

## EARTH DAY

### Working in the community

Following our children's great efforts planting trees for shade in the car park of the base hospital, a plaque has been set up to commemorate the event and recognise our centre's contribution for Earth Day 2016.



### SPECIAL OFFER!

Book for 5 days a week and get \$5 dollars a day off our fee!

Right now, all 5 day a week bookings get \$5 dollars a day off. That's saving \$25 dollars a week off standard fees!

If you wish to increase your days please see a Director.

## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

### Part 3

As previously mentioned it is great for children to learn protective behaviours but experience has taught us that actions by adults can be more effective than relying on children to protect themselves from sexual abuse. This article gives more suggestions on how adults can protect children. Clear communication is a cornerstone of effective prevention. Make sure other adults and older children understand the expectations younger children will have of them and how their cooperation will help keep children safe.

**Don't miss a real prevention opportunity** - In more than 30 percent of child sexual abuse cases, a child/young person is sexually harmed by someone under 18 years old, frequently by another child or adolescent who may not fully understand the impact of their actions. Most parents talk with their children about how to keep themselves safe from others who may sexually harm them. We also need to talk to our children about why it is so important for them not to harm others. "Just like it is not OK for you to hit and hurt other people, it is not OK for you

to use tricks or force to touch other people in a way that makes them uncomfortable."

**Learn about child development** - Children are born as healthy sexual beings. Just as they are curious about insects, aeroplanes and animals, they will be curious about their bodies and other people's bodies. As parents, it is very helpful to be knowledgeable about healthy sexual development so we are able to tell the difference between expected behaviours and behaviours that may be cause for concern.

**Clarify the rules** - When you find your child exploring his or her own body or playing 'doctor' with another child, calmly acknowledge what you've seen and set clear expectations. "It looks like you and Jane are comparing your bodies. Now get dressed. And remember, even though it feels good to take our clothes off, we keep our clothes on when we're playing". If a child continues behaviours after you've set clear limits, you may want to talk with a professional.

If you have any questions or concerns in relation to this article please contact Phoenix House on 4153 4299

## ACORN ON BRANYAN

### Dental visit

During June, Mal from Van der Walt Dental and his friends Flossy and Squirt visited our friends in the Possum, Platypus and Wallaby Rooms. Mal and his friends shared some important facts with us about our teeth and why it is very important to look after them. Did you know you can't play a trumpet without teeth!!! Mal the dentist showed us the correct way to brush our teeth, then we all had a go. When we had finished brushing, Mal's friend Squirt cleaned off our toothbrush for us. This was very funny and some of us got a little bit wet when he squirted water at us. We learnt a lot about taking care of our teeth and Mal gave us a toothbrush to take home for practising.



Mal's visit: Mal the Dentist shows us how to clean our teeth

### Rosella room

In the Rosella room we have been learning basic colours and shapes, using a range of activities from artwork to interactive table activities and short You- tube clips.

Recently the children have shown interest in building and stacking toys. We have been using magnetic connectors and Lego blocks. From these the children have made long 'snakes' or high towers. Another area of learning has been home corner and taking care of the babies. The children have been in the kitchen making meals for their friends and also feeding our babies. The children have been remembering to share and take turns with friends while building positive relationships with each other and educators. Remember, if your child is interested in a favourite book at home then please continue to bring these in for us to share at group time as we love to read new books and extend on our learning.



Building blocks: Making Lego structures in the Rosella room

## NOTICE TO PARENTS

### Reminders

- Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child every day on arrival. Acorn staff will reapply sunscreen throughout the day as necessary.
- Door on baby side closed – this is going really well so far. Please remember the car park will be busy in the peak drop off and pick up times and we all need to take care when using the car park that children are around and to be that bit more cautious. Please also keep in mind the baby side car park is still in use.
- Email notifications – please ensure we have your correct email address on file as we will now be sending notifications to families via email
- Breakfast on both sides of the centre will ne be served at the same time between 7am and 7:30am
- With cooler weather approaching please ensure your child has a jumper as well as closed in shoes and socks for the early mornings and late afternoons
- Please remember school holidays are approaching and if you would like to secure a position you need to book early as positions are limited. A program has already been written and can be viewed on Educa. Please see office staff regarding bookings or email the centre.