



The Hub Elmore Vale

2023 Issue 2

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A big welcome from me as your new Director at Elmore Vale. It has been 8 weeks since I have started my new journey with the team at The Hub and I have been settling in well with the team, getting to know one another and also getting to know the families and children.

In the recent weeks we had workshops on Active Supervision and we have completed a Niki Buchan professional Development on outdoor learning spaces. The team is fueled up and very keen use their new skills to create inviting spaces for the children to explore uninterruptedly.

This term we have had awesome fun learning incursions for the children. The life cycle of the butterfly and the Henny Penny chickens were probably the most popular for young and old. JD the magician had 2 amazing shows for the children here at our service.

We also welcomed Kelly into our team. Kelly will now be room leader in the Monkeys. Isabella is our newest recruit Cert 3 Trainee in the Bears room. We are still growing our team here at Elmore Vale as our service just about full.

This term we will put out posts to get our families involved to assist us with collecting loose parts to use in our play. We will share photos of what we have in mind and would love to have some input to enhance our environment.

If you have any questions or want more information on any of our events, please do not hesitate to give us a call or see us at the service.

We are looking forward to the new term ahead

Gola Kruger



DATES TO REMEMBER

May 2023

Wednesday 24th	National Simultaneous Storytime: The Speedy Sloth
Thursday 25th	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

June 2023

Monday 5th to Friday 9th	Hero Week (All Rooms)
Monday 12th	King's Birthday, Public Holiday (The Hub closed)
Monday 19th to Friday 23rd	Crazy Hair Week (All Rooms)
Monday 26th to Friday 30th	Milkshake Week (All Rooms)

July 2023

Monday 3rd to Friday 7th	NAIDOC Week Celebrations (All Rooms)
Monday 10th to Friday 14th	Teddy Bears Picnic (All Rooms)
Monday 17th to Friday 21st	National PJ Day for Foster Care (All Rooms, all week)
Friday 28th	National Tree Day (All Rooms)



TERM ONE RECAP



TIGERS: The Tiger's space has seen a wonderful first term to start our year together! This term we have focused on developing and facilitating meaningful, secure and reciprocal relationships and bonds between the Tiger children, their educators and peers to allow the Tigers to build a sense of belonging to the Tiger space. We have seen the Tigers settle into their room and begin to form friendships and bonds with their peers. The Tiger children have proved to be quite the sensory enthusiasts throughout this term, with many messy and sensory based experiences being the focus for learning within the Tiger's space. The Tigers have demonstrated dispositions for learning each day as they explored their world with confidence, enthusiasm and happiness. The Tiger children participated in celebrations for Lunar New Year, Water Week, Recycle Right and Sustainability Week and Easter! The Tiger children along with Ash, Kel, Amy and Abbey M have had a truly fantastic first term together. We are looking forward to all of the fantastic learning opportunities and experiences we will have to further promote development and growth for all within the Tigers community.



MONKEYS: In the Monkey Room this term, we focused on building strong, reciprocal and respectful relationships between both the children and the educators. We aimed to ensure that all of our activities were inclusive and supported our approach of using safe and gentle hands during play. We also ensured that the Monkey children felt safe and calm in their routine by implementing a routine that they would be familiar with and predict on any given day. This provides comfort and reassurance as the Monkey children are beginning to develop their confidence here at The Hub. We are so proud of the Monkey children and how they are interacting positively with others, using sharing techniques and beginning to use their vocabulary with key words that develop their sense of independence and create personal boundaries like "stop", "yes" and "no".



HIPPOS: Over our first term in the Hippo room together, we have built a wonderful sense of belonging through some amazing group projects such as our family tree. We loved getting to know about all of our families and look forward to learning more in the coming months. Our Hippo friends have enjoyed exploring colours. Each week we explored a different colour throughout a variety of experiences that allowed them to use the sense of sight, touch and smell as they developed their colour awareness, recognition and identification in many other activities. Recently our Hippo friends learnt about the different emotions we can feel, how to recognise our emotions and how we can help ourselves manage our big emotions and ask for help. We have done a lot of work on emotions and learning how to recognise them in others so that our friends can play happily alongside each other in all settings. In the coming weeks we are following our Hippo friends interests and listening to parent feedback. We have started working on developing our fine motor skills currently and have many more exciting experiences for the future. Thank you to all of our hippo families for all of your input over the first term, working collaboratively is the best way to ensure our friends learn to the best of their ability.

