

FAMILY LINKS



The Stables
Bishopgate St
Singleton 2330
Ph: 6572 3810



4 KearsleySt
Aberdare 2325
Ph: 4990 7402

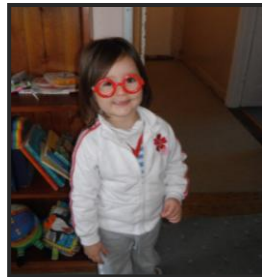
Coordination Unit Office Hours: 9 - 3 Mon to Fri



July 2011

Lots of SID's Support was evident in our service!

The service staff dug deep and a number of educators also joined in for this worthy cause.



"We had a fun week, we wore red clothes, had a red table to explore red items, red pencils to draw with, red paint, we made red telescopes, red nose puppets, played with red play dough, read "The Little Red Hen" and danced to the Wiggles song "The Big Red Car". And we all donated money to SIDS and Kids." **Belinda's Family Day Care**



Colour me Red Day 2011 at Chris Ashford's Family Day Care.

We all dressed in red for the day, we enjoyed eating strawberry pieces set in red jelly (natural jelly) and watermelon for morning tea. The children had a great time playing with playdough with red glitter in it and painting with red paint and sticking lots of red collage pieces on their pictures. We read stories Clifford the Big Red Dog, Little Red Riding Hood and The Little Red Hen, and sang and did the actions to the Wiggles Song, Big Red Car. Children were able to purchase Red Nose Day bracelets and for every \$10.00 donation children received a Red Bag of Goodies, altogether we raised \$100.00 for SIDS and KIDS!!



POWER OF PLAY and COMMUNICATION:

Find a way to join in with what your child is doing. The power of play comes from the connection it creates between you and your child. If your child doesn't play with the toys you expect him to, just "go with the flow". If he wants to put blocks *under* the truck instead of *in* the truck or if he bangs the playdough and stretches it rather than making shapes, it doesn't matter. Let him explore toys in his own way and see where the play takes you. ☐ You can comment on what they are doing, imitate your child's actions and take turns having fun with whatever captures your child's interest ☐



(Early Links – Therapist Tips)

A Message from Your Educator's Child Development Officers

Play Session Term 3 Sneak Peek!

At Singleton.....

As we are in the middle of NAIDOC week we thought it only appropriate to make some plans to include the indigenous culture in this term's play session. Throughout the term Kell will be assisting the children at Singleton to create an indigenous patchwork table cloth. She will be using squares of calico for the children to put hand prints on and also dot paintings. Once we have enough squares Kell will attempt to sew it together so we can use it as a table cloth in future play sessions. If anyone has any tips please pass them on!!!

Term 3 Play Session Dates

Cessnock: 26th July, 9th & 23rd Aug, 13th Sept

Singleton: 28th July, 11th & 25th Aug, 13th Sep



Bob's Back!

Bob Turner Wildlife is a fun-filled, hands-on experience for all children! Bob brings an assortment of his friends along, including snakes, lizards, turtles and frogs. Children have the opportunity to touch and experience these animals and listen to Bob's learning stories about these wonderful creatures.

He will be visiting our Service from 9.30am to 11.30am at:

- Singleton- 13 September – at "The Stables, Bishopgate Street
- Cessnock - 13 October – Bellbird Community Hall, cnr Wollombi Rd, Bellbird

If you wish to attend either date, please contact the Service office on Singleton 65723810 or Cessnock 49907402 to add your name and number of children attending.



Sustainability is the topic on everyone's lips, so what is it exactly? Sustainability could be defined as an ability or capacity of something to be maintained or to sustain itself. It's about taking what we need to live now, without jeopardizing the potential for people in the future to meet their needs. So we need to reduce our waste, recycle where we can and limit the pollution in our environment.

