



Monthly Newsletter

**Here's what has happened in the last month
and what's to come!**

Dear Families,

Welcome to our April Newsletter. March has been an incredible month, filled with exciting events and special moments. One of the highlights was our Harmony Day, a celebration that brought our entire community together. Children, educators, and families had a blast dressing up in traditional attire and vibrant orange outfits. With Easter just around the corner, we're all excited to celebrate it here at Little Assets!

We focus on getting to know each child as an individual. Through careful observation and interaction, we assess their development to provide the support they need to thrive. We love hearing from families, as your insights into your child's interests, routines, and daily life at home help us connect their home world with their time at the centre. This feedback helps us personalize learning programs to fit each child's unique strengths, interests, and needs. By working together, we can ensure your child receives the best care and education.

We are so grateful for the wonderful partnerships we share with our families. We are proud to work alongside such a supportive community.

Regards,
Selina Lucky
Centre Director



Dear Families,

March has been a wonderful month at our center! We started with our first Wonderwall, showcasing the children's voices. It was so special to see that our children recognise themselves in the pictures and celebrate their creativity.

We also had an enriching time learning about cultural diversity. Through activities and sharing stories, the children gained deeper understanding of different cultures.

April is here, bringing the joy of Easter and beauty of Nature Play Week! As we welcome the changing season, it's the perfect time to enjoy outdoor exploration and connect with nature. We are embracing the joy of Easter with festive activities too. We are excited to make this month full of fun and learning for our children.

Regards,
Dikshya Manandhar
Educational Leader



Days to Remember

1st April April Fool's
Day
Lupus Alert Day

April 2 World Autism
Day

18 April Good Friday

Easter Saturday, 19
April

Easter Sunday 20
April

Easter Monday 21
April

ANZAC Day
Friday, 25 April 2025

7 April
World Health Day

April 2nd- April 13th
Nature Play Week



From the Kitchen

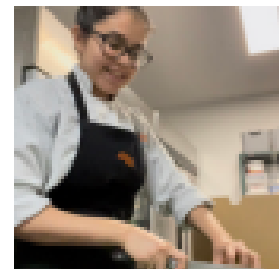
Warrigal greens pesto spaghetti

Bring Australian native ingredients to your menu with this warrigal greens pesto pasta. Featuring native mountain pepper berry and warrigal greens - it's a culinary fusion and nutritious delight.

Ingredients

Serves 6 people

Red onion, unpeeled - 60g (0.5 whole)
Garlic clove, unpeeled - 3g (1 clove)
Olive oil spray - 2mL (1 spray)
Spaghetti - 210g
Silken tofu - 300g
Warrigal greens - 120g
Fresh basil leaves - 10g
Lemon juice - 2 tablespoons (40mL)
Ground native mountain pepper berry - 0.25 teaspoon (0.5g)
Olive oil - 2 teaspoons (10mL)
Cup mushrooms, sliced - 70g
Canned cannellini beans, drained and rinsed - 225g drained weight (4.2 cans)
Cherry tomatoes, quartered - 840g



Chef Trisette

Method

PREHEAT OVEN TO 200°C. LINE A BAKING TRAY WITH BAKING PAPER. PLACE UNPEELED ONION AND GARLIC ON THE PREPARED TRAY AND LIGHTLY SPRAY WITH OIL. BAKE FOR 30-40 MINUTES, UNTIL ONION IS TENDER. ONCE COOL ENOUGH TO HANDLE, PEEL ONION AND DISCARD SKINS. SLICE THE END OFF THE GARLIC CLOVES AND SQUEEZE THE ROASTED GARLIC OUT. MEANWHILE, COOK SPAGHETTI ACCORDING TO PACKET INSTRUCTIONS. DRAIN AND RETURN TO THE SAME POT. IN A SEPARATE SAUCEPAN, BLANCH OR STEAM THE WARRIGAL GREENS FOR 1-2 MINUTES. DRAIN, THEN PAT DRY WITH SOME PAPER TOWEL TO REMOVE ANY EXCESS WATER. IN A LARGE FOOD PROCESSOR, PROCESS TOFU, WARRIGAL GREENS AND BASIL UNTIL SMOOTH. ADD LEMON JUICE, ROASTED ONION AND GARLIC AND PEPPER BERRY, TO TASTE. PROCESS UNTIL COMBINED. IN A LARGE, DEEP FRYING PAN, HEAT OIL ON MEDIUM-HIGH HEAT. COOK MUSHROOMS, STIRRING OCCASIONALLY, FOR 5 MINUTES OR UNTIL GOLDEN. ADD BEANS AND TOMATOES AND COOK, STIRRING, FOR 2 MINUTES OR UNTIL COMBINED AND HEATED THROUGH. ADD WARRIGAL PESTO SAUCE AND BEAN MIXTURE TO THE SPAGHETTI AND STIR OVER LOW HEAT TO COMBINE AND HEAT THROUGH. SERVE SPAGHETTI IN BOWLS OR SERVING TRAYS.



Reading together

Reading to your child can, and should, start in the first few months after birth. Reading to your child is one of the best things you can do to increase their oral language skills. Even you don't read often as an adult, or don't particularly like reading, it is important that you spend this valuable time with your child to stimulate their language development, and to encourage their love of stories and other written genres. Reading together is a valuable thing to do. Reading increases your child's vocabulary, expands your child's understanding of the world, introduces them to complex sentence types and gives them confidence when using language. Reading is also an important way to make the link between spoken words and written words.

Here are some general tips:

Visit your local library to select and read books together, and to attend story time sessions. Library story time sessions are a great way to share the joy of reading with your child in a group setting.

Encourage your child to select books, magazines, catalogues, or multimedia stories according to their interests.

Set aside time for reading every day. Reading before bedtime is a good habit to get into.

Position yourself so your child can see the words and the pictures.

Share wordless picture books to develop imagination, ideas and vocabulary by naming and describing things in pictures.

Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books. This will help develop your child's love of language.

When reading to your child, read stories with expression, or try putting on the voices of characters. This will help make reading fun.

Point out important features about a book – for example, the words and pictures, the front cover, the spine, the contents page, or the title.

Discuss the meaning of unknown words that children hear and read. Explore words using a dictionary. Have a discussion and ask questions about interesting words you find, for example, 'It says here she "tumbled" down the hill. How do you think she went down the hill?' It says here 'He read a "good" book. What is another word we could use besides good?'

Encourage your child to take over some or all of the reading if they feel confident to do so.

If your child is confident with their reading, allow them to read without interruption.

Allow your child to read at their own pace. Model good pace when you read to them.

Give your child the opportunity to re-read books.

Read and talk to your child in family languages and encourage others who speak different languages to use these with your child.

Let your child see you and other family members read for pleasure. It is especially important for boys to see the men they care about reading.

Encourage your child to join the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, which runs each year from March to September. Participating early childhood services and schools will register your child – otherwise you can register your child at the Premiers Reading Challenge.

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THANK YOU FOR READING!