"The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss



BEARS: Hi Bear families, What a fantastic start to the year we have had. We have been very busy with Lunar New Year, Water Week, Recycle Week, Harmony Day, Chickens hatching and Easter celebrations just to name a few. Sammi, Sis and Jacob have been building meaningful relationships with our Bears and ensuring they are comfortable and have a sense of belonging to the toddler area and Bear room. We have loved seeing our family tree grow with our Bears photos, we enjoy looking at our families and it is such a great conversation starter between peers. We thank you for contributing to our favourite books with each book photocopied and placed on our display. It has provided us with so much joy to share our stories and has been great for our language development as we discuss our books together. Our Bears are forming friendships and discovering their independence and ability for self help skills. We enjoy showing our educators how capable and confident we are knowing they are right there to help at all times. We have busily explored colours and concepts, high/low, heavy/light, big/small and many more as well as putting these into practice during play. We are looking forward to many more discoveries and experiences with Sammi, Sis and Jacob.



CROCODILES: A beautiful start to the year in the Crocodiles room. Liz, Jordan and Ellie have worked together to ensure the children have felt as they belong within the room, forming strong connections with each child. Across the term we have had many celebrations broadening our world in which we live with the likes of Chinese Lunar New Year, Water Week, Recycle and Sustainability and most recently Easter. We also had the opportunity to see both the life cycles of a butterfly starting in out as caterpillars before going into a chrysalis then being a beautiful butterfly. After this we then had the Henny Penny hatching program seeing the eggs become chickens and creating lots of excitement and also questions about life cycles. Our interests have been quite broad with sensory trays using play-dough, clay, shredded paper and rice along with adding colours, trucks and natural materials. We have been able to continue this each week with changing the sensory tray to the interest. Our newest interest has been learning to use scissors, using our hand eye coordination and scissor grip we have been working hard to learn to use them correctly with cutting paper, that we then collage with. Thanks for such a great term.



LIONS: The Lions have been learning to develop a strong sense of belonging by forming new friendships through many socio-dramatic plays. Home corners, construction sites, hairdressers and groceries, the children were invited to transfer their knowledge and share their ideas and thoughts while engaging in social moments. We have also been focusing on developing emotional regulations by reading picture books and exploring emotions in group discussions and through arts and crafts. This term, the Lions have been particularly interested in learning new songs, including some Korean songs! Some of our beloved songs are: "hello song" in Korean, "doughnut song", "I Know a Sound", "Mr Clickety Cane (wash your Face in orange juice)", "Walking in the Jungle", and "Hot Air ballooning'- cosmic kids yoga". We had many incursions this term; the butterfly enclosure and Henny Penny hatching provoked children's curiosity providing hands-on experiences for children to observe the difference and similarities between living and non-living things. The magic show has provided the lions to connect to the world around them through a fun, memorable event! The children have been reminiscing and sharing their memories with others by retelling what they had witnessed at the show.



ZEBRAS: During this term in the Zebra room we have all been fostering a sense of belonging to support the children in feeling safe and welcome in the learning environments, and supporting their development of critical social-emotional skills, supporting the development of friendships, and building resiliency. Educators support children in managing conflicts in many ways. Modelling how to be a friend is one of the most effective ways to support children and we have engaged in many social skill games to support the children. Acknowledging the similarities and differences in children to create a sense of belonging and acceptance of others has been a key focus.



National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. Now in its 21st successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6.

- promote the value of reading and literacy,
- promote the value and fun of books,
- promote an Australian writer and publisher,
- promote Storytime activities in public libraries and communities around the country,



Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

We will be participating in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea in support of raising funds for cancer. We will post on OWNA a link where families can make contributions and we will have a gold coin donation on the day.

Everyone is invited to wear "Yellow" as we enjoy morning tea together. Our children will be treated with special baked muffins by our cook Preeya.

The Hub Elmore Vale

Website: thehubpreschool.com.au

Hero Week

Monday 5th June — Friday 9th June

During this week we would love the children to come dressed as a 'Hero'. We are going to use this week as an opportunity to allow the children to explore imaginative and dramatic play themes in their hero attire. We will use the week to discuss what a 'hero' is, what a 'hero' looks like and acts like. We will be discussing traits of a hero and we hope to enlighten children on the everyday heroes around us.

