

DATES FOR THE DIARY
February 2021:
 Management Committee
 Meeting Wednesday 17th @
 7.30pm

COVID-19 Practices at Yarrunga

Physical Distancing	Hand Hygiene	Unwell, Stay Home
		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of separated Sign-in stations • Observe pedestrian pathways • Avoid congestion at gates and doorways • If possible, limit attendance to one parent/carer for pickup/drop off 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitise hands prior to operating front gate and sign in iPad. Should you cough/sneeze/touch your face, please re-sanitise • Assist your child in washing their hands on arrival to room and prior to engaging in play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child is unwell, please keep them home • Please support our Educators when the decision is made to send a child home as it is made to protect the health and wellbeing of all



Congratulations to our Yarrunga families that have welcomed a new addition to their families: -

Jess, Tyler, Teddy who welcomed a baby boy and brother - Morrison.
 Kirsty, Lachie, Thea and Ally welcomed a baby boy and brother - Jake

Drop off at Yarrunga.

Reminder that children and families are not able to enter the premises until 8am due to licensing requirements. Please wait outside of the gates until then.

Thank you, we appreciate your co-operation.



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 \$4 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

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK!

How can we make our newsletter better?

What information would you like us to include?

Call us on: (02) 60217597

Or EMAIL admin@yarrunga.com.au



YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS



Yarrunga can now be followed
on Facebook and Instagram



Yarrunga Policies:

Just a reminder to families and for all our new family's information - our policies can be accessed on our website www.yarrunga.com.au and the password is 2640



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.

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

Preschool Ponderings - February

Wow! What an explosive and reactive first few weeks we have had here in the Preschool Room to start 2021! ... Science, I mean with *science*!



Kicking off our first morning back and revisiting multiple times in the weeks to follow,



Pre-schoolers took their sand creation skills up a notch and erected a series of volcanoes, as they problem-solved how to improve the structural integrity of their designs by combining water with the sand. When offered the opportunity to make these come to life and make them "real", class members relished the chance! What started as simple kitchen chemistry evolved into a fun science project learning about colour mixing as we got inventive with the colour and shades of the lava!

It has been wonderful to welcome back old friends, as well as meet and introduce new friends into the Preschool class, with many Juniors transitioning to the Preschool group (whilst remaining in their learning environment from last year). We also warmly welcomed several new learners and their families into our class for 2021.



As children get older, their play will typically increasingly in complexity and become more social. It is highly entertaining to observe and be a part of this! One popular recurring theme is families, which we will extend on this month, having children share about what makes their family special to them. To support this, we are asking for families to please provide a family photo to display in our room. This will embed a sense of belonging in the learning environment and will also assist us in settling children throughout the day if they are unsettled and experiencing separation anxiety.

Exploring dress-ups with lengths of different shaped, sized, and textured fabrics has also been popular. This led to us creating our own



wearable art, beaded jewellery! This fun challenge was certainly an exercise in focus and persistence, as fine motor muscles were utilised to hold and manipulate the beads and the thread.



Water play has also been utilised on the warmer days, as we create a lovely ocean-inspired play space, adding sprinklers and our water tub to the sandpit. This type of sensory play experience is one reason why we request children bring a change of seasonally appropriate clothes every day they attend.

Until the next time,

Alana, Natt and Robyn

preschool@yarrunga.com.au

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS



In the Junior Preschool room, we have had quite a smooth start to the year with children and educators building relationships and a sense of belonging in their new environments.

Opening the gates between the top and bottom yards in the morning has also promoted a settled start to the day as children have been able to choose where and with whom they want to play, allowing them choice and autonomy over their learning.

Our preschool friends have enjoyed play and social interactions in our room as we have in theirs which has allowed greater scope in planning for spontaneous learning and intentional teaching.



At the moment there has been a lot of interest in sensory play activities including fingerpainting, water play, making mud and playdough.

Building on the interests of some of our children we have also been exploring how to use glue sticks and scissors safely.



Ball play was initiated when children asked for bats to play different games and watching an ever-increasing desire to push and pull heavy items saw wheelbarrows and prams added to our outdoor environments. This led to an investigation about speed (all relating to Cause & Effect theories).

To extend on this we are hoping to get out the back of Yarrunga to ride bikes and scooters on the pathway to extend on this interest.



Krystine, Chrissy, Julie, Deb, Tash and Jodie

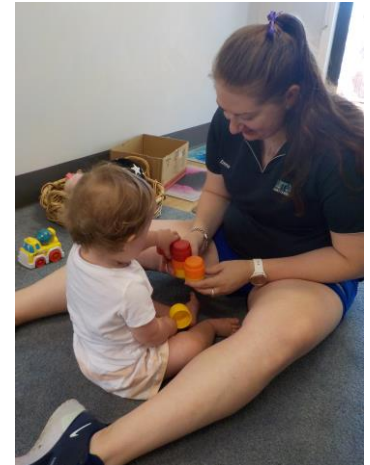
juniorschool@yarrunga.com.au

NURSERY NEWS



We have had a very busy start to the year, settling in lots of new friends in January. They have all adapted well to their new environment at Yarrunga, considering they are used to being at home throughout the first year of their lives. We have been loving getting to know all the new children and their families, along with our returning families.

The children have been busy exploring all our room has to offer. They are engaged in all aspects of play as they move around our room with confidence. Some of the favourite things in our room have been, 'We're going on a bear hunt' story, water play and lots of singing and dancing to music.