Do you have a great tip or hint on how you and your family put sustainability into practice? Send in your ideas and a photo if possible to include in the next newsletter! Email fdcsing@samaritans.org.au
(Check out the training available in August under Calendar dates)

Calendar Dates to Remember

August

17th Sustainability In FDC – Singleton Hts RSC from 6.30pm
29th transition to school presentation for parents and Educators Singleton venue TBC
30th Transition to school presentation for parents and Educators Cessnock venue TBC
25th Child Protection Training Greta

September

3rd Annual Conference – full day of training at Nulkaba on Behaviour Guidance with Dr Louise Porter.
13th Bob Turner @ Singleton 9.30am

October

11th Munch'n Move - early childhood health & nutrition venue TBC
13th Bob Turner @ Cessnock 9.30
26th scheme meeting @ Greta workers club 7pm

3rd December Sydney Shopping Trip: Proceeds to Relay For Life

Christmas dates: Singleton Disco – Wednesday 23 November – Club Singleton 6-8pm
Cessnock Disco – Wednesday 7 December venue TBC



GROWING KIDS!

Newcastle Family Support Services' Family Relationship skills Program and Cessnock Family Support service would like to invite parents/care givers and educators of young children (in their care) to a **free** 6 week group program.

Conversations may include:

- Getting them off to a good start – What do our children need?
- Understanding how children think and feel
- Trying not to 'lose the plot' – suggestions for parents and children
- Ideas to help you and your children manage strong emotions
- What do you as a parent or carer need to help you care for children?



WHEN: Tuesdays (6 weeks) 9th August – 13th September 2011

TIME: 10.00am – 12.00pm

WHERE: Cessnock Family Support Service
5 Hall Street
Cessnock

FREE children's group and morning tea available on the premises

To make a booking or for further information please call

Cessnock Family Support on 4990 4507



SYDNEY WAREHOUSE SHOPPING BUS TRIP

When: Saturday December 3rd 2011.

Time: Leaving Cessnock 6.30am SHARP - returning approx:
7.30pm

Cost: \$35 per person (morning tea incl.)

Where will we visit? 'Harry's toys', 'Dolcioro Chocolates', 'Shoes 2000', 'Seafolly', 'Nutshop', 'Homyped' and Birkenhead Point Shopping Centre.

Seats are selling fast so book ASAP! Contact: Lauren 49911783 All proceeds to 'Relay For Life'.



BOOK BLOG

That's Not a Daffodil

By Elizabeth Honey.

When Tom's neighbor gives him a brown bulb, Tom can't believe it will flower. 'That's not a daffodil!' says Tom. 'Well,' says the old gardener. 'Let's plant it and see.'

Elizabeth Honey has created a playful story that little children will enjoy again and again - about an inventive boy, a kindly gardener, a growing friendship and the promise of a bulb. (Extends children's knowledge in the natural world)



The Big Little Book of Happy Sadness

By Colin Thompson.

George lives with his grandmother and a big empty space where his mother and father should be.

One Friday on his way home from school, George visits the animal shelter. There, in the very last cage, is Jeremy, a sad dog who looks as lost and lonely as George feels.

When Jeremy comes home to live with George and his granny, their whole lives change, and they learn that when it comes to love, its quality not quantity that counts... (Touching story of emotions and expressing those feelings)



Honour Book in the CBCA Book of the Year Awards - Picture Book.

Children's books and other resources are available for educators to borrow at both the Singleton and Cessnock service offices.



It's nearly here!

The policy document that contains all the policies and procedures that guide all that we do, at the coordination unit and your educator's service will be available soon.

As the policies are the foundation of our service we hope that all families, as stakeholders will assist in policy review and offer as much feedback as possible.

The Coordination Unit Staff

Janine Voigt - Authorised Supervisor
Karen Lewis - IHC & FDC CDO/Coordinator
Sandy Hart - Child Development Officer
Kylie Ledger - Administration Manager

Cherie Pauling - Placements and Support Officer
Melanie Howlett - Child Development Officer
Kell Smith - Child Development Officer
Maddison Andrews - Administration Assistant Trainee