

yarrunga

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2020

DATES FOR THE DIARY FEBRUARY 2020

Management Committee
Meeting Wednesday 19th
February @7.30pm

AUTHORISATION FORMS

The Education and Care services regulations require us to have a new authority form completed for each child each year. These have been emailed to you but if you require a paper copy ask in your room or at the office. These forms need to be completed and returned ASAP.



Congratulations to our Yarrunga family that has welcomed a new addition to their family -
Jess, Patrick and Lyla - welcome a baby girl and sister Millie

Yarrunga can now be followed on Facebook and Instagram



WET BAGS

We have several wet bags left, if anyone would like one or two please see Karen or Lisa in the Office, they are \$5 each.

CHILDREN'S T-SHIRTS & JUMPERS

If you would like to order a t-shirt or shirts or jumpers for your child/ren, order forms will be available in the office - Shirts \$12.00, Jumpers \$25 each
Please see Lisa or Karen



NURSERY/TODDLER NEWS

Hi everyone

We have enjoyed going outside and exploring our environment we have also been playing with our junior room friends.



The preschool room went for a walk to the pet shop the other week and they brought us back an insect house that was donated and we are going to get some stick insects for the nursery soon.

We welcome all our new families that have started they are all settling in very well.

Jungeun and some of our nursery children will be attending Hairy Maclary Exhibition at the library next Wednesday, our first excursion.

Thank you to Lisa for our new balls and baby dolls for the nursery and our new camera to capture your children's learning.

It's great to start putting up family photos around the room please continue to send these in.



Nicole, Lesley, Jungeun ,Serena and Belle
Nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

Now that the smoky haze has cleared, we have enjoyed some much-needed outdoor time, including an excursion to our local Pet barn to purchase a new hideout for our Yabby. The friendly staff at Pet barn remembered us from our visits last year and were very helpful in recommendations for the most appropriate house and food for our pet. They also donated a 'krabooz' which we in turn gave to our Nursery/Toddler friends so that every room has a small pet to care for and learn from. We are on the lookout for a larger tank as Hermie just keeps growing and growing. If you know of anyone who has one for purchase (or rehoming) we would be more than happy to take it off their hands!



Our next planned outing is to the Albury Library Museum on Wednesday 12th February. We will attend the Lynley Dodd exhibition, author and illustrator of the Hairy Maclary books. Thank you for sharing your favourite Hairy Maclary stories with us. We have also been creating some of our own artworks in anticipation of the sketch displays.

February has also seen the introduction of Small Group Times into our daily routine. Educators and children have been practicing scissor cutting skills, mathematical concepts using playing cards, living safely and creative expression. These experiences have been planned directly from children's interests and abilities.



Krystine, Natt, Netty and Molly.
preschool@yarrunga.com.au

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

What a wonderful month we have had in the Junior Preschool room. We have been building relationships, becoming familiar with the routines of the room and developing a secure sense of belonging in our new learning and care environment. Many of our families have returned their *Voices from Home* sheets which has been wonderful to help us get to know your child and help them to settle them into their new room. If you have not completed this form, could you please do so and return it as soon as possible.

We have been receiving quite a few family photos that the children have taken great pride and comfort in. This visual display has also provided a wonderful opportunity for class members to practice their expressive language skills, as they share with peers and educators about the people in the portraits. If you have not done so yet, you are more than welcome to still contribute to our family space.

You will soon be receiving weekly emails containing a photo collage of our *Floor Book* and our program so that you can see what your child has been learning during their time at Yarrunga. You are also welcome to come into the room at any time and view these. We are still waiting on email addresses from a few families so as soon as you provide these, we will be able to include you in our program group.

Over the coming weeks, we will be seeking Expressions of Interest for families who would be willing and eager to participate in brief Parent - Teacher / Educator meetings to collaboratively set learning goals for your child for the first semester of 2020.

We are hoping to get out and about in our community where possible to extend on the children's understanding of our local community. This will commence on Wednesday 12th February, as several older members of our class will be accompanying members of the Preschool and Nursery Room on a walking excursion down to the *Albury Library Museum*, to take part in the *Hairy Maclary* exhibition.

This past month the children have been very interested in exploring their creativity through a variety of activities including pasting, gluing and playdough and much more. We will continue to extend on this, as we promote children's language, fine motor and creative skills.

We are also relishing the opportunity to be able to spend time outside and have been doing so when the weather conditions allow. As the temperatures have been quite warm, we are using water play to keep us cool, as well as exploring sensory and mathematical concepts. Please ensure that your child has a seasonally appropriate change of clothing in their bags, should they require it.



