

DATES FOR THE DIARY

SEPTEMBER 2021:

- Management Committee Meeting Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7.30pm.
- Children's photographs 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>
- Footy colours week 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>.



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2021



Yarrunga can now be followed on Facebook and Instagram

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](mailto:admin@yarrunga.com.au)



For the week 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> September we will again be participating in 'Footy Colours Day' supporting children with cancer.

In that week, please dress your child/ren in their favorite AFL, NRL, rugby union or soccer jumper or guernsey and use the link below to make your donation.

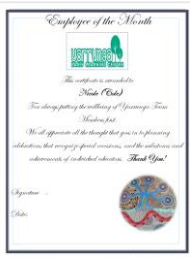
<https://footy-colours-day-2021.raisely.com/donate>



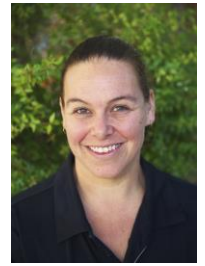
**NO FOOD FROM HOME!** A reminder that we have children attending Yarrunga with severe allergies to egg, dairy, nut, and sesame. Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. We want to do our best to keep those at risk safe. Please refrain from bringing food from home.

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

In recognition of the dedication to Early Childhood Education and Care that all Yarrunga educators and staff exhibit every day we have collectively decided to award a certificate for outstanding contribution each month to celebrate professional achievement.



We proudly announce that this month's award goes to our Yarrunga team member Nicole for always putting the wellbeing of Yarrunga Team members first. We appreciate all the thought that goes into planning celebrations that recognise special occasions and the milestones and achievements of individual educators. *WELL DONE 'COLE!*



## Overnight Oats



- 3 cups quick oats
- 5 cups coconut milk (or any milk preference)
- 1tbs cinnamon
- 1tbs vanilla extract
- 2 tbs maple syrup
- 1tb chia seeds

Mix all ingredients together and place in fridge overnight.  
Add in anything of your choice, sultanas, berries, banana etc.  
Either eat hot or cold



**Yarrunga Policies and Procedures currently being reviewed are:**

- Child Protection Policy
- Inclusion, Diversity and Anti Bias Policy
- Family orientation procedure
- Discrimination, harassment and anti- bullying procedure
- Excursion Policy

Please let us know if you would like a copy of any of these to review.

## Children's photographs.



Yarrunga's 2021 children's photographs will be done by Janene Whitty Photography. Photographs will take place from the 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September. Every attempt will be made to photograph your child on the **FIRST** day that they attend for the week. An email has been sent with the order form if you haven't yet placed your order.

## PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

### Preschool ponderings...

Wow, what another unusual month we've had! It seems that we're saying that more and more often lately. It's been a marvel however, how resilient children are in these conditions. Aside from a few comments about lockdowns and "rona virus", class members are in remarkably good spirits and are perfect role models for just gettin' on with gettin' on.

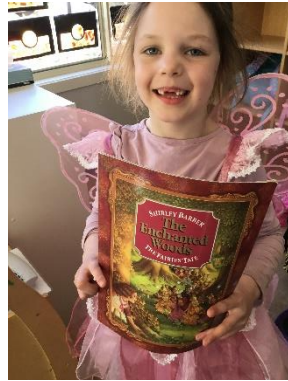
Over the past few weeks we have had observed several national events. We celebrated Science Week (14<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> August) with experiments undertaken to investigate chemical reactions; colour mixing; floating and sinking; and physics.



These have been revisited several times since, with several being expanded upon just this week. When colour mixing evolved into a discussion about lava lamps, Natt researched an experiment to make our own, whilst Alana concocted a basic one she'd created several times in the past, using the density of fluids and surface tension to build one.



Hot on the heels of this was Book Week (21<sup>st</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> August). Preschoolers were given the opportunity to dress up as their favourite literary characters. Show and Tell was solely book-themed, with participants relishing the opportunity to bring in and share their favourite stories and treasured books. Alana thoroughly this too, reading texts to the class that she loved when she was their age! We are looking to extend on this with more dress-up events later in the year.



This week Natt has been speaking to group members about RUOK Day, generating ideas together about mental health and resilience, and how we can check in on our friends. This has led to some wonderful conversations, further extending on our work in terms of emotional intelligence earlier in the year.



Wishing everyone a happy, safe, and enjoyable coming month. Looking forward to welcoming back class friends in the coming week. Take care of yourself, and each other.

Alana, Natt, Robyn, Jay

[preschool@yarrunga.com.au](mailto:preschool@yarrunga.com.au)

## Educational Leader and NQS:

### A snapshot about Reconciliation at Yarrunga in 2021:

Thank you for your thoughtful responses to our Facebook Poll last month. Seeking input from our families and community about how we can improve the way we incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into authentic curriculum experiences for all children ensures our goals are reflective of your values and our local community context.

Feedback strongly supported following actions:

- Sharing authentic teaching resources (and links) between Yarrunga and home.
- Forwarding information to families about local Indigenous organisations, sites and ceremonies of significance, picnic grounds and walking tracks, calendar of local and broader community events; and
- Inviting Elders or Traditional Owners to deliver Welcome to Country at significant events.

