



## Crazy Hair Day



On 12 March 2010 Smartie Pants raised over \$240 for The



Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave by holding a Crazy Hair Day. We would like to thank everyone who was involved and who donated money.

## Kinder Program

One of the advantages of coming to Smartie Pants is that your child automatically has a spot in our Kinder Program. Our Kinder program is developed by our Kinder teacher Brad Derks. If you are interested in finding out more about our Kinder program please call to arrange a time to speak to Brad. We will also be holding a :



## 1<sup>st</sup> Parent Social Group Meeting

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am we will be holding our very 1<sup>st</sup> Parent Social Meeting at The Vines Cafe Diamond Creek. This is a great chance for families to meet with other families and organise social events and fundraisers for the centre. Please contact Emma for further details. We hope to see you there.

## Kinder Open Day

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 10am-1pm

@ Smartie Pants

Our Kinder team will be hosting an open day. We welcome all parents and children to visit our kindergarten to explore and discover our unique learning environment. Come along to speak to our kinder team and find out how your child will benefit from the Smartie Pants Kinder Program.

## Updated Emergency Management Plan

We recently reviewed and updated our Emergency Management Plan. It is available for viewing on the Smartie Pants website and in each room at the centre. Please feel free to have a read and let us know what you think.



## Upcoming Fundraiser:

Last year we had such an overwhelming response to the cookie dough fundraiser we have decided to repeat it again this year. We will be getting info sheets and order forms out in the next couple of weeks.

## Green Thumbs



Smartie Pants are getting green thumbs and will be creating a veggie garden to be looked after by the children. It is very important for children to learn about their environment and sustaining our resources. We need to pass onto future generations the importance of saving and recycling water, growing our own produce and respecting the earth and what it

grows. If we can teach children this from an early age they will grow up understanding the value of 'Going Green' and continuous sustainability.

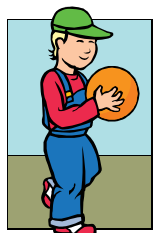
## A word from Lauren in the kitchen:

Here at Smartie Pants we offer the children an 8 week rotating menu. We serve 6 meals a day from breaky before 8am to a light dinner at 6.30pm. All meals are suited to the nutritional needs of growing children and can be modified for children with allergies. We also provide a birthday cake for your child on their special day.



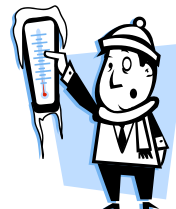
## NEW OUTDOOR PROGRAM!

Smartie Pants recognises the importance of physical play in a child's development. We also recognise that this is a universal weakness within long day care settings. The skills children learn through physical play directly link with other areas of development such as fine and gross motor skills, cognitive development, problem solving, and critical thinking and independence skills. As of next week we will be starting a new outdoor physical play program for children aged 3-6 years. This program will be structured physical education and interactive outdoor play experiences. Kerri Stafford will be developing and running this program. Kerri has extensive experience with childhood physical education and is very passionate about children's physical wellbeing. The outdoor program will be available for viewing in the foyer.



## Cold weather approaching

We have said goodbye to the warm sunny days and slowly the winter weather is approaching. As we still love to get outside for a play we are reminding parents to pack wet weather gear. Gumboots, jackets and beanies are great items to keep in your child's bag. A plastic bag to put any used wet items is handy to stop other items in your bag getting wet.



## Hug A Bubs Room Report

Room Leader- Jean, Assistants- Samantha and Alisha

Welcome back and We hope everyone had a safe and happy Easter. First of all I would like to introduce and welcome Sam into the Hug a Bubs room. Sam has moved across from the Pip Squeaks and has already settled in and made bonds with all of the children. Catherine is now busy in all of the rooms helping out and getting to know all of the children in the centre. Over the past few weeks we have been working on the children's language skills, we have been teaching the children new words relating to animals, such as cat, dog, cow, sheep etc. If there are any words you have been trying to teach your children at home please let us know and we will continue to practice these words with them. This month we will continue to do more brilliant art work, the theme will be Autumn, so if there are any parents out there that would like to collect some colourful leaves that have fallen off the trees that would be a huge help. As the weather is getting cooler could parents please remember to pack a warm coat and hat so we can continue to take the children outside. Another reminder also to all the Hug a Bub parents if they could please bring in a family photo so we can display it on our Family Tree! Last but not least, we have some new children starting this month so if you see any new faces please take the time to say hello and welcome them and their families to our room.

Hug a Bubs Team

## Pip Squeaks Room Report

Room Leader- Janine, Assistants- TJ and Roxanne

It has been a busy and fun few months in the pip squeaks room. We have all settled in the room quiet well and children and staff have created wonderful bonds. Sam has recently left us and gone to the babies room and Roxanne has made a return back to the pip squeaks room fulltime and is happy to be once again a pip squeaks team member. Pip squeaks have been very busy little bees creating beautiful artwork which are displayed on are walls. We encourage you all the come have a look. We are currently working on our autumn tree and are about to start mother's day gifts. .With the cooler weather starting we ask all parents to remember to pop in a jacket for their children for the cold mornings. We also ask parents to please name children's clothing as we have collected a large amount of unnamed tops and jackets which are hanging on the hooks in the pip squeaks room and sitting on the top of the pip squeaks lockers.

## Mini Minors Room Report

Room Leader – Jenna, Assistant-Kayla

We hope everyone had a nice Easter break and enjoyed eating lots of chocolates! We were very busy making bunny ears and painting our faces with bunny noses and whiskers (and occasionally Spiderman's and butterflies!)Last week we decorated some egg shaped biscuits with coloured icing and marshmallows! The children loved creating their own Easter egg biscuits (and licking their fingers once they were finished :)In the next few weeks some of our older children will be moving up to the kinder room. We hope they enjoy their time in their new room and we'll miss them! In the last few weeks we have been letting the children choose their own program. In the morning we all sit down together and talk about the activities we would like to play with during the day. This helps us learn about the children's interests and the children love being able to chose their own toys and activities. We are planning to start introducing learning stories into the programs. These are like portfolios where the children's learning is documented with pictures and areas for parents to write their own comments and take the portfolios home to share. Coming up on the program in the next few weeks we will be hard at work creating our Mum's some amazing Mother's Day gifts and participating in some interactive puppet shows Marie has created for us. We have been enjoying the new books at group times including "Down by the cool of the pool" "I know a Rhino" "I won't say please" and "Sometimes I like to curl up into a ball "We have been spending some time playing in the Kindergartens yard. The children enjoy playing with different toys and activities and also enjoy playing with the Kinder children.

## Little Geniuses Room Report

Room Leader- Kerri, Kinder Teacher- Brad, Assistant- Jackie

We have had a great start to the year and it is flying fast. We have enjoyed a few cooking experiences. The children had pirate week in which we made treasure jelly also we had pancake day in which the children helped make the batter and then cooked in the afternoon. Coming up is our new and exciting outdoor program also our Living Eggs start in May. The children really enjoy this experience and learn a lot from this. We will be spending more time outside so could I please ask you provide gumboots and a rain coat that the children can keep here so as we can spend more time outdoors. Also a spare pair of clothes would be great . As we will be also doing lots of gardening, so if you have any plastic plant pots lying around, we would love any donation. Also any seeds. eg veggie or flowers we will also be welcoming some mini minors to join us in kinder with the ALP program we will be working on numeracy and literacy over the next few weeks.

Little Geniuses Team