We are starting to gather times and days where families will be available for our 10-minute parent/educator meetings. These are not compulsory, but to set goals for your children for the first half of the year. Please let us know your preferences so we can organise staffing arrangements.

Please remember to pack extra clothes as we are learning independence skills as the children feed themselves or just have lots of fun during water play.

Emma, Nicole, Lesley, and Serena

nursery@yarrunga.com.au



Ingredients - 350g Woolworths penne rigate, 600g RSPCA approved Chicken sausages, olive oil cooking spray, 40g sachet French onion soup and 1 cup shredded mozzarella

Method - Cook pasta in a large pan of boiling salted water for 10 minutes, drain. Meanwhile, heat a large overproof frying pan over medium-high heat. Working with one sausage at a time, squeeze meat from casing and shape into rough balls, spray with oil and fry for 8 minutes, turning frequently, or until golden and cooked through. Stir soup mix with reserved pasta water until dissolved. Add soup mixture and pasta to pan with meatballs and stir well to coat. Bring to boil. Presheat grill on high, scatter cheese over meatballs and pasta, season with pepper and grill for 5 minutes or until cheese melts.

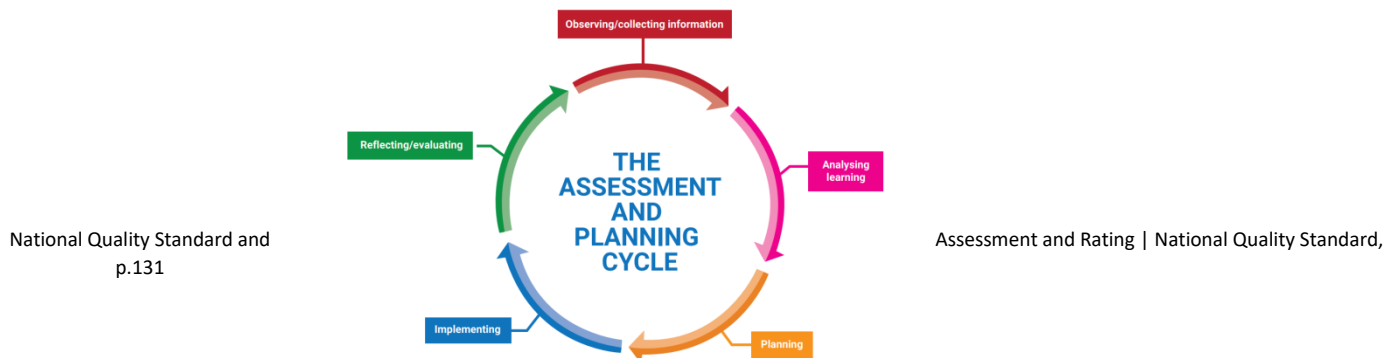
Educational Leader:

Welcome to a new year of play, learning and relationship building.



How we plan for children's learning and development

Adopting the practice of mixed age group play and learning by sharing the top and bottom yards and 2020 orientation visits have both helped to create inclusive spaces and develop a sense of belonging and security for children. We believe that this most important sense of *belonging* emerges from allowing children the freedom to be themselves; to play with whom, and where they want. Viewing children as active participants and decision makers in their own learning requires Yarrunga's teachers and educators to respect and work with each child's unique qualities and abilities. We plan for and extend learning based on what children know and can do using the Early Years Assessment and Planning Cycle:



The Framework supports a model of decision-making as an ongoing cycle. This involves teachers and educators drawing on their professional knowledge, including their in-depth knowledge of each child. Working in partnership with families, educators use the Early Year Learning Framework (DEEWR, 2009) to guide their planning for children's learning:

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

To assist in developing individual learning plans for all children room teams are offering Parent/Educator meetings during February. We value your input into our planning cycles as you are your child's first and foremost teacher!

****Please know that any input you have into our planning processes is ALWAYS welcome and will be used to identify areas of strength and address where improvements can be made!***

QIP Update:

During January I have been focusing on developing a sense of belonging for all children by observing daily routines and educator/child interactions using our Philosophy, Programming Statement and the ECA Code of Ethics as lenses to formulate guidance.

Krystine

Parent & Relationship Education Programs –Term 1, 2021

(bookings essential for all programs)

Program	Venue	Date	Time	Phone:
Positive Parenting Telephone Service (PPTS)	Free call telephone service	Ongoing	day & evening appointments	1800 880 660
WODONGA				
Tuning in to Kids emotionally intelligent parenting (2-10 years)	Gateway Health Training room (G10) 155 High St, Wodonga	Saturdays 27th February to 27th March 2021	10am - 12pm	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888
Tuning in to Teens Emotionally intelligent parenting (10+ years)	Gateway Health Training Room (G10) 155 High St, Wodonga	Tuesdays 23rd February to 30th March 2021	6pm - 8pm	
Bringing Up Great Kids	Gateway Health Training Room (G10) 155 High St, Wodonga	Thursdays 25th February to 1st April 2021	10am - 12pm	
Mother Goose (0-2 years)	Gateway Health Conference Room (B1) 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 3rd February to 31st March 2021	10:30am -11:30am	
ONLINE via ZOOM				
Emotion Coaching Connecting With Our Teens (10+) (2 hour workshop)	Online via Zoom (invite via email)	Tuesday 19th January 2021	10am - 12pm	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888

Please note that registrations for group programs is essential as spots are limited due to Covid-19 safety protocols. Please contact our intake team on (02) 6022 8888 for any questions or to register your interest.



Grievance Policy

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

Genna Richter (phone 0428109382) 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.