Our Reconciliation Action Team will use these responses, along with input from staff reflection surveys to develop a Vision and supporting actions for Yarrunga's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

### Collaborative partnerships with families and communities:

An idea from one of our wonderful families about how we can include children who are not currently attending Yarrunga due to COVID-19 restrictions has been so well received by educators that it has inspired us to create a learning resource pack with ideas from each of our education and care rooms for use at home. Please feel free to collect a resource pack from the office. We understand the additional pressures that working from home, home schooling and providing engaging experiences for your younger children can be. The *WELLBEING* of our families is paramount and if you have any suggestions about how we can support you and your children please don't hesitate to contact us. We aim to add different resources to the learning packs on a regular basis.

On behalf of myself and all educators at Yarrunga we thank you for considering us on Educator's Day. The beautiful flowers, lovely comments and yummy treats certainly made us feel very special indeed.



### Quality Improvement Update:

We now have a condensed version of our Quality Improvement Goals framed in the foyer. This compliments the wall display in our meeting room which educators use to make regular updates which includes comments from families, community and colleagues. Please feel free to have a look at this display and make suggestions. Your input is always valued and used as a platform for further improvements.



## Planning for Quality Improvement 2021

March 2021

# 7

Effective leadership builds and promotes a positive organisational culture and professional learning community

Governance and leadership

**Plan No. 1 – Facilitating educator engagement to build and promote a positive organisational culture**

### Actions

- Use Staff Satisfaction Surveys to inform educator goals
- Link Educational Leader Goals with educator's professional goals determined during staff appraisals
- Implement strategies from 'Engagement Masterclass' during mentoring and meeting sessions

March 2021

Program and practice is Child-Centred

The environment is inclusive, promotes competence and supports exploration and play-based learning

# 1

Educational program and practice

**Plan No. 2 – Planning and implementing engaging learning environments**

### Actions

- Staff Meeting reflections on indoor / outdoor environments  
Provisions  
Planning / Evaluating / Follow Ups  
Aesthetics  
Children's Spaces
- Environment Audit  
Set goals based on Audit results and consultation with families and community

# 3

Physical environment

## NURSERY NEWS

We hope all our families are staying safe during this lockdown. We would love to see what you have all been up to on the Facebook page, we miss you all 😊

Our numbers have been a little lower, so we have been able to spend that extra time developing our program and extending on our children's voices. We have also continued transition visits for our two-year-old's, and they are really enjoying their time in the junior preschool room.

Can you please pack extra clothing for your children. Layers work well in this weather as sometimes they get a little hot we can add or remove layers depending on the weather.

We thank all the families from Yarrunga for the special gifts and messages for Educator's Day we had a wonderful day celebrating what we all do best spending it with the children, families, and staff here at Yarrunga.

### PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING AND ITEMS

We can't wait to see you all back soon



Emma, Nicole, Lesley, Serena and Jung eun  
[nursery@yarrunga.com.au](mailto:nursery@yarrunga.com.au)

## JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

It has been very busy this month in the room as we have started our transition visits, it has been nice to have had some of our nursery friends visit our room. During the visits the children have been learning our daily routine and becoming familiar with different educators in preparation for next year.

Our older children have been visiting the Preschool room with a familiar educator for transition days. On their days in the Preschool room they have been a part of the preschool routines and have participated in small group activities.

With the lovely weather our children have been having lots of outdoor play and they are really enjoying managed risk-taking while they build and strengthen their muscles on the sensory swings, monkey bars, balance beams and wobbly rope ladder. The children have been attempting and perfecting lots of new skills in this area, it has been great to see them branch out of their comfort zones.

The pully carts have been very popular in our outdoor play, with the children using them to cart many different things around the yard including the babies, dinosaurs, big and small blocks. As you probably know at this age the children like to cart and carry anything and everything around.




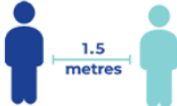


Picnic morning teas and lunches have also been lovely as we make the most of the beautiful spring weather.

Book week was a success also, with lots of children either dressing up each day or bringing a book into Yarrunga to share amongst their friends, which led to the children wanting to make puppets of all kinds.





Krystine, Deb, Chrissy, Tash & Jodie  
[juniorschool@yarrunga.com.au](mailto:juniorschool@yarrunga.com.au)



|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>Wear a Mask</b></p>          | <p><b>QR Code Check-In</b></p>  | <p><b>Unwell, Stay Home</b></p>                              |
| <p><b>Physical Distancing</b></p>  | <p><b>Hand Hygiene</b></p>      | <p><b>Thank you for helping keep our community safe</b></p>  |

Please help us practice....

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Hand Hygiene</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sanitise hands prior to operating front gate. Should you cough/sneeze/touch your face, please re-sanitise</li><li>• Assist your child in washing their hands on arrival to room and prior to engaging in play</li></ul>  |
|--|---|

## 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.