Alana, Chrissy and Emma

juniorpreschool@yarrunga.com.au



Veg-loaded Rissoles

Ingredients: 1 bunch kale stems and separated and chopped leaves, 500g beef mince, $\frac{1}{2}$ finely chopped onion, 1 grated carrot, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup chopped flat-leaf parsley, 2 tbs tomato paste, 1 free range egg yolk and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup breadcrumbs.

Method: Place kale stems in a large bowl and cover with boiling water - set aside for 5 minutes, drain well and pat dry, finally chop. Combine mince, onion, carrot, parsley, tomato paste, egg yolk and breadcrumbs in a bowl, season, add kale stems and mix, shape into 6 rissoles. Heat pan over medium heat, spray with oil, cook for 5 minutes on either side or until golden and cooked through.

Educational Leader:

During January educators have been reflecting on their documentation styles in relation to how their daily floor book entries are presented for children and families. At our February staff meeting we shared our floor books and celebrated how authentically each room has been able to capture children's learning whilst demonstrating an ongoing cycle of observation, analysis, planning and evaluation. Educators have been inspired by their children's engagement in helping to visualize what they know and can do (photographs, drawings, discussions). We also welcome your feedback on this hands-on approach to sharing our day. Please keep in mind that whilst our Floor books capture group play and learning, they may not always depict a photo or comment directly relating to every child in the group. This is because educators have made a professional judgement and documented the learning elsewhere, for example in the child's Individual Learning Journal to demonstrate the depth of engagement and learning that is taking place.

Quality Improvement Plan Update:

We are currently working towards the goals below, which are highlighted in our Quality Improvement Plan.

Plan No. 1 – Promoting a positive organisational culture and professional learning community

- Our Goal – A mentoring system has been implemented and we are aligning professional development with educator goals

Plan No. 2 – Assessment and Planning

- Our Goal – We have reintroduced Floor books with the aim of making the planning cycle clearer for families and more representative of children's voices

Plan No. 4 – Upgrade of Service Facilities

- Our Goal – We continue Yarrunga's upgrade by researching quotes for landscaping and incorporating a Physical Acknowledgement of Country into our upgrade (see below)

Plan No. 23 – Physical Acknowledgement of Country

We are developing a Quality Improvement display which will be in our Meeting Room adjoining the office area, hoping to make our goals more family friendly.

Thankyou,
Krystine

If parents have any concerns or complaints, please follow the attached *Grievance Policy*

Grievance Policy

1 Informal Resolution of Grievances

Initially any grievance raised will be approached in an informal manner. (Informal Procedure for Resolution of Grievance). If required, an appointment time with the Centre Director and/or

President of the Management Committee

Kathryn Chandler (phone 0457 717 624) to discuss the grievance can be arranged.

2 Formal Resolution of Grievances

2.1 In the event informal processes are unable to be used or informal processes fail to achieve a satisfactory outcome for any of the parties involved in the grievance, the formal process will then be used. Determining whether the grievance will be handled formally is at the discretion of the Director/President of Management Committee based on feedback from the concerned parties at the conclusion of the informal stage (Formal Procedure for Resolution of Grievance).

2.2 When a formal resolution of grievance is pursued, all interactions must be documented by the Director (Complaint form), signed (by Director and or parties involved), and a copy given to each party concerned.

2.3 Any allegation that the safety, health or wellbeing of a child has been compromised, or relating to a staff member, the details of action taken in response to a complaint will be recorded and kept in a confidential place.

3 Regulatory Authority – ACECQA

3.1 The Nominated Supervisor or Certified Supervisor will notify (within 24 hours of the complaint being made) ACECQA of a complaint that alleges

- a serious incident has occurred or is occurring while a child is being educated and cared for by Yarrunga.
- the National Law and/or National Regulations have been contravened.

The required Forms to be completed are;

Notification of Complaints and Incidents (Other than serious Incidents) as required by the Education & Care Services National Regulations – through the National Quality Agenda IT System (NQA IT System). Log in to access the portal.

A scanned copy of the written complaint will be uploaded prior to submitting the form electronically.



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NO FOOD FROM HOME! A reminder that we have children attending Yarrunga with severe allergies to egg, dairy, nut and sesame. Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. We want to do our best to keep those at risk safe.

Please refrain from bringing food from home.

If you are bringing treats to share for your child's birthday, please check with room educators for allergies prior.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

The Department of Education has provided us with the following advice in regard to Novel Coronavirus.

