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# FROM THE DIRECTOR

## WELCOME!

I am Chloe and I have recently come on board with RICE as the Director. I have a strong family connection to RICE and I am very excited to be apart of this great organisation. I am very passionate about the vision of RICE and where the Board sees us moving forward.

These past 6 weeks have been very full, getting to know staff and familiarising myself with the organisation.

I've been kept busy with strategic planning and preparing to recruit for educators. If you know of anyone interested in being an educator with our unique organisation, please send them our way!

Anna and Heather have been working hard on our new website for quite sometime. I've been lucky enough to be able to assist in these final stages. We hope to have the new website up and running in the coming weeks and I'm sure you'll all love the fresh new look.

I recently attended the Nonning Gymkhana Activity Day. The weather was beautiful, and we were very popular with the children. It was great to get out, see staff in action and have the opportunity to chat with parents.

We recently welcomed Teagan Karger back to RICE as an educator. Teagan has previously worked with us and we are very excited to have her back on board!

I'd really like to thank Lucy McTaggart for her guidance and assistance during the past 12 months as Acting Director and also during my handover period.

I'm really looking forward to getting out to more events and meeting the parents and children. If you happen to see me out and about, please come say hello.

**Chloe Hunter**  
**Director**



# FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

## WELCOME CHLOE!

The RICE Board of Management are thrilled to welcome Chloe Hunter as the new Director at RICE. Chloe brings with her a wealth of experience in leadership and has a strong connection with many RICE families and rural and remote SA. Make sure that if you see Chloe about to say hello and introduce yourself.

A huge thank you must go to Lucy McTaggart who stood in as Acting Director prior to Chloe commencing. Lucy's time and effort in keeping the cogs turning were hugely appreciated. The staff and Lucy made a tremendous effort under some trying times and should be proud of themselves for what they achieved.

I would also like to thank Bek Rasheed who finished up with the Board earlier in the year. The organisation benefitted from Bek's energy and involvement and is all the better for it. We welcome Joanna Gibson and Louise Kohler to the Board and are excited to have the addition of the skills and expertise of these ladies. The Board works tirelessly to implement the organisation's strategic objectives by working closely with the Director. This enables RICE to remain sustainable whilst obtaining the resources, funds and personnel necessary to do so. Feedback on what is working well, what could be improved and any other aspects is always welcome given RICE is being run by the community for the community.

The past few months have seen the board working together with the staff on a number of activities including; updating the Strategic Plan, drafting changes to the constitution, a new website and revising and ensuring policies and procedures are uniform.

The RICE staff have been getting out and about in the past few months with a lot of communities holding their annual events again after a very quiet 2020. As always, we are forever grateful to have RICE attend events in the outback. It is important that RICE is not taken for granted and where possible, to keep the organisation in mind when deciding on donations at your next AGM.

We look forward to sharing the new strategic plan and website with you in the coming weeks.

Cheers for now,

**Kirsty Williams**  
Chairperson



**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**  
**STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION #1 WITH CCSA**

# PLAYDAY REPORT

Hi families,

We have started term 2 off with Playdays in Cradock, Fowlers Bay, Blinman and Oodnadatta. It was fantastic to see some new faces as well as some familiar ones. We will be visiting Innamincka on June 30th. Planning for term 3 is also underway, so be sure to keep an eye on your emails and the RICE Facebook page for information.

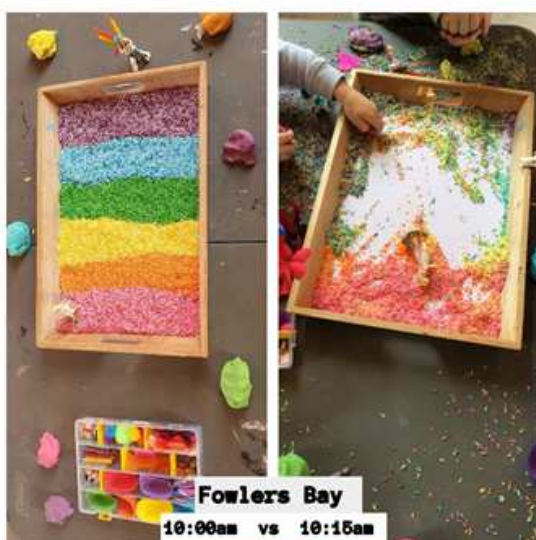
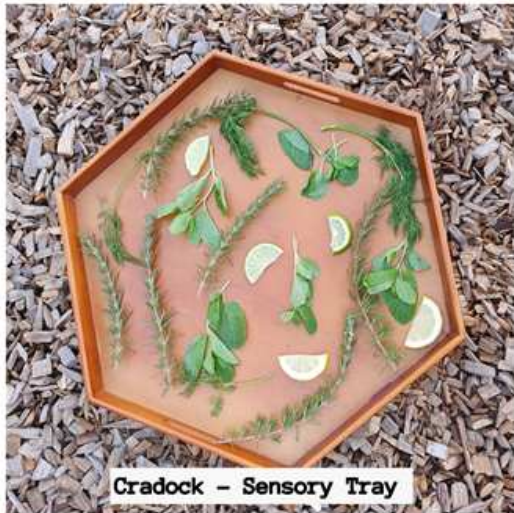
This term we have been focusing on providing families with ideas that can be done at home. If you have attended a Playday this term, you might have noticed that the Educators at the RICE office have been busy making some new resources. These have included sensory bottles, tactile photo frames, and discovery bags. These are all items that can be made at home. Below are some photos of activities that have been popular at Playdays and are easy to recreate at home.

