

# Pelican News



## October Newsletter

**Pelican Childcare welcomes all new families to our centre. A monthly newsletter is made available to all families, we hope you enjoy reading all about our centre.**

### A note from the Office



I would like to take this time to thank all of the wonderful staff, children and families for making me feel so welcome over the past couple of months. It has been great getting to know you all.

I'm sure you would all agree that there have been some very positive changes to the centre recently. The team have all been working really hard to create a stimulating and inviting environment and culture at the centre and the feedback we have been receiving has been fantastic. Thank you all.

We are fast approaching the end of 2009, therefore we are starting to put together our end of year celebrations. We will be sure to keep you all informed of upcoming events.

### Kinder Excursion

On Tuesday the 22nd of September the Kinder children, staff and some special helpers went to the Melbourne Zoo for our very first excursion.

Whilst at the Zoo, we visited nearly every single animal and took part in an educational program during which we learnt about nocturnal animals, habitats and got to touch Green Tree Frog. It was great!

Everyone had a fantastic day, and we would like to say a big thank you to those lovely mums who came along and gave us a hand. We certainly couldn't have done it without you!



### Staff Changes

Sadly, both Carly our wonderful group leader in the Toddler Room and Carol our tremendous cook have decided to leave our team. Carly will be returning to nursing full time and Carol will be having a well earned break.

We have employed a new cook whose name is Anna. Anna will be starting at Pelican Childcare Coburg on Monday the 19th of October. We look forward to her joining our team.

Loredana our Pre Kinder group leader will be stepping in to the Toddler room full time. Loredana has some wonderful ideas and experiences she would like to implement and gain more experience working with the younger children.

Katherine, who has been assisting Loredana in the Pre Kinder will be stepping up and utilising her skills and a Diploma Qualified Child Care Professional and taking over the program planning temporarily until we find an appropriate replacement.

We would like to take this time to wish both Carly and Carol all the best. The Pelican family will certainly miss you both.



### Congratulations

We would like to send our love and best wishes to Nicole who had her baby on Thursday the 1st of October. Nicole had a beautiful baby girl named Charlie. Congratulations to Nicole and her family.

### Accreditation Update

Congratulations to all staff who participated in our recent Accreditation Validation Visit.

The Validator was at the centre for two full days to observe and assess our practices in all areas. We are proud to say we did extremely well!

We are currently waiting on the official results, but we will proudly display these in our foyer once they arrive.

Go team!

### Re-enrolment for 2010

Please ensure you check your families Information Pocket in the hallway to collect your Re-enrolment for 2010 form. Enquiries are coming in thick and fast so please be sure to complete these forms and return to the centre as soon as possible to secure your child's place for next year.

We would also appreciate you returning the Holiday Advice form as soon as possible to enable us to begin approving staff annual leave for the Christmas and New Year period.

### Immunisations

Please ensure you update the centre every time your child has an immunisation, to prevent us excluding your child from care should there be an outbreak of an infectious disease.

You also need to ensure you update the Family Assistance Office of these immunisations, as failure to do so may result in the cancellation of your Child Care Benefit.

### Medication

As you are all aware, Pelican Childcare Coburg has a medication policy which states that Paracetamol will not be administered to any child who has a body temperature exceeding 38 degrees. The child's parent/s will be informed that their child is unwell and will be required to collect their child from the centre immediately.

We would also like to remind you that should your child be prone to febrile convulsions due to excessive temperatures you are required to provide us with a doctor signed and approved Action Plan. The action plan must state all processes to be followed in the case of a febrile convulsion. In these circumstances, Paracetamol can be administered. Parents will still be required to collect their child from the centre immediately.

### Car Park



Just a reminder to all families that the car park at the front of the centre is a disabled car park and should not be used as a quick drop off point. The car park under the centre is available for all families to use during drop off and pick up times. Thank you.

### Menu Ideas

We are looking going to be making some changes to our centre menu in the coming weeks. We would like some suggestions from our families as to what you would like to see changed or added to our menu. Please tear off the attached slip below, write down any menu requests or suggestions you may have and return to the centre.

We look forward to receiving your ideas.

**I would like to make the following suggestions or requests to Pelican Childcare Coburg's Centre Menu:**

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## Road and Vehicle Safety

Roads and vehicles are an everyday part of life for all of us. Either as a driver, a passenger, or as a pedestrian, we all must negotiate the road traffic environment on a daily basis.

*Children are especially vulnerable around vehicles and roads due to their size and capabilities.*

Be aware of the opportunities for children to become safer road-users. Walk down to the local shop for milk or the newspaper with your children on Sunday morning. Park the car and walk around to the sports ground, on the way explaining the observations and choices you make to get there safely. Talk about the importance of wearing seat belts and insist that everyone in the vehicle wears appropriate restraints. Point out rules of the road when driving. Always demonstrate responsible and safe behaviours when driving, or when a passenger and while walking anywhere around vehicles and roads.

Along with the benefits of road use, there are also challenges that we need to be aware of. Some safety issues dealing with road and vehicles include the following:

### [Pedestrian Safety](#)

Children need assistance dealing with the traffic environment until at least the age of 10 as they are not equipped physically or developmentally to make the crucial decisions to keep them safe. It is important children are supervised and accompanied by a parent or adult carer. Like learning to drive a car, children need to practise and experience to walk in the traffic environment.

Alongside the benefits of learning road safety, it is great chance to spend time with your family and good exercise!!

### [Passenger Safety](#)

It is important to properly equip your car with appropriate child restraints for your child to keep them safe. Every time you make a trip in a vehicle, ensure your child is properly restrained and protected.

### [Driveway Safety](#)

Small children are at risk from moving vehicles in low speed 'off road' locations such as driveways, yards and car parks. While driveway fencing and improvements to vehicle design may be helpful, supervision of children is critical whenever a vehicle is to be moved - hold their hands or hold them close to keep them safe.

### [Bicycle and Small Wheels Safety](#)

Whenever buying bicycles, skateboards, scooters and rollerblades for you child, always buy the correct safety gear to go with it - buy the whole present, not just part of it.

### [Heat Stress In Cars](#)

Remember never to leave your child alone in a vehicle - the temperature within cars can quickly build up and children are at risk of dehydration, which can cause serious injury.

- KIDSAFE NSW [www.kidsafensw.org](http://www.kidsafensw.org)