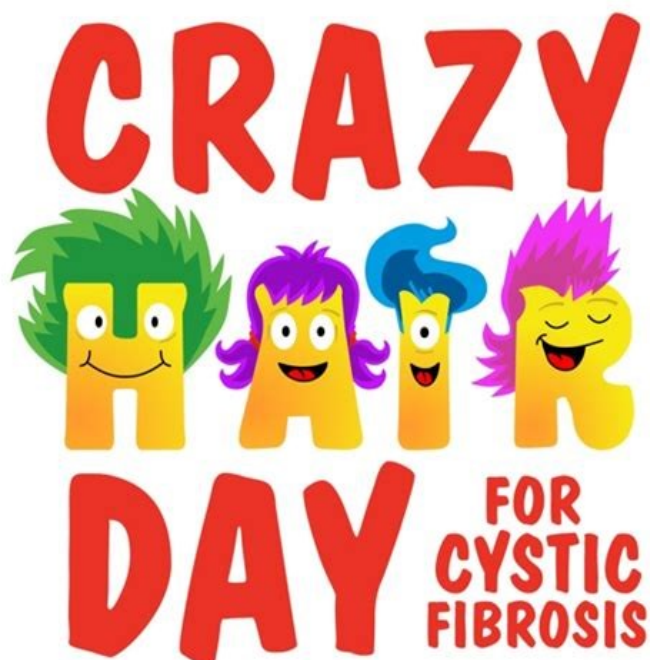
Please remember no weapons



Monday 19th June

to

Friday 23rd June



Wear your crazy hair to raise much needed awareness and funds for cystic fibrosis. We will be collecting gold coin donations at the front desk. Jack from the Lion's and Harry from the Hippo's mum Amanda will be here on the mornings of Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday to help with some Crazy Hair styles.

IT'S MILKSHAKE TIME



Monday 26th June - Friday 30th June

Milkshake week is always so popular! The children will enjoy a flavoured milk (caramel, strawberry and chocolate) with their morning tea.

The babies will join in with a natural milkshake using banana and raspberry puree, no toppings. Babies on formula/breast milk won't participate.

Please let Yola know if children are unable to have the toppings.



Kym the Reptile Man

Will be visiting our Centre

Tuesday 27th June & Thursday 29th June



This year the NAIDOC theme for 2023 is FOR OUR ELDERS.

Across every generation, our Elders have played, and continue to play, an important role and hold a prominent place in our communities and families.

They are cultural knowledge holders, trailblazers, nurturers, advocates, teachers, survivors, leaders, hard workers and our loved ones.

Our loved ones who pick us up in our low moments and celebrate us in our high ones. Who cook us a feed to comfort us and pull us into line, when we need them too.

They guide our generations and pave the way for us to take the paths we can take today. Guidance, not only through generations of advocacy and activism, but in everyday life and how to place ourselves in the world.

We draw strength from their knowledge and experience, in everything from land management, cultural knowledge to justice and human rights. Across multiple sectors like health, education, the arts, politics and everything in between, they have set the many courses we follow.

The struggles of our Elders help to move us forward today. The equality we continue to fight for is found in their fight. Their tenacity and strength has carried the survival of our people.

It is their influence and through their learnings that we must ensure that when it comes to future decision making for our people, there is nothing about us - without us.

We pay our respects to the Elders we've lost and to those who continue fighting for us across all our Nations and we pay homage to them.



MONDAY 10TH JULY—FRIDAY 14TH JUNE

If you go down in the woods today, you're sure of a big surprise. If you go down in the woods today, you'd better go in disguise. For every bear that ever there was will gather there for certain. Because today's the day the teddy bears have their picnic.

We are very excited for our annual Teddy Bears Picnic. We are encouraging all our children to bring a teddy each day this week (clearly labelled). We will have a picnic lunch each day with our teddies, enjoying a variety of lovely sandwiches.



Pyjama Week



MONDAY 17TH — FRIDAY 21st JULY

Pyjama Day is all about wearing your favourite PJ's or ONESIE to help The Pyjama Foundation raise much-needed awareness and funds for children in foster care. Please wear your PJ's for the whole week. We will be collecting gold coin donations at the front desk.

This will be a fun week whilst we support an important foundation.

Tree Day

Friday 28th July

Tree Day is a fulfilling opportunity to do something good for the environment. We will spend time planting in our gardens. We will have discussions on sustainability.



The Hub Elmore Vale

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showtime

Showtime is a very exciting time in our day - it is our show and tell time. Everyone looks forward to Showtime starting. To make it fair on everyone we ask that your child only bring in things to show at their rostered time. This is a special time in our program where the children get to talk in front of their peers while they show or tell them something special. At the end of Showtime friends can ask questions. This activity encourages listening and talking, turn taking and question and answer. All of these are very important skills for children to develop in life. Please put your child's Showtime in the Showtime bag at the beginning of the day and let a staff member know what it is your child is showing for the day. Please collect your child's Showtime from the Showtime bag at the end of the day.

Showtime is happening in our LIONS and ZEBRAS rooms only .
Please only bring toys to preschool on your child's showtime day.

Routine

Upon Arrival

- Sign your child in.
- Please apply sun cream.
- Wash your child's hands to remove any germs they have brought to preschool.
- Select a name tag with your child and choose any locker.
- Put their drink bottle on the drinks trolley and ensure child is wearing their hat
- Take your child to an activity.

