

DATES FOR THE DIARY

February 2023:

Management Committee

Meeting Wednesday 22nd

@ 7.30pm

yarrunga

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2023



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



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

Policies/Procedure/Reflection being reviewed this month: Summary of changes to EYLF, Flag Protocol Procedure, Quality Improvement Plan, Revised RAP and the Curriculum Policy.



NO FOOD FROM HOME! A reminder that we have children attending Yarrunga with severe allergies to 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.

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.

CHILDREN'S T-SHIRTS, JUMPERS & HATS

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. We now have a supply of children's hats for \$20 each. Please see Deb or Karen



Congratulations to our Yarrunga family that have welcomed and baby boy and brother - Eleanor, Nicholas, and Audrey - Archie

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS



We would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our new Preschoolers and their families, Ava, Sophie, Lainey, and Abel and welcome you all to our Yarrunga community. Welcome back to our existing Yarrunga members, both returning Preschoolers and those transitioning up from the Junior Preschool Room. We are now all back on deck, and learners are having a wonderful time reconnecting with old friends and establishing connections with new peers and educators.

Popular play spaces this past month have included art and craft stations, especially easel painting; box collage; ink paintings; drawings; and cutting and pasting.



As artists have been creating, they have eagerly conversed with friends and educators working alongside them, sharing their ideas and "the story behind their work" articulately. Thanks to the families who have been donating boxes and recyclable goods to keep our craft supplies topped up!

Beading has challenged class members, as they practice their fine-motor skills and persist with their project... even when the beads keep falling off! Their pride is evident however as they work to create patterns and colourful abstract designs for wearable art and homeware decorations!



Social play revolving around cooking and families has also dominated the themes of Home Corner and sandpit play, as children explore various roles (often negotiating in the process) and making sense of their world around them.



The focus children have shown completing jigsaws, including floor puzzles and multi-layer puzzles has been incredible and allowed for collaboration between children. It has been wonderful to witness children attempt a jigsaw, with assistance, and return to it multiple times, as they gain confidence with their skill and speed as they attain mastery of the task.

We're looking forward to heading back into the community again. We enjoyed a fun walk to the Amatex Street Bridge recently and burnt off some energy rolling down the hill at the adjoining bike / walking track and running back up it... several times!



Alana, Krystine, Maree, Liv
Preschool@yarrunga.com.au

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

What a great start to the new year! Our friends have started to settle in quite well already and we have been building the relationships between both educators, children, and families.

We have been figuring out our friends interests and have set up activities accordingly. Our main attractions have been, water play, trains, home corner including babies and cooking, and drawing.



We have gone for a walk with the Pre-Schoolers with a small portion of our group to the spider bridge to watch the trucks and cars, which is also another interest of ours. On our wish list, we have garbage trucks to purchase for the room, as we had a peer bring one in and we are learning about rubbish.



Our routine time is helping us work out what goes on in our room. Our educators sit with us at lunch and help us get used to the tongs and self-help skills. Some friends have even helped to clean up after lunch which shows awesome autonomy and ownership over the room and the space. Friends have also been helping with the collection of supplies and taking the washing to the laundry and worm scraps to the worm farm.



We have a little group time before lunch which has mostly been singing and dancing to get our wiggles out. This builds up our social skills as we interact with one another.

Cheers,

Nicole, Tash, and Natt 😊

juniorpreschool@yarrunga.com.au



NURSERY NEWS

We would like to say a huge welcome to our new families that have joined our Yarrunga family and welcome back to our returning families.

We have been very busy settling some of our new babies in and building those ever-important relationships. Many of our new friends are beginning to settle in and are beginning to explore their new learning environments with more confidence which has been so lovely to see.

Outside play has been very popular with many of our new children as they happily explore the world around them. Water play has been the best fun with the children getting very, very wet as they splash, pour, and bath the baby dolls. Painting at the easel has also been a huge hit with many of our children taking the time to explore with their senses.

We look forward to getting to know them further as the year progresses.

A big thank you to all our families that have returned their background information sheets as this has been very helpful in both getting to know a bit more about your children and also for setting their individual learning goals.

Just a little reminder for families to ensure that their child's belongings are labelled, including bottles and formula containers. Spare clothes in their bags suitable to the current weather would also be wonderful.

We would also love for you to send through some family photos to display.



Emma, Chrissy and Kaitlin.
nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au

Educational Leader:

Welcome to our new families and those returning this year. The first few weeks of 2023 has seen educators, children and families growing relationships and collaborating on curriculum experiences including daily routines, resources and mealtimes.

EXCITING NEWS:



Our Flag Poles have finally been installed. Connection with Country begins with our very youngest children as we work towards Reconciliation and respect for all.

Each morning we hold a flag raising ceremony where children raise the flags and then participate in Acknowledgement of Country with their educators. Our Acknowledgment ends with the word 'Yindyamarra' which means 'Respect'. We are keen to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives throughout

EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK UPDATE:

My focus during February has been the introduction of the revised Early Years Learning Framework.

What's New:

- *VISION* - Strengthening Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives through the framework including the Vision, Principles, Practices and Learning Outcomes.
- *EDUCATORS PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE* - Strengthening the link between the Vision and the Planning Cycle.

The Early Years Learning Framework *Principles* underpin practice that is focused on assisting all children to make progress in relation to the Learning Outcomes. This new document includes two additional principles which I think we are well positioned to work with through our current initiatives:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives; and
- Sustainability

As a service team we have discussed the main changes in the new document and decided to begin aligning curriculum by examining each of the Principles, and how they relate to the Practices and the Learning Outcomes in everyday Yarrunga life. Our first priority is to consult with families on the development of A Quality Improvement plan outlining goals and deliverables to work towards.

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN:

We are also reviewing our Reconciliation Action Plan which is due for renewal on the Narragunnawali platform this month. We plan to include your thoughts along with the introduction of the new Early Years Learning Framework via Facebook poll and displays. Please note our current RAP is on display on the office wall with our Philosophy and governance documents.



Krystine

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.



Qualified Special Education teacher with 30 years experience working with children (Preschool - Year 12) with specific learning disorders or a disability.

Offering:

Data driven specialist intervention and tutoring based on individual assessment with strong results.

Individualised assessment, planning and implementation of IEP's, including liaising with external agencies where necessary.

Specialist expertise in behaviour management, school based support for individual students, including Professional Development for classroom teachers.

Whole school staff Professional Development in disability literacy and numeracy.

**Helping
children
succeed**

Marnie Miller
0438 211 096

Nutrition Snippet

CHOCOLATE AND COCONUT BLISS BALLS



Ingredients (makes 12)

Time to make: 10 mins

1 cup instant oats
12 pitted dates, chopped
1 cup desiccated coconut
2 tbsp cocoa
2 tbsp honey
¼ cup raisins

Method

- 1) Place all ingredients except 2 tablespoons of the shredded coconut in a food processor and process until smooth.
- 2) Roll into balls and then roll each ball in the remaining coconut.
- 3) Place on a lined tray in the fridge for 1 hour to set.
- 4) Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to 2 weeks or freeze for up to 2 months.

For this recipe and more visit:
healthylunchbox.com.au



Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box



Changes to Child Care Subsidy

From 10 July 2023, there are changes to the way we work out your Child Care Subsidy (CCS) entitlement. Child care will be cheaper for most families.

What you need to know

- The maximum amount of CCS is increasing from 85% to 90% for families earning up to \$80,000.
- The income limit for CCS is increasing to \$530,000.
- If you earn over \$80,000, your CCS percentage will go down by 1% for each \$5,000 of income your family earns. You'll either get more subsidy or have no change to your entitlement. The CCS percentage you're entitled to depends on your family's income.

For more information about CCS, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/changes-if-you-get-family-payments

Families with more than one child aged 5 or under

From 10 July 2023, if you have more than one child aged 5 or under you can still get a higher rate for one or more of your children.

If you get Additional Child Care Subsidy

If you get Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) your rates will stay the same.

From 10 July 2023, the low income limit for ACCS Transition to Work (TTW) will increase to \$80,000. Your family will still need to meet other ACCS TTW eligibility requirements.

What you need to do from January to June 2023

In most cases, you don't need to do anything to get the increased rate. If you get CCS, we'll apply changes to your CCS automatically from 10 July 2023.

Updating your family income estimate

The amount of CCS you get is calculated using your family income estimate. It's important to make sure that you check your income estimate regularly and update it if your circumstances change.

If you get CCS or if you're already assessed for CCS but get 0%, you may be eligible for an increased rate. Check your family income estimate is up to date so you get the right amount from 10 July 2023.

You can check or update your income estimate at any time using:

- your **Centrelink online account** through my.gov.au
- the **Express Plus Centrelink mobile app**
- the **myGov app**.

For more information about how to update your family income estimate, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/familyincomeestimate

CHANGES TO CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

Making a claim for CCS

From 10 July 2023 the income limit for CCS is increasing to \$530,000. This means that more families will be entitled to CCS to reduce their child care costs.

If you want to check your eligibility for CCS, you can make a claim using your Centrelink online account through myGov or your Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.

If you make a claim and it's assessed before 10 July 2023, you may be assessed at 0% if your income is over \$356,756. Your new rate of CCS will automatically apply to you from 10 July 2023.

You can make a claim for CCS any time using:

- your **Centrelink online account** through my.gov.au
- the **Express Plus Centrelink mobile app**
- the **myGov app**.

For more information about how to claim CCS, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/how-to-claim-child-care-subsidy

What's happening from 10 July 2023

If you already get CCS or made a claim, you don't need to do anything to get the increased rate. We'll apply changes to your CCS automatically from 10 July 2023.

Your new rate of CCS will show in your online account from 10 July 2023 through myGov. Select **My family** from the Menu, then **Family assistance**, followed by **Child Care Subsidy Summary** to view your rate.

You can also use your Express Plus Centrelink mobile app. Select **Child Care Subsidy**, then **Children assessed** to view your rate from 10 July 2023.

REGISTER or DONATE
cleanup.org.au

Clean Up



STEP UP TO CLEAN — UP —

LOCATION Yarrunga Early Learning
DATE Friday 3rd March TIME 10am
CONTACT RSVP - Deb

Gold Partners



Silver Partners



Founding Partner



Suppliers

