

Aldgate Kindergarten Newsletter

2nd May 2022 Term 2 — Week 1

Dear families,

Welcome to term 2! We hope that you and your child have been able to enjoy some lovely family time during the break. Our sincere thanks for the opportunity to meet with you last term to discuss your child's progress at Kindergarten. It was a truly valuable experience for us to share what we have noticed and to learn more about your child from you. If you haven't yet had your meeting, we will be in touch this week to make a time. We are happy to meet at any time that you would like further feedback about your child's learning or development, so please don't hesitate to ask.

Staffing

Vikki (Early Childhood Worker) will be taking leave on Tuesdays for weeks 1-5. Sally Monteleone will be her replacement.

COVID update

Masks are still required to be worn by adults on education sites, for at least the first four weeks of term. We welcome you to come inside the building when you drop off or pick up, provided that you wear a properly fitted mask (we have plenty of them if you forget). Thankyou for your understanding. Please continue to keep your child home if they are unwell. If your child shows signs of illness during a Kindy day, we will contact you to come and collect them. As per the updated "Testing, isolating and quarantine for preschools" document, if a child or educator tests positive for COVID-19 they must notify the Kindergarten and quarantine for 7 days. If your child is a close household contact, please follow SA health advice and let us know. [Close contacts | SA Health](#) [Testing, isolating and quarantine for preschool and early childhood settings \(education.sa.gov.au\)](#)

And finally, for those of you with older children at Aldgate Primary School, the Kindergarten **DOES NOT** have a student free day on Monday 16th May. We endeavour to line up our student free days with the school to minimize inconvenience for families with children across both sites, but it is not always possible or equitable for both Kindy groups.

Kind regards,

Bianca, Cathy, Hayley, Roxy, Lyn and Vikki

Friday sessions...with an invitation for you to spend some time at Kindergarten!

It is important to us that we do whatever we can to build a sense of community, and support the development of relationships between children and families during their time at Kindergarten. The ways we might achieve this is an ongoing agenda item for governing council.

We would like to invite each child attending Friday kindy to bring a parent/caregiver (from 10am), so that they can spend some time showing their adult around Kindy and adults can have a chat with other parents without feeling that they have to rush off. The kindy session starts at 10:30am—at this time adults are welcome to stay a little longer, or farewell their child. Kindy finishes at 3:30pm.

Please let us know if your child won't be attending, just like any regular Kindy day, so that we can staff with appropriate ratios. Thanks!

DATES: Monday/Tuesday group: 6th and 13th May, 10am for a 10:30am kindy start, 3:30pm kindy finish.

Wednesday/Thursday group: 20th and 27th May, 10am for a 10:30am kindy start, 3:30pm kindy finish.



Thankyou kindly to Fiona (the school's Business Manager) for letting us borrow her puppy Eddie to help the children learn about "waiting". It can be very hard to wait your turn for something exciting. Learning to be patient is an important social skill and requires self-regulation.

Aldgate Kindergarten

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Calendar dates

Monday 2nd May: First day of term 2.

Friday 6th May: Kindergarten 10:30am-3:30pm Monday/Tuesday group. From 10am arrival for parent/caregiver visitors.

Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th May: Photo days! Group photo will be taken around 9:30am. Sibling photo sessions are also available on Friday 13th May.

Friday 13th May: Kindergarten 10:30am-3:30pm Monday/Tuesday group (final for the term). 10am arrival for parent/caregiver visitors.

Friday 20th May: Kindergarten 10:30am-3:30pm Wednesday/Thursday group. 10am arrival for parent/caregiver visitors.

Monday 23rd May: Governing council 6:45pm

Tuesday 24th and Thursday 26th May: Gardening with Rebecca 9:00-11:00am

Friday 27th May: Kindergarten 10:30am-3:30pm Wednesday/Thursday group (final for the term). 10am arrival for parent/caregiver visitors.

Monday 13th June: public holiday

Monday 20th June: Governing council meeting 6:45pm

Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th July: Gardening with Rebecca 9:00-11:00am

School holidays: Monday 11th July to Friday 22nd July. Vacation care available via the Primary School's OSHC (only available for children who have already attended OSHC during term time)

Learning program highlights

KEEPING SAFE: CHILD PROTECTION CURRICULUM

This term we will be exploring the focus area of *relationships*. Topic 1 is "Rights and responsibilities". We will be offering a wide variety of role-play experiences for children, as well as intentionally teaching and reinforcing the themes using picture books.

Later in the term, children will be learning about *trust and networks*. This interesting article is an important read for parents and caregivers (please feel free to share it with grandparents or any other adults who regularly care for your children) —it discusses strategies that you can use to help keep your child safe, and educate them to find appropriate help if they get separated from you in a public place.

Safe Strangers: When children get lost. <https://www.firstfiveyears.org.au/child-development/safe-strangers-when-children-get-lost>

ZONES OF REGULATION

One of our Quality Improvement Plan goals is for children to demonstrate increased levels of involvement in sustained learning experiences with peers. One of our strategies is to support their development of self-regulation. "*Emotional and behavioural self-regulation contributes to young children's growing independence and resilience. It is this growing ability to control their own feelings and behaviour that eventually allows a child to become more skilled in their relationships with children and adults. If we are able to recognise when we are becoming less regulated, we are able to manage our feelings and get ourselves to a healthy place. This comes naturally for some, but for others it is a skill that needs to be taught and practiced. This is the goal of The Zones of Regulation®.*"

In the next couple of weeks, I will be sending home a letter with information about the Zones of Regulation, which we will be formally introducing to all of the children this week. Here are some links to find out more about the Zones of Regulation: <https://www.zonesofregulation.com/index.html> <https://occupationaltherapy.com.au/learning-self-regulation-with-the-zones-of-regulation/>

Some strategies for looking after our "Zones":



breathing lazy 8

Start in the center of the 8 and follow the arrows with your fingertip. Breathe in while tracing the left side. Breathe out while tracing the right side.



FEEDBACK PLEASE regarding Sunday's Kindergarten play-dates

We are interested in your thoughts, whether you were able to attend or not. This will help us with future planning of out-of-kindergarten hours family events.

Thanks! [Feedback form](#)