When Leaving

- Sign your child out.
- Read the daily floor book which describes some of the days activities.
- Wash your child's hands.
- Empty your child's locker and return name tag to end of lockers.

Loose Parts

Loose parts play is a type of play that supports invention, divergent thinking, problem solving and offers a sense of wonder to children. They are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. They are materials with no specific set of directions that can be used alone or combined with other materials.

This year we look forward to receiving your loose parts donations. Some examples of loose parts to bring in may include rocks, shells, feathers, materials,, wooden reels, PVC pipes, carpet squares, picture frames, old hair rollers, nuts and bolts, curtain rings.

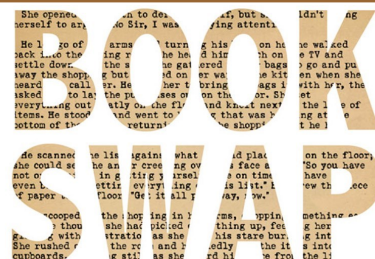
Please hand items to Shelly at Reception so we can ensure we get risk assessments sorted for the items.



CLOTHES EXCHANGE

As most of you know we have a wonderful sustainability project that has evolved over the past year at The Hub Elmore Vale. We have a clothing exchange in the corridor near the Preschool rooms. Feel free to bring your child's unwanted clothing to reception for us to add to our clothing exchange.

Please feel free to take clothes from the clothing exchange at any time. Please note, lost property that has been uncollected for two terms will be given to charity or put in the clothing exchange.

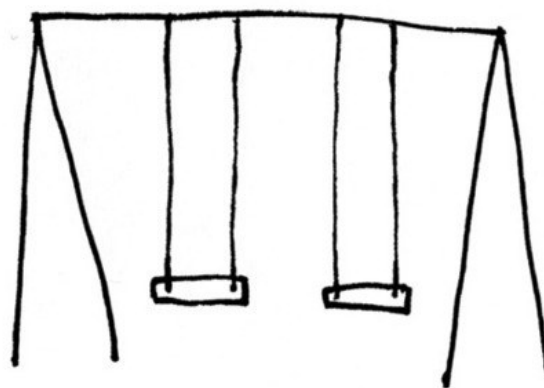


We have a Book Swap located in the corridor near the Preschool rooms. Feel free to bring your books to reception and we will write our centre name on them and put them on the Book Swap. If no one is at reception you can just pop the books onto the book shelf as we always go through and make sure our name is on them. Please feel free to take books from the book swap even if you haven't swapped a book.

Our Mini Reverse Garbage (MRG)

Here at The Hub Elmore Vale we have implemented a Mini Reverse Garbage (MRG). This MRG was born from The Hub's desire to be sustainable and encourage our children to do the same. The children in the preschool and toddler areas have access to the MRG to select materials to create their artworks. These materials may include (but are not limited to) small boxes, bottle tops, old wrapping paper, packaging materials and egg cartons.

Just near our foyer you will find baskets if you would like to donate to our MRG.



don't forget to play



JUST A LITTLE *Reminder*

- Provide SPARE CLOTHES: Ensure you send at least two FULL change of clothes for your child everyday.
- Please label your child's drink bottle and leave it in their locker where they can access it.
- Please send a suitable SUNSAFE HAT for your child. Not a cap or cap with back flap. Please make sure the brim is at least 6cm all the way around. Hub hats and T-shirts are available to purchase.
- Safe shoes must be worn. Thongs are not suitable unless they have a back strap. Your child participates in climbing and other activities which require appropriate footwear. We do allow the children to remove their shoes for play.
- Please ensure your child has sunscreen on when they arrive each morning as it takes 20 minutes to be effective. Ours is available in if you have forgotten.
- Please dress your child in SUNSAFE clothing. Singlet tops and sleeveless dresses are NOT suitable.
- Please remember BEFORE 8am drop all your child's belongings to the room then take your child to the TIGERS room. Please do not leave your child alone in a room without an Educator. AFTER 4:30pm collect all your child's belongings from their room and then collect your child from the TIGERS (babies) and MONKEYS (Toddlers and Preschoolers) rooms.
- Please remember to SUPPLY enough pull-ups for the day for your child.
- Please remember to bring any medication required and hand them to an educator, and fill in a medication form on OWNA for its' administration.
- Please remember over the counter medications must be appropriate for the age of your child eg: Dimetapp.
- Please remember your child's ART is their day's work. Please try and take their artwork home and refrain from throwing it in the bin at the service. They have great pride in what they make during the day.

Thank you