

## Ring-a-Rosie



*"If tiny children have been able in their play to give up their whole loving being to the world around them, they will be able, in the serious tasks of later life, to devote themselves with confidence and power to the service of the world."*

*Rudolf Steiner.*

Located in a tranquil garden nestled in between Linden and Peppercorn we offer Ring-a-Rosie. This is an optional year before your child attends Kindergarten.

Ring-a-Rosie is a warm and cosy environment for the young child to begin their journey towards independence.

Our room is homely and our play based programme with 'open-ended' natural materials are lovingly handcrafted or simply collected from nature, allowing for many possibilities rather than a single fixed idea or purpose; giving rise to free imaginative play.



Care is taken with our younger children as they are still coming into the wide world, we want to ensure that there is a gentle transition between home and Ring-a-Rosie, so our programme is unhurried allowing the children adequate time to play and explore.

The children are welcomed into their day with the opportunity to make bread together, coming to knead, shape and bake - the simple act of making a nourishing meal to be shared for morning tea.

Other adult led activities are carried out always ensuring that the young children are in the presence of work which is carried out with reverence and worthy of imitation, the simple movements of sweeping, baking, mending, making and gardening are done in a way which inspires participation and learning.



Our invitation is then for the children to engage in free self-directed play with or alongside their peers, with imagination which is unfolding and developing, this is supported with an inviting room filled with natural materials carefully chosen to stimulate open ended play.

Baskets filled with blocks of wood, shells and treasures, tea sets and cloths to make cubby houses, endless possibilities and wonder. Our toys are placed around the

room to be inviting, the animals peeking out from the shelf and dolls looking up from their cosy beds, the child then comes to a well-cared for and loving space which they can feel content within.



Daily rhythm is of vital importance to the young child. During each session imaginative free play will be interspersed with times when we will come together for a simple circle of verses, finger rhymes, songs and movement, a time to share food and then coming together at the end of the day to hear a story, usually connected to nature.

The child's sense of time and security will come through the rhythmical 'doing', the songs that will guide them through the little transitions bringing them to the next happening with calm and ease.



Outside the garden offers the children many possibilities to wonder at the mysteries of nature as they unfold throughout the seasons. We meet the elements throughout the year and dress to suit the occasion, hats, raincoats, gumboots and puddle pants.



Children are offered one morning session (8.30 am - 12.00 noon) and one full day (8.30 am - 3.00 pm) Monday - Thursday, during the school term.





“Rudolf Steiner likens the urge to play to the flow of a river, to the water’s continuous moving along in the river bed. Play has the characteristics of a drive in that it is happening unconsciously or semiconsciously. What happens in play is not premeditated but occurs out of the spur of the moment with a great deal of willpower. The release of will through the play action is a source of joy for the child, a joy not linked to the achievement of specific purpose. The satisfaction of the child results from the process, the flow of the play, not from the end result. In that respect, play is non-intellectual, an expression of will activity.”

Renate Long-Breipohl.

For more information please email

[kindergarten@mrss.vic.edu.au](mailto:kindergarten@mrss.vic.edu.au)

213 Wonga Road,  
Warranwood, VIC  
AUSTRALIA 3134

T: 61 3 9876 2633  
F: 61 3 9879 0820  
E: [office@mrss.vic.edu.au](mailto:office@mrss.vic.edu.au)

Web: [mrss.com.au](http://mrss.com.au)