

yarrunga

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

MARCH NEWSLETTER 2020

DATES FOR THE DIARY MARCH 2020

Management Committee
Meeting Wednesday 18th
February @7.30pm
Crazy Hair Week - 16th -
20th March
½ day Gold Cup Public Holiday
- Friday 20th March
Friday 3rd April - Bingo
Fundraising at Thurgoona
Golf Club



ALBURY GOLD CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2020

YARRUNGA WILL CLOSE AT 12 MIDDAY

ALL CHILDREN MUST BE COLLECTED
PRIOR TO 12 MIDDAY

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

Hello everyone,

The nursery/Toddler room has been exploring culture, Jung eun brought in her traditional Korean Hanbok for the children to try on, this is traditional dress that the children wear on their first birthdays or for special occasions and we took photos. We now have a beautiful wall display in our room come and have a look!! The Wilson family is going to make pretzels with us on Friday 20th march.



We have also been able to take a few of our children on the frequent library excursion with the other rooms to see Hairy Maclary this has been great to get out and about in the community. We thank all our families that have been able to go on the excursions with us or meet us there.

Please continue to send in family photos for our wall display and return your all about me sheets please.

If you are not receiving our room newsletter with our weekly program each week, please let one of us know your email address to add you in.

Lesley is now back to full time hours in the nursery.

Thanks



Nicole, Lesley, Jungeun ,Serena and Belle

Nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

During February and continuing into March we have been fortunate to participate in the Lynley Dodd exhibition at the Albury Library Museum featuring Hairy Maclary and his friends. Our friends in the Junior preschool and Nursery/toddler groups have also joined us for fun-filled mornings including storytelling, exhibition activities, picnics in QE11 Square and (most popular) a ride home on the town bus. We have included follow up learning in our preschool program including rhyming word games, sound recognition and picture sequencing. A big thank you to everyone for bringing their favourite Hairy Maclary story books in to share with the group. We can see children's interest continuing as we plan more visits to the exhibition and thank the friendly staff with a 'Certificate of Appreciation' to document how children have benefited from this wonderful community connection.



Jesse's bantams were also a great hit with children. We learned what they eat and drink and how Jesse cares for them. This has built on what we know about other animals such as our pet yabby 'Hermie'. After our pet shop and library visits, and dog safety awareness incursion we are keen to learn more about the interdependence between plants, animals and people. On Monday 30th March, we have a planned excursion to Wonga Wetlands to explore nature and local culture further.



We have also been focusing on specific Fundamental Movement experiences after noticing an increasing interest in climbing, jumping, balancing, swinging and ball games. Circuits have been arranged at the back of Yarrunga for children to practice these skills as well as weaving in and out of cones and group games introduced by some of our pre-schoolers – *What's the time Mr Wolf* and *Crocodile, crocodile, may we cross the river*. Both games also introduce concepts of counting and colour recognition.



Children have been focusing on engineering and building concepts by creating amazing Sculptures of towers, channels, homes and structures they are scaffolding their play and learning to be innovators of our future. With illness season approaching we have been teaching children best hygiene practices to reduce the spread of germs with Mr. Handy the Octopus hand washing guide.



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

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

Wow, how quickly this month has rolled around!

Over the past weeks, we have had several small group excursions to the Albury Library Museum to participate in the Lynley Dodd exhibition. Audiences were captivated during the story times and enjoyed being able to create basic art and craft works stemming from the characters contained in the iconic stories shared. After our first visit, a unanimous teacher / educator decision to travel home on the bus saw many excited little people, relishing this new and sometimes unfamiliar mode of transportation! A picnic lunch in the park, consuming sandwiches and fruit, as well as playing games have also been popular, as children across all three rooms participate together.



The weather has certainly changed, with temperatures making a (most pleasant!) drop. This means that layers of clothing will most likely be stripped off during the day. It would be helpful if children's clothes and shoes are labelled with their name, so if they do get mixed up, we can return them to their rightful owners. While we do endeavour to ensure that children's clothes and shoes go into their own bags, this is not always possible, especially if children access their bags themselves.

