

A new year is already here!!!

Welcome to all of our new children and their families to the Rhinos Room and to all of our Rhinos from last year, welcome Back for 2018. We hope you all had a lovely break over Christmas and the New Year. Sherryl & Hadley are extremely excited to be working with you and your children in the Rhinos Room for 2018.

The Rhino Team:

This year the Rhino room's educators will be **Sherryl Drady** and **Hadley Coffee**. Sherryl and Hadley will be on early one week and late the next, both working full-time in the Rhinos room, Monday to Friday. If you have any questions or inquiries please don't hesitate to approach Sherryl or Hadley with any items or concerns when you arrive or when leaving in the afternoon. You can also email the office and they will pass any messages or concerns on.



Hi, my name is **Sherryl Drady** I have been working at Little Learners for 11 years, I started at Little Learners at the beginning of 2007. I have worked in all the different rooms throughout the years with all the different age groups of children. I have had a few years in the Pre-school Room (Zebras room) and also the Junior Pre-school room (Rhinos room) over this time. I am passionate about the Early Childcare field and love working with children. I am an Early Childhood Teacher, completing my Bachelor of Teaching the end of 2009.



Hi, my name is **Hadley Coffee**. I began at Little Learners in September 2017. I am currently studying my Certificate 111 in Early Childhood Education and Care. I started my time in the Tigers room with Jamie. I have progressed with the children from the Tigers room moving up into the Rhinos room. I look forward to getting to know all the new children and families.

At the present we are focusing on settling the Rhinos, new and old into our Rhinos routine. What comes next and what happens throughout the day. We focus on self help skills and the Rhinos doing a lot of things independently for themselves. In the first few weeks of the year we use this time to get to know the children and their families which assist us in providing a holistic program for your children.

We will do many exciting experiences and activities throughout the year. We develop our room goals with the assistance from our families. We would love to know what your goals are for your children during their time here. We will have a fun filled year which Sherryl and Hadley can't wait, getting to know all the individual children and the Families. Please fill in and return the goal sheet that was emailed out with the new enrolment forms if you haven't already done so.

Our Day Book

We love lots of feedback from our families so please feel free to write in our day book, which also helps us with our day to day program. Our day book will also have information of what was achieved for the day/any special occasions. You will find our day book on our sign in bench.

An iPad slideshow is provided each day upon pick-up displaying photos of your children/their friends involved in learning experiences throughout the day.

Our communication dairy is located next to our sign in area and is great for communicating important information that may be forgotten upon drop-off/pick-up.

Most importantly, please come and talk to us!

Important Dates Jan:

26th January- Australia Day
(Centre closed)

Important Notices

Please ensure your child has a **hat**, applies **sunscreen** on drop-off or preferably prior to leaving home as sunscreen needs to be applied to the skin 20minutes before sun exposure in order to be effective and a **drink bottle** with water in it.

JUNIOR PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM:

The core of our program is play-based learning. Play is an essential part of early learning. It provides the ideal opportunity for your children to become involved in meaningful experiences which allow them to use their creativity while developing their imagination, physical, cognitive, and emotional strength. Your child's developing interests and skills will also be used to inform our program and ensure we are meeting your child's individual needs.

Throughout the year we will introduce the Jolly Phonics (The Alphabet). It is a visual learning concept with a catchy tune for each individual letter for the children to begin learning the letters of the Alphabet.

We introduced choosing their own locker by putting their name on their locker of choice, which allows the beginning of name recognition. We also will have photo's around with their individual names and flash cards which also encourages name recognition.

The children will also focus on individual letter recognition through flash cards, Jolly phonics and the individual letters in their own name along with writing their own names.

In addition to play, intentional teaching experiences and strategies will also be implemented to ensure your children are fully equipped with the skills they require for their transition to the senior Preschool room next year, your child will become competent using scissors, sit for a period of time for small and large group experiences, engage in varied numeracy and literacy experiences (i.e. Jolly Phonics, learning to recognise and begin to write names, comprehension activities, identifying, writing and counting numbers 1-20, as well as learning other maths concepts such as measurement, volume, shapes etc).

AUSTRALIA DAY

The Zebra and Rhino rooms are combining to plan some fun Australia Day celebrations! On **Wednesday 24th** and **Thursday 25th JAN** we will be engaging in some fun water play experiences.

Please pack your child's swimmers, rash shirt, towel and a spare change of clothes.

Your children are also welcome to join the educators in dressing up in their Australia day attire!



Friendly Reminders ☺

- Please remember to bring your child's Little Learners hat each day that they attend Little Learners.

(If your child is consistently with NO hat your child will be issued another one at a charge of \$10.)

- Please remember to pack your child's drink bottle, water only.
- Please remember that when children play they may get dirty, so please pack a spare change of clothes.
- We ask that children please refrain from bringing toys to Little Learners unless it is for a special occasion such as their News day.
- If your child is having a Birthday and would like to have a birthday cake with their friends at Little Learners please fill out one of the birthday cake forms at the front office and place it in the fees box at the front desk. A small fee of \$10 will be charged to your account if you require an ice-cream cake, otherwise the children will engage in a cooking experience and cook a birthday cake if preferred at no cost.

NEWS

News will commence **Monday 5th February**. We will be focusing on introducing NEWS to the Rhinos. We ask that you please assist your children and encourage them to bring something in from home that your child is interested in that week (freedom of choice). This provides an opportunity for the children to build on their communication and language skills and extend on their confidence and self esteem. We will extend the focus list as the year progresses by adding special events to the list, eg something from your fridge from home, letter of the week ect. It also provides opportunities for discussion with the Rhinos and their educators, extending and building on the children's learning.

Please see table below for your child's news day:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Amy	Edwina	Polly	Rachel	Emilia
Riley	Indie	Ruby	Maddison	Hayden
Claire	Xzyron	Lacey	Dustyn	Hollie
Georgie	Olivia	Rosie	Desmond	Harry
Eli	Thomas	Jude	Harlie	Lauren
Beri	Clancy	Olive		

Please see below for dates:

At the beginning it will be freedom of choice then we will introduce letters of the week:

Week Commencing:

Monday 5th - 9th Feb

Monday 12th - 16th Feb

Monday 19th - 23th Feb

Monday 26th - 30th Feb

Monday 5th - 9th March

Monday 12th - 16th March

Monday 19th - 23th March

Monday 26th - 30th March

Thankyou Sherryl & Hadley ☺