Earlier in the year, Teagan and I attended some training with Playgroup SA in Adelaide. This training was very beneficial and provided us with new skills on how to effectively facilitate Playdays, we also came out with some fresh ideas.

If you are interested in hosting a play day or would like more information, please contact the office on 08 8642 4477 or email myself at [hscanlon@rice.org.au](mailto:hscanlon@rice.org.au)

We cannot wait to see you all throughout the rest of the year.

**Heather Scanlon**  
Senior Educator



# CRECHE REPORT



Hi Families,

This year has certainly moved fast! We have had such good fun during term one and we are fast approaching the end of term two.

We welcomed back Tasmin Key from maternity leave and Teagan Karger, you will see them around creche more often. The kids have enjoyed getting to know them as well .

At creche we have experienced many of our favourite resources and activities such as cooking, dramatic play, playdough, and painting. We are always eager to see what the children do with the planned activities and where their imagination and curiosity takes them.

We have welcomed a couple of new children this year as well as some families on the waitlist for both Orroroo and Hawker.

If you have any questions, ideas or concerns please email me at [tmudge@rice.org.au](mailto:tmudge@rice.org.au) or call 08 8642 4477

**Tegan Mudge**  
**Creche Team Leader**



CRECHE OPERATING TIMES

ORROROO: MONDAY 8:45AM - 3:15PM

HAWKER: FRIDAY 8:45AM - 3:15PM

REMOTE CRECHE: ONCE A TERM AND ONCE DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

# KINDY REPORT

## TERMS 1 & 2

For the 2021 year there has only been a small group of children enrolled in Kindy (just the 3!). This has been a great opportunity for lots of interactions on lessons, bonding and relationship building.

Kindy Experience week's in Port Augusta provide the basis for deep and meaningful learning experiences. The children are able to interact and play within their environment, and whilst doing so their learning is scaffolded. It has been amazing to see so much learning from the children in terms 1 and 2. During our first Kindy Experience (at the start of the 2021 year) the children were beginning to show an interest in writing their names. The children showed an interest in drawing, and in sorting resources in meaningful ways. We became familiar with Aboriginal Australian culture as we read *Welcome to Country* by Joy Murphy Wandin, and as we did an acknowledgement of country.

We extended on our prior knowledge and understandings at our term 2 kindy experience. At this stage, the children had become much more confident in writing their names. They had extended on their writing interest as they even showed an interest in writing words in context, and in writing numerals. The children continued to present an interest in reading stories and hence we used stories as a platform for developing phonological and letter awareness skills. They had developed their number and counting skills as they identified numerals and as they counted in diverse ways. This leads us to the current day where the children have shown some readiness and interest in counting backwards and where we are working on this skill of counting in reverse. Whilst each child learns in their own way and has their own strengths it has been clear that each child has been interested to learn. The children have initiated their own learning through their play and wonderings. It has been so lovely to see the children show their inquiry and desire to learn.

**Megan Hamper**  
Kindy Teacher



# RESOURCE CENTRE

## Hello Everyone!

Throughout the last few weeks, staff have been discussing how we can update resources. We are particularly looking at areas that we currently have limited items. These include cultural, sensory and role play kits. I would love your feedback as we start to introduce these new resources or any other areas that you think would be a great addition to our collection.

### -House Keeping-

Don't forget to give all toys, clothes and costumes a wash before returning them so the next child has the same clean toys to play with as your child does. Our staff do a wonderful job making sure toys are in top borrowing condition, but we need your help to keep our toy catalogue in good shape.

### -Resources Spotlight-

Each newsletter I will put the 'spotlight' on some great resources which we have been using at our different services. The first one is our "Play Kits", which contain a collection of theme related items that can be used to stimulate and encourage children imaginary play. These kits are an excellent resource as they promote learning through play and often simulate real life experiences. So far, we have created a 'construction' and a 'travel' kit with a lot more ideas to come! If you would like to borrow any of these kits or see any of them at creche, play days or activity days please get in touch and let me know.



