We hope everyone had a good holiday and welcome to our new children Indiah, Alby, Sadie, Ava, Charli, Finn, Tayla, Breanna, Riley, Jed and Laticiah.

**Kindy Happenings**
This term we are having a focus on People in our community and the 3 little pigs. Visitors will include Todd Reed, our local policeman and Judith Degner who will talk to us about where she comes from in Africa.

Our Drama focus will be the 3 Little pigs and we will incorporate our whiteboard by using it as a backdrop. We will be learning about connections with our local community and the jobs people do—e.g. Builders, farmers, doctors, firemen and bakers. Children will be able to act our different occupations using our play boxes with props.

**Excursion**
Is on the 29th of May to the Gymnastics Centre and then to the bike track at the Children’s Centre. Cost will be $8.00—Please pay as soon as possible.

The National Quality Framework
Our Quality Improvement Plan is now finished. Thanks to parents for their comments on the draft plan. A copy is in the sign in area—comments and ideas are always welcome.

**CLEANING ROSTER**
- We rely on your help at the end of the day and will be reminding people via text messages when it is your turn.
- A big Thankyou to all the volunteers for helping to wash/disinfect the toys and puzzles last term.

**Session Times**
- Tuesday—8.45am to 3.00pm
- Wednesday 12.30pm to 3.00pm
- Thursday 8.45am to 3.00pm

If you come before 8.45 you will need to stay with your child until the session starts. We need this time to prepare activities and put out equipment.

**New T-Shirts and Jumpers**
have arrived with an assortment of colours and sizes
- T-Shirts are $15
- Jumpers are $30
Please remember to label your children’s clothing

**WEBSITE**
- Have a look at the new photos of our Kindy on the website.
- Also have a read of our annual report 2011 and both rural care and Kindy newsletters.

**Phonological Awareness**
- Is the ability to detect and analyse the sound structure of language and is one of the emergent literacy skills. As part of our quality improvement plan to develop children’s emergent literacy skills we will be assessing children on entry and exit from kindergarten. This will give us data to plan programs to ensure greater literacy achievement for our children.

We are wanting to learn about your family and how you share interests e.g. Cooking or games played at home. Please fill our tear off slip and return to us. Thankyou.
WHAT IS LITERACY?

Literacy is talking and listening, reading and viewing, drawing and writing. It is part of everyone’s daily life. Children are developing literacy skills from birth. When you read to, talk to, sing to and play with your child you are stimulating your child’s brain and building connections that will become building blocks for reading and writing.

What we do at Kindergarten

Emergent literacy skills are the building blocks for learning to read and write. We provide activities to develop emergent literacy skills through oral language, phonological awareness and print knowledge.

Oral Language

Read stories daily - give children opportunities to discuss, act out, create and hear repeated readings of stories. Encourage communication - take turns to listen to and talk to each other, ask and answer questions and re-tell experiences.

Phonological Awareness

Learn initial sounds of words in games to encourage rhyming and words that begin with the same sound. Begin to understand words have syllables.

Print Awareness

Provide an environment that is full of print and demonstrate practical use of print. Book handling skills and recognise and write name.

What you can do at home

Read lots of stories. Research shows that reading aloud to your child every day is the most important thing you can do to stimulate the brain and build connections ready to learn to read.

Talking to your child—about what you are doing, about what they are doing. Listen with interest to what they are saying, have conversations, ask and answer questions.

Help you child to become aware of print, recognise name and letters in name. Play looking games- look for letters, numbers, signs, around the house and wherever you go.

Provide things to use - e.g. paper, crayons, pencils, glue. Encourage your child to draw and write. Give them time to practice and appreciate their achievements.

To foster early literacy offer your child plenty of opportunities, to talk and be listened to, to read and be read to, and to sing and be sung to.