they will provide you with a letter for me to pop into the system. This may be beneficial for those of you who don't know about work but want to keep your bookings and children's routines the same for when things return to normal.

At the moment we are still running at 88% occupancy and running as normal. If you are concerned about your income or losing your booking please come and chat to Shannyn. I have displayed some information below that could assist you.

Information for child care providers and services

This information sheet outlines the existing robust and responsive support mechanisms in place to assist the early childhood education and care sector when special circumstances affect its businesses. These mechanisms have been designed specifically with the needs and circumstances of the early childhood education and care sector in mind.

Assistance available for families

Access to Australian Government subsidies

Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) are a family's entitlement, based on their individual circumstances, used for subsidising the cost of child care to help them undertake work-related activities. Importantly, the general application of CCS and ACCS is that it can only be paid where services are open and providing care, with the exception of public holidays or when a period of local emergency has been declared.

Additional Child Care Subsidy (temporary financial hardship)

ACCS (temporary financial hardship) is available to provide short-term support to families experiencing a significantly reduced ability to pay child care fees, such as if the parent lost income due to being unable to attend work. Eligible families will receive a subsidy equal to the actual fee charged by the child care service, up to 120 per cent of the CCS hourly rate cap. In most cases, the full cost of child care will be covered. It can be accessed for up to 13 weeks and eligible families are entitled to up to 100 hours of subsidised child care per fortnight. Families will be required to provide supporting evidence of a substantial reduction in their ability to pay child care fees, such as an email from their employer.

Absences from child care

Where services are open, reporting of absences for families whose child/ren cannot attend child care due to COVID-19 is supported by the existing arrangements as outlined below:

- Whether a child is actually ill or not, including where a child does not attend care as part of the family's own precautionary measure against potential contact with COVID-19, CCS can be paid for up to 42 absence days per child, per financial year, without the need for families to provide documentation.
- Once a child's 42 initial absences have been used, CCS can be paid for additional absences for a reason defined in the Family Assistance Law, including illness (as set out in the [Child Care Provider Handbook](#)). Evidence is required to be kept by the provider for any additional absences claimed, e.g. a doctors certificate.

Have a wonderful and Safe April 😊