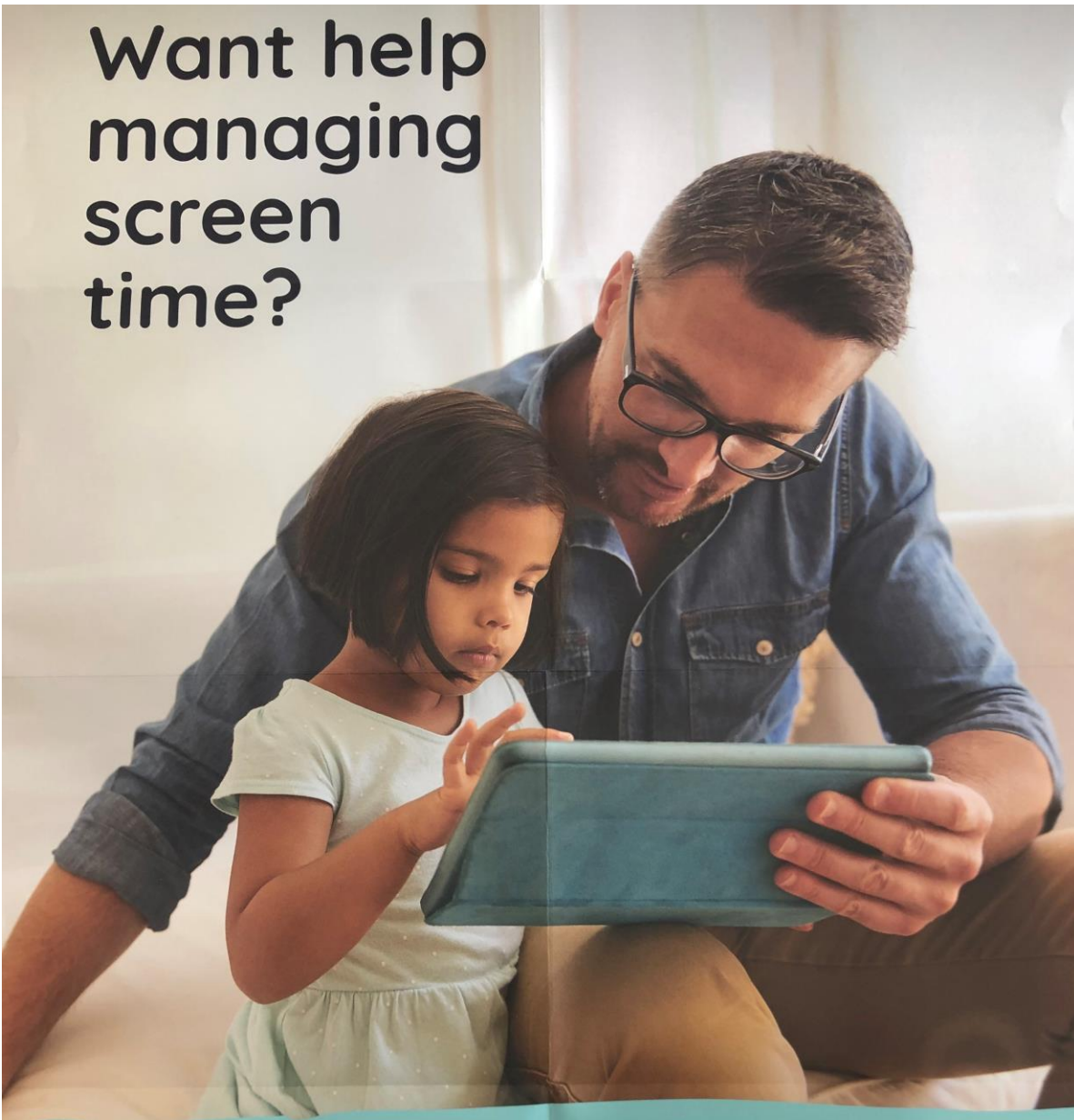
"In line with this updated position as of Sunday 2 February 2020 our advice on exclusion for children and staff is as follows:

- Any child or staff member arriving in Australia **from 1 February 2020**, who has been in mainland China or transited through mainland China (not just Hubei province), is excluded from early childhood education and care services for a period of 14 days from the date they left mainland China as the Novel Coronavirus' incubation period can be as long as two weeks.
- Any confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus will be excluded until they are medically cleared to return.
- Close contact* of a confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus will be excluded for 14 days since last contact with the confirmed case.
- Our previous advice remains for any child or staff member arriving **before 1 February** - that children or staff who were in Hubei province are excluded from early childhood education and care services for 14 days, and those who were in the rest of China are requested to not attend for a period of 14 days after leaving China.

*Close contact is defined as living in the same household, 15 minutes face-to-face contact with a person with confirmed coronavirus in any setting, or sharing a closed space with a person with confirmed coronavirus for more than 2 hours.

NSW Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in New South Wales. Advice about not attending early childhood education and care services would be provided to these close contacts"

Want help managing screen time?



Find out more at: esafety.gov.au/early-years

eSafety
 **Early Years**
Online safety for under 5s

