

Little Geniuses News

Up Coming Calendar of Events

Date Time	Event	Special Notes
19/06/09	Last call for Uniform Orders	
29/6/09-10/7/09	Holiday Program	Tabitha & Natalie will be on partial leave and hence program will be run Sandra & Brad
29/06/09 - 03/07/09	Bookings Open for Parent Teacher Interviews	A Booking Schedule Sheet will be stored on the sign in table
	Parent Committee	Date? Time
6/7/2009	Lost Property Bin will be cleared!	
13/7/09	Term 2 Commences	
06/07/09 – 17/07/09	Parent Teacher Interviews 4pm-7pm	

New Additions

We have had some new changes and additions to the room this term especially our new assistant Kerri who has settled in well. We would also like to welcome Billie, Matthew and Rochana from Mini Minors, and Zachery, Tara, Khianni and Charlie N who are also new to the room and have settled well!

Developmental and Parent Input Surveys

We have had a fantastic response to the surveys we recently sent out and we are slowly incorporating your ideas and issues raised into our program. So thank you very much for your wonderful feedback. It helps

us so much to hone in much more efficiently on the real issues, challenges and areas of enjoyment for your child as well helping us to connect and collaborate much better together.

Term 2 Reflection

You may have noticed a lot of change over the last term. We changed the room around and beefed up the number of activities to be on average around 30 indoors 10 outside. We have also significantly increased our focus on literacy and numeracy and with the aid of family involvement in our take home reading program, many children are now making fantastic efforts at recognizing simple words and sentences, writing their own name, counting up to 15-20, as well as basic addition and subtraction under 15. This is well above our expectations so early in the year and we are really excited to build further on these basic foundation skills into the next term.

We have also been focused heavily on room limits/rules which include passes for high traffic activities like home-corner which prior to implementation of this idea, attracted on average 10-20 children at a time into a play space set up for between 4-5 children. The result of this change has given us opportunity to split up children who consistently play uncooperatively together and foster new friendships with our shyer or more quieter children. The results have been amazing with children able to better engage in each activity. As teachers we love the sweet sound of quiet and engaged play where children are concentrating and enjoying themselves..

Finally, we have put a lot of effort to improving our meal routines to ensuring that they improve rather than disrupt the day. You may have noticed that in the mornings we run a progressive morning tea from one table. This appears to work best as children are arriving at vastly different times and can help themselves to food when they are hungry. Our lunches are often large hot meals and we continue to focus on the children taking responsibility for themselves to pour and serve their own foods. We now split the tables up into three groups and this is working superbly!

Do you like what we're doing with Computer Learning?

Recently Science Daily (June 19, 2009) issued an article about research into the use of computers in

preschools and schools and the effects on children's literacy, concluding that "Computers do not spell the demise of literacy -- in fact, they may help to create one of the most literate and engaged generations the world has seen". We now agree. Since introducing computers as a key part of our daily curriculum, many children previously not interested in reading or writing have shown incredible interest in this learning area. These children love the play/game element that is more easily facilitated in this type of learning and show high degrees of enjoyment and engagement.

Have you noticed our colour table?

We have a colour table where we concentrate on one colour for two weeks and talk about it and all things related to that specific colour, including what colours mixed together can make that colour or can be made from that colour.

Our Nature Table is back!

We have also restarted a Nature table and we would really appreciate anything that you may find on walks out about and on the beach.

Show 'n Tell

Show and tell has been going on now for a few weeks and we have seen some super things from home, but can we remind parents that show and tell must only come in when a letter goes home.

We also have a lot of new art work up in the room and down the corridor which we would love you to come and have a look at!

Clothing

Can we please remind all parents that your children need to bring in outdoor coats or jackets so that they can go outside to play whatever the weather! And if you can bring in some gumbots (named and in a plastic bag) then they can splash in puddles too!!!

Uniform Orders

Uniform order slips are still coming in and this has delayed orders for some parents who completed their orders last month. This is the last call to put in their orders by Friday June 19th 2009.

Top Tales Books

Another reminder to families is to check out our top tales books in the foyer of the centre. These books are exceptionally good value and help fundraise to build our library.

Orders can be placed with Bree, Emma or through the mailbox in the foyer.

New Child Restraint Rules

Parents should be aware that starting 9 November 2009, children under seven years of age must wear a child restraint or booster seat when travelling in a car for improved safety.

The type of restraint will depend on the age of the child as follows:

- Children aged under six months must wear an approved, properly fastened and adjusted, rear facing child restraint
- Children aged between six months and under four years must wear an approved, properly fastened and adjusted, rear facing child restraint OR a forward facing child restraint with an in-built harness
- Children aged between four years and under seven must wear an approved, properly fastened and adjusted, forward facing child restraint with an in-built harness OR an approved booster seat which is properly positioned and fastened.

There are also new laws for where children can sit in vehicles. If a car has two or more rows of seats, then children under four years must not travel in the front seat

If all seats, other than the front seats, are being used by children under seven years, children aged between four and six years (inclusive) may travel in the front seat, provided they use an approved booster seat.

Latest Art Works!

Helping Hands

Hungry Catepillar (work in progress!)

Fairy Garden (work in progress!)

Water Colours

Lost Property

Please be aware that we have two full Lost Property Bins:

- 1. Clothing with Names (which we do try to work to clear weekly);
- 2. One without names

We will be clearing the unlabelled items to the brotherhood bin on

Monday 6 July 2009!

Travelling Bear

Implementation of our new accelerated learning programs has been quite overwhelming for the team and the children, hence,we have decided to delay our implementation of this activity until next term. We are sorry to all the families who have been excited about this new activity and look forward to your stories very soon!

Last Chance to go on Parent Contact List!

Your Child's Name: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Email: _____

Your contact phone number: _____

Your postal address: _____

Last Chance to tell us the school your child will attend in 2010 or 2011.

School your child will be enrolled in

2010 _____

OR

2011 _____

Do you know have your teachers name and/or school contact details so we can discuss your child's progress in term 4 with them?
