



YARRUNGA ELC



Newsletter

Important dates:

- AGM Wednesday 19h November 7pm
- Centre closure December Thursday 18th 2025 to Tuesday Jan 6th 2026
- Childrens Christmas party and Graduation 5th December 4pm to 6pm
- [Transition tours](#)

For families with children moving rooms, available Tuesday 2nd and 9th of December 9.30 to 11.30am please RSVP your interest

Staff News...

Students:

Wodonga Senior secondary College-Holly 27th Oct to 7th Nov in the Nursery and JPS

Mikayla- TAFE Nursery 20th Oct to 14th Nov 0-2yrs

Renee-Student 0-2yr placement 22-24th Oct

Holly- Senior Secondary College 0-2yrs 24th Oct 6th Nov

Prakash will finish his prac on the 22nd Oct and will be working as a casual educator.

Pushpalal has 2 more weeks of full time placement in the JPS room.

A big [congratulations](#) to Mahaya as she has now completed her Cert III in Early education and care.

Olivia has announced she will be taking some time off to

Tea towel orders will arrive next week from the

27th October.

Sorry for the delay

Thank you for your support.

NEIGHBOUR REQUEST

PLEASE KEEP ALL DRIVEWAYS CLEAR FOR PRIVATE USE



THANK YOU

DO NOT BLOCK
KEEP CLEAR AT ALL TIMES



Simone, Chris and Romee welcome a beautiful daughter and baby sister Viv

2026 Educator room announcements

It is with careful consideration and input from Children, Families and Educators we announce the allocation of Educators to rooms for 2026...

Wilay Nursery

Emma, Hanna, Mahaya, Elle Sarah and Serena

Gugubarra JPS

Alana, Chrissy, Elle, Jay, Robyn, and Zoe

Dinawan PS

Nicole, Josh, Rae, Lisa, Robyn and Elle



What is a Nature Play?

Nature play actively engages children with nature