One simple way that we encourage autonomy for the children in our learning program is by giving them the option of whether they wear their shoes throughout the day, or not. Not only does it encourage independence and self-help skills (including dressing and undressing and caring for their belongings), there are also many physiological benefits of barefoot play. Some of these include:



- Improved posture as children keep their heads upright, relying on feedback that they sense from the ground. This also fosters balance skills, as they trip less, from looking down less often.
- Foot muscles and ligaments are enhanced, as the arch is strengthened. This improves proprioception (awareness of where we are, in relation to the space around us). This again aids in balance skills.
- Ill-fitting shoes can force a foot to conform to its shape and size, rather than allowing the foot to grow and develop naturally. A human foot does not contain the 28 bones in each, until late teens!
- Shoes can restrict natural age-appropriate movements - running; climbing; jumping; skipping; crawling..., especially if their soles are too rigid, hampering mobility.

Of course, this is dependent on a lot of factors and in certain instances, shoes will be actively encouraged or even mandatory, including excursions and poor weather conditions.

Just a reminder that due to allergies and anaphylaxis, food from home is not to be brought in. If you are wishing for your Junior Preschooler to celebrate their birthday here, please see one of the room educators to discuss the matter and relevant health-needs of the children in here. We love being able to celebrate special occasions together and the children certainly enjoy the treats that come with it!



Speaking of food... cooking continues to be a persistent theme in children's social dramatic play scenarios, both inside, at the Home Corner and outside in the sand pit and whilst engaged in water play. We are looking to extend this and include real-world cooking and food prep experiences for our learners to participate in. If there are any recipes that you would like to provide for the class to bake for an afternoon tea (cakes / muffins; biscuits; slices etc), please feel free to bring them in our email the room directly. We excitedly welcome your input!

Thanks to the families who have taken us up on the opportunity for teacher / educator meetings. We hope these have been helpful in setting goals and building reciprocal relationships. If you are still wanting to take advantage of this, please chat to your child's Primary Carer to arrange a suitable time.

Alana, Chrissy and Emma

juniorpreschool@yarrunga.com.au

Educational Leader:

February has seen all curriculum groups out and about in our local community with ongoing excursions to the Lynley Dodd (*Hairy Maclary*) exhibition at the Albury Library Museum. We have participated in this wonderful learning experience in small groups comprising Nursery/Toddler, Junior Preschool and Preschool children, and feedback about the mixed age-grouping has been exceptionally positive regarding siblings spending time together, social learning and relationship building, peer empathy and most of all FUN! Our walks and picnic time in QE11 square have also provided opportunity for family involvement as some of us have spotted mums and dads at their workplaces and others have been able to join in on excursion activities. One of the major benefits of participating in our Community Connections Program as a group of mixed ages is the capacity for all children to experience greater variety in the places we can visit through the combining of our educational resources and staff. I must mention here how exciting the ride back to Yarrunga on a town bus was, particularly for our very young students who would not be able to do this without the support of more experienced peers and their educators.



Quality Improvement Plan Update:

Plan No. 23 – Physical Acknowledgement of Country

We are moving forward with our goal of demonstrating respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in our physical environment by developing a plan to co-create an artwork with local Wiradjuri community member/s as our Physical Acknowledgement of Country. We understand that making our respect visible in the learning environment through the incorporation of meaningful, relevant and culturally appropriate art reinforces our work toward reconciliation. It also makes our intentions and actions clear to our children, parents and the broader community.

As we are still in the planning phase of the project, we want to ensure that our Physical Acknowledgment is representative of all voices. Initial thoughts are based around children's interactions with their environments and this relationship with identity. We want to include the River, Tree (synonymous with Yarrunga for many years as well as the life blood of local Aboriginal culture), plants and animals. It has also paramount that children can be involved in a hands-on approach.

We appreciate your input/feedback. Please let me know your thoughts <mailto:preschool@yarrunga.com.au>

Thankyou,
Krystine

Korean Pancake

Ingredients

2 cups flour

2 eggs (beaten)

1 1/2 cups water

1 bunch scallions (green and white parts; halved lengthwise and cut into 2- to 3-inch lengths)

1 teaspoon salt

3 tablespoons oil (for cooking)

Method: Gather ingredients for Korean pancakes, mix all ingredients and let sit for about 10 minutes. Check the consistency before cooking. The batter should be a little bit runnier than American pancake batter so that the pa jun cooks quickly and evenly.

Heat a sauté pan over medium heat and coat it with a thin layer of oil.

Pour batter to fill the pan in a thin layer (about 1/3 of your batter should fill a regular sauté pan). Korean pancake batter cook for 3 to 4 minutes until set and golden brown on the bottom. Turn over the pancake with the help of a spatula or plate (or flip it in the air if you are good at that).

Finish by cooking 1 to 2 more minutes, adding more oil if necessary.

Serve with soy sauce or a spicy dipping sauce.

Tip

You'll get the best results with this recipe if you look specifically for so-called "Asian chives," which are thicker than regular skinny chives, but thinner than typical green onions. Pa is the Korean word for scallion and jun (or jeon) means any food that is coated with a sort of batter and pan-fried. You might also see it written in English as pajeon or pachon.

Recipe Variations

You can add sliced red chili peppers and white onions to pa jun.

Carrots, zucchini, mushrooms, and kimchi are also popular additions to Korean scallion pancakes.

You can also make pa jun using the ready-made Korean pancake batter (buchimgae) from a Korean or Asian grocery store. You just add 3/4 cup water to every 1 cup of dry mix and any vegetables you wish.



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.



©2010 BLOGOGRAPHY.COM

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.

BINGO FUNDRAISER!

On Friday 3rd April Yarrunga is holding a fundraiser to raise funds for a local mother who is battling stage 4 metastatic Cholangiocarcinoma- a rare, aggressive and difficult to treat form of liver cancer. A new understanding of what drives Cholangiocarcinoma is leading to advances in targeted therapy, including an oral inhibitor drug, Ivosidenib. Ivosidenib is accessible in Australia but comes at a prohibitive cost of \$56,000 (AUD) per 30 days, or \$1870 per day!

We want to help the family in funding the initial 4-month trial of this treatment.

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN

When: Friday 3rd April.

6.30pm

Where: Thurgoona Golf Club

Cost: \$15 per ticket

PRIZES!

SILENT AUCTION!

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Kids Promotions and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Present

Play School

Concerts Let's Play Together



Come and see Australia's favourite children's television show
in a brand NEW LIVE SHOW

MARCH

Fri 6 • Hoppers Crossing
Sat 7 • Essendon
Sun 8 • Caulfield
Tue 10 • Mornington
Wed 11 • Eltham
Thu 12 • Preston
Fri 13 • Mooroolbark
Sat 14 • Essendon

MARCH

Sun 15 • Caulfield
Fri 20 • Sth Morang
Sat 21 • Williamstown
Sun 22 • Ringwood
Fri 27 • Bacchus Marsh
Sat 28 • Geelong West
Sun 29 • Ballarat
Mon 30 • Bendigo
Tue 31 • Shepparton

APRIL

Wed 1 • Barooga
Thu 2 • Wodonga
Sat 4 • Box Hill
Sun 5 • Cranbourne East
MAY

Sat 16 • Warragul
Sun 17 • Sale
Mon 18 • Bairnsdale

BOOK NOW www.kidspromotions.com.au

Phone Kids Promotions on 1300 788 028

CRAZY HAIR WEEK!!

16th- 20th March

Bring a gold coin donation &
your craziest hairstyle!



Leukaemia Foundation

**WORLD'S
GREATEST
SHAVE**

COVID-19 – UPDATED advice 4 March 2020

4th March 2020

The Department of Education has provided this updated advice in relation to the COVID-19 (previously referred to as Coronavirus). In particular, this advice adds requirements for children or staff who have been in Iran.

Updated advice from the NSW Government for parents, services and affected staff is:

- Any student or staff member who has been in, or transited through, mainland China (not just Hubei province) or Iran is excluded from work, school or child care services for 14 days from the date they left mainland China or Iran (as the COVID-19 incubation period can be as long as two weeks).
- Any confirmed case of COVID-19 will be excluded until they are medically cleared to return.
- Close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be excluded for 14 days since last contact with the confirmed case.

The Ministry of Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in Australia. Advice about not attending early childhood and childcare services would be provided to these close contacts by the Ministry of Health.

Consistent with current guidelines, staff and children who are unwell with respiratory illness should remain at home until symptoms resolve.

PROTECTING AGAINST COVID-19 – How can I protect myself/ my family?

The best way to protect yourself is the same as you would against any respiratory infection.

Practice good hygiene by:

- making sure to clean your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand rub
- cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with tissue or a flexed elbow
- avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.

Make sure you stay home if you are sick.