

Family Newsletter

WELCOME

Educators:

Firstly a warm welcome to some new Educators to our service. Lisa has returned to FDC in Kingston, Kellie in Glenora, Rae in Austins Ferry and Carol in Bonnet Hill who will be starting very shortly. We are delighted to have them join the Kingborough Family Day Care family.

Co-Ordination Unit Staff:

Secondly we welcome some new Co-ordination Unit staff; Colette Lockyer has joined us as a Field Support Co-ordinator. Colette has been a FDC Educator in the Geeveston area for many years and brings a hands on educator perspective to our unit. Lisa Brooke has also joined the team. Lisa is working across both Kingborough Family Day Care as a Field Support Co-ordinator and at Blackmans Bay Childrens Services in the Learning and Development team. Lisa brings a wealth of knowledge and has a strong interest in nature based play and empowering children. With all of this change, I must say it is very nice to have a full office and lots of ideas and excitement for the future of KFDC.

FAREWELLS:

Good bye and thank you to two FDC educators from our service. Delece who has been running an Outside School Program from West Winds Community Centre in Woodbridge will finish up as an FDC educator at the end of the school year. She will continue in her other role as an educator in Long Day Care. We also wish Suzie from Glenora all the best as she finishes up with FDC in December.



1 Diamond Drive
BLACKMANS BAY, Tas.
7052
Ph: (03) 6135 4377
Email: fdc@bbchildcare.org

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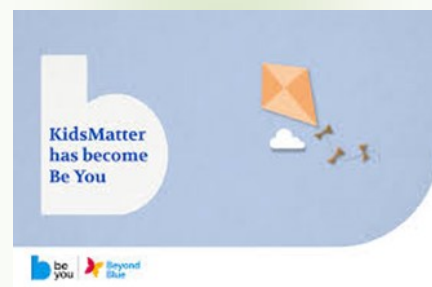
I hope everyone has seen our Approved Provider, Blackmans Bay Childrens Services announcement of their new branding which comes into effect from January 1st 2019, Adventure Patch. This name incorporates the philosophy of the organisation, to inspire children to connect with nature by encouraging outdoor play, fun and exploration in childcare.

Kids Matter

Our Approved Provider is not the only thing changing its name! *Kids Matter* has changed its name to *Be You* but will still be providing services, children and families with positive mental health strategies and support.

As we enter the delightful Christmas season, it can also be a time of stress and worry about things such as money and what the new year might bring. Please take time to look after yourself.

Positive mental health for parents and educators



What does it mean for parents and educators to look after themselves?

Looking after parents' and educators' mental and physical health is just as important as looking after children's. Some of the ways parents and educators can look after themselves is by eating well, exercising regularly, as well as making time for relaxation and having positive relationships. Seek out friends or family members who offer you support and encouragement.

Why is it important for children that parents and educators look after themselves?

When parents and educators are supported to look after themselves they are more likely to feel good. This means they are more able to provide their children with the best care possible. Being healthy helps parents and educators relate to and make good decisions for their children. This promotes positive mental health and wellbeing in children and allows families to enjoy time together.

Children learn by example. Therefore children's mental health and wellbeing is promoted and supported when parents and educators look after themselves.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Playgroup will be celebrating the end of year with a Christmas BBQ at Dru Point on Tuesday 18th December from 10am – 12noon. If this is not your work day please feel free to join us for a play. Just RSVP to your educator or the Co-ordination unit so we can ensure we have enough food and gifts.

We are also planning a 'Welcome Event' in early 2019 which will be held out of work hours so more families can join us. Look out for your invite in 2019.



RATINGS AND ASSESSMENT

I am very pleased to say that we have received a good result in our Ratings and Assessment process this year. The service has received a "Meeting National Quality Standards" rating across all seven quality areas. This is a very good result and is attributed to all of our FDC educator's hard work to ensure they are meeting national requirements and the support from Co-ordination Units to educators to achieve this.

For more information about the Ratings and Assessment process have a chat to your educator or go to www.startingblocks.gov.au/at-child-care/child-care-ratings.



A word from your Co-Ordination Team

"It has been a very busy time in my new role as Field Co-Ordinator. It has been an amazing experience to go around and visit all our Educators. Having met some of your children, I can honestly say how happy and settled they are in using our Educators. Family Day Care for myself has always meant a very personal bond between families and their children and this has been very evident in my visits. I would like to wish you all a very safe and happy Christmas full of fun, family and yummy food. Can't wait to continue the journey forward with you all."

.....Colette

"I have always valued and respected what family day care provides for children and families but after spending over 15 years in long day care services this has been the first real exposure, and what a fantastic experience it has been so far! I have had such a great time getting out and meeting our friendly educators and seeing such diverse family day care environments. I have been so inspired by the opportunities that are provided to our children each day through the dedicated, passionate and experienced educators. What I have particularly liked on my travels have been the opportunities for children to connect with nature, getting out and about exploring the community, the relaxed environments, sustainable practices and so much more! I am looking forward to continuing to build relationships and supporting our educators, children and families as I settle into my new role."

.....Lisa



To those children and families leaving our service, we say farewell and best wishes. Whether to attend school or for other reasons, we wish you and your children much joy and happiness in your new adventures!

For present families and those families entering our service; embarking on new journeys, we say 'Welcome.' We hope your time within our scheme and the memories we help create are happy and positive ones.

From all of us here we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year –

.....Fi, Janice, Brooke, Colette & Lisa

What have we done at Playgroup?



We've built fires, learnt about fire safety, cooked damper, popped popcorn and made our own charcoal at the Scout Grounds at the Lea.



We've been to the beach and built channels and experimented floating different objects down the "river"...and we've got a bit wet!



We've been able to view our art-work from different perspectives.



We've learnt some yoga moves with Lynne



We've sat very still and quiet and listened to Small Stories at the Hobart Town Hall