### -Donations-

Donations of toys, games and puzzles will be gladly accepted for inclusion in the toy library's stock if they are:

- in good condition and clean
- painted toys and the paint used is non-toxic and lead free
- free of rough or splintered surfaces and where possible nail and screw free (or countersunk)
- free of surfaces that might peel off and be swallowed or inhaled
- non-brittle to avoid disintegration, sharp edges and cracks
- not soft or fabric toys that cannot be easily disinfected or washed

### -Contact Me-

The Resource Centre now has a new email address: [resources@rice.org.au](mailto:resources@rice.org.au) so if you would like a Toy Box sent out, please contact me through this address or call the office on 08 8642 4477 during office hours.

**Jasmine Kimber**  
Resource Educator



# KIDS CORNER

## SCAVENGER HUNT

CAN YOU FIND AND COLLECT ALL OF THE ITEMS ON THE LIST?

- A LEAF
- SOMETHING BROWN
- SOMETHING SOFT
- A FLOWER
- A STONE OR PEBBLE
- SOMETHING YELLOW

## RAINBOW PASTA

### INGREDIENTS

1 PACKET DRIED SPAGHETTI  
VARIOUS COLOURS OF FOOD DYE

### METHOD

COOK SPAGHETTI NOODLES ACCORDING TO PACKET DIRECTIONS.

STRAIN AND SEPARATE INTO BOWLS (ONE BOWL FOR EACH COLOUR).

ADD A FEW DROPS OF FOOD DYE TO EACH BOWL AND MIX UNTIL NOODLES ARE ALL COLOURED.

ADD A LITTLE MORE DYE IF THEY DON'T SEEM BRIGHT ENOUGH.



## Riddle

I have a tail and a head, but no body.

What am I?

Answer: A coin.

What has hands and a face, but can't hold anything or smile?

Answer: A clock.

## Joke

What do you get when you cross a sheep and a kangaroo?

Answer: A wooly jumper.

How do you make a tissue dance?

Answer: Put a little boogie in it.





# UPCOMING EVENTS

## JUNE

- 12 June - Activity Day, Marree Gymkhana
- 13 June - Activity Day, Marree Gymkhana
- 16 June - Playday, Blinman
- 20 June - Activity Day, Port Augusta Race Club Squatters Cup

## JULY

- 10 July - Activity Day, William Creek Bronco Branding
- 21 July - Playday, Fowlers Bay Town Hall

## AUGUST

- 4 August - Playday, Oodnadatta Aboriginal School
- 17 August - Playday, Carrieton Clubrooms
- 28 August - Activity Day, Innamincka Races



## We are hiring Educators

- WOULD YOU LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY WHILE WORKING?
- DOES WORKING WITH CHILDREN IN AN EDUCATIONAL SETTING INTEREST YOU
- RICE OFFERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN ON THE JOB EXPERIENCE IN A VARIETY OF SETTINGS INCLUDING; CRÈCHES, PLAYDAYS, ACTIVITY DAYS & INHOME CARE FOR CHILDREN LIVING IN RURAL & REMOTE SOUTH AUSTRALIA.



Contact us today for a full job description-  
(08) 86 424 477  
admin@rice.org.au  
8am -4pm Monday-Friday



# CaFHS

The Child and Family Health Service (CaFHS) is a free service for South Australian families with children aged 0-5 years. CaFHS operates at locations all over the state including metropolitan, regional and country areas.

In 2020, COVID-19 together with staff changes caused disruption to CaFHS services in the north of the state. In response to COVID-19 our services were moved online and Telehealth allowed us to continue to offer support to our clients through telephone and video consultations. Telehealth also allows us to connect more easily with our more remote clients and this is something we continue to offer together with face-to-face services which resumed late last year.

We encourage you to call for an appointment on the number below if you need support with:

- feeding
- settling
- sleeping
- health and development
- being a parent
- understand your child's needs
- parents/carers emotional wellbeing
- adjustment to parenting
- child safety
- parenting groups

CaFHS is also excited to be working with the Royal Flying Doctor Service, offering a Sleeping and Settling session for the Bush Babies Parenting Group that commenced in May. Bush Babies is a remote early parenting group focussing on the first six months of a baby's life but it is also open to families with older children. To find out more, contact [Mandy.Smallacombe@flyingdoctor.net](mailto:Mandy.Smallacombe@flyingdoctor.net).

Regular health checks are very important, and we recommend you make an appointment to check your child's health and development at 1-4 weeks, 6 months, 18 months, and preschool age.

Promoting the best child health, development and emotional wellbeing for infants and children is at the centre of what CaFHS do. If you need help and advice regarding your baby or child's health, development or wellbeing please contact us on 1300 733 606, Monday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm.

You can find out more information about CaFHS and a list of our centres on our website [www.cafhs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cafhs.sa.gov.au).



# CONTACT US

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PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700

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## **DIRECTOR**

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## **ADMIN**

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## **RESOURCE LIBRARY**

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## **PRESCHOOL**

Megan Hamper  
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## **CRECHE TEAM LEADER**

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## **SENIOR EDUCATOR**

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## **EDUCATOR**

Teagan Murray  
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