



lighthouse  
early learning centre

# Welcome

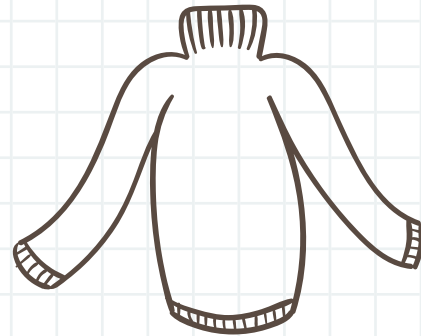
➡ AUTUMN ⬅

Dear Lighthouse Families

We had a blast of a time with all the wonderful activities and learning that has been happening in and around the centre during the last couple of months.

Thank you to all our wonderful parent helpers who were able to assist with trips and events throughout the last couple of weeks.

It is the start of our autumn season and we are heading into our colder months. So time to snuggle up your little ones with a few layers of clothes in the morning and we will ensure to take it off as the day warms up.



## Contents

### 1 Welcome

### 2 Our Learning Curriculum

We are now moving our focus from sea life to kindness for May and transportation in June.

### 3-4 Easter Open Day

What an EGGcellent day we had with everyone who attended. Didn't make it? Read up on what this excited day entailed.

### 5 Activities

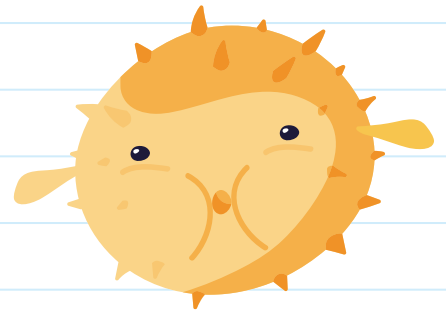
There's always plenty of fun activities and adventures happening at our centre. Over the past few months we've been doing crafts for ANZAC day, brought cookies to the Rosedale retirement home, and event visited Kelly Tarltons.

### 6 Our New App

You may already be using it! Our newly developed system for communicating with you throughout the day is now live.



# Our Current Learning Curriculum



**We** are now coming to an end with our curriculum on the sea. While learning about this topic, we noticed that the children were encouraging each other to take care of our sea life. This thoughtfulness that we have witnessed has led us to our new curriculum focus of kindness. We want to teach the children that this kindness that they are showing to the animals should be also be shown to people in their every day lives too.

We are encouraging our children to be kind and gentle with their friends and family in various ways. Throughout this curriculum we would like our parents and families to also encourage the children by engaging in discussion with them about the topic and coming up with some examples of how your family shows kindness to each other in your home.

Some questions you can ask are:

- What makes you a kind friend?
- Who are your friends at the centre?
- What do you share with your friends?
- How do you help your friends when you are playing?

By doing this, you can support your child's learning through reinforcement of what we have been learning at our centre. We have also been implementing Helping Hands, which encourages older children to support younger children in our combined age group rooms. This has been great for this topic so far, as the older children demonstrate kindness and care for the little ones by helping them in various ways. We have especially seen

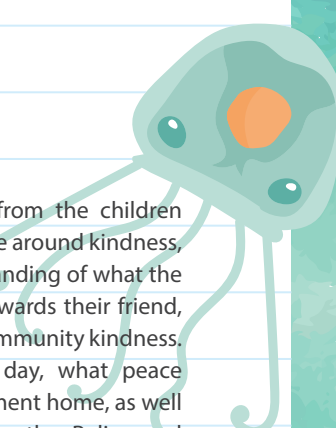
helping hands working really well in the outside areas, as the toddlers are wanting to try more challenging climbing experiences with the help of the older children. This builds confidence for the child wanting to climb as well as the one helping out. We are supporting the children's learning with stories and by providing opportunities for them to share and show kindness to one another through actions and words.

These learning activities will have a great flow on effect at home as they start using some of the language we are encouraging such as:

- Please
- Thank you
- My turn please
- Can I help
- Help me please
- Gentle hands
- Kind words with my friends
- Sorry

We are looking forward to hearing from the children about the discussions you have at home around kindness, as we help in building a great understanding of what the children already know about being towards their friend, family and pets. We will also explore community kindness. This involves talking about ANZAC day, what peace means to the children, visiting a retirement home, as well talking about community helpers like the Police and Firefighters.

Over the next few months we will then be moving onto transportation as our curriculum as we've noticed the children's fascination with planes and helicopters that frequently fly over the centre.





# Activities at Our Centre



**ANZAC DAY**

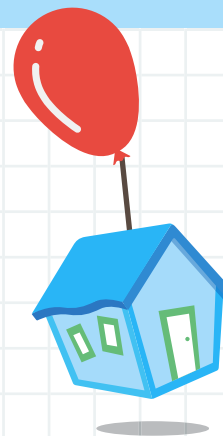
**With** the lead up to ANZAC day we had been looking at Peace and it's meaning. War is a big topic currently as we are reading the book "Anzac ted". This book is about what the war was like, who was in the war and the meaning of Anzac day.

Children have been making popsicle stick planes, painting soldiers and making poppies. We will also visiting the Rosedale retirement home but we were not empty handed. We had many treats with us that the children had made including scones, muffins and ANZAC biscuits. The baking was very well received by the elderly people that were at the retirement home.

We also recently went to Kelly Tarleton's and had three very exciting and meaningful trips. The children really enjoyed it, especially being able to see the wonderful ocean creatures in real form. Sharks were a great topic to discuss as we were driving back.



# Our Centre's Open Day



A big thank you to everyone who attended our Lighthouse Easter Open Day! Did't make it? Here's the recap!

This open day was like no other, with plenty of fun activities that had the children (and parents) smiling all day long.

Upon arrival, a giant Spiderman bouncy castle greeted parents and their little ones outside, commencing the excitement and inviting them for a turn at bouncing! It was clear to see that the children were in for a full day of fun and they hadn't even stepped inside the centre yet!

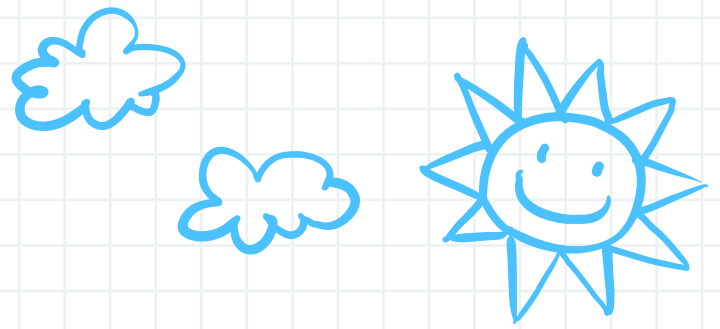
After some very Easter bunny-appropriate hopping on the bouncy castle, the children were overwhelmed with all sorts of activities inside. As the schedule had it, the day began with Easter crafts!

The children were able to get in touch with their creative sides as they made gorgeous little Easter cards or adorable pet rocks while their parents looked around our fantastic facilities.



Perhaps one of the most exciting and unique activities was the cupcake making. The children had the opportunity to decorate (and eat) their very own and delicious cupcakes. There's nothing quite like seeing the enchanted face of a child who has created something that they are proud of, and we were lucky enough to see this expression time and time again at the cupcake table!





In between activities the little ones could get their faces painted, with the most popular request being Easter bunnies! The joy this gave the children was priceless and they gleamed with delight when they looked in the mirror to see a little furry friend on their cheek!

No Easter celebration would be complete without an Easter egg hunt and the children were absolutely eggcellent at finding the Easter eggs! The Easter egg hunt saw the children search high and low as they discovered the Easter eggs. The children then proclaimed their victories as they excitedly showed their newfound chocolate treasures to their parents.

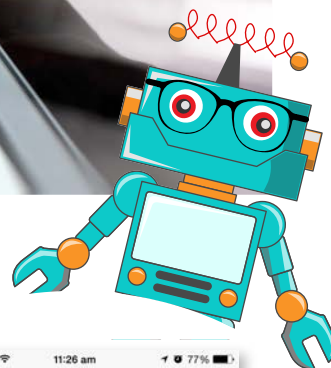
We finished off both our morning and afternoon sessions with a captivating story during story time. The little ones sat intently as one of our wonderful teachers

enthusiastically shared a story with the children. This was a lovely way to end the sessions and left the children and parents content and satisfied with the day.

We would like to thank all of you who attended our Easter open day, especially those of you who brought along friends and neighbours, introducing them to Lighthouse. We really appreciate your support and hope you had a wonderful time because we had a great time putting this event on for you all!

# Our New APP

## Communications System



Dear Families,

Over the last few months we've been busy building a new communications system for our centre, which is now live! This system will allow us to keep you informed of your child's day, their learning journey and all the wonderful news and events that are happening in our centre. The newly built parent communications system is purpose built for our center's family. You may have already started receiving text messages with links to "special moments" for your child during the day as it happens. If you prefer to receive these by email instead, please let us know. Over the next few weeks we will be progressively rolling out more parts of the system and we will keep you updated as this happens. If you have any feedback about the system or if you spot any bugs, we would love to hear from you (We have some chocolate for the first person to spot a bug). This system has been built for you and we want to make sure it works for all our families. Our children have such great days at the centre and we can't wait to share all the wonderful learning, friendships and fun they are having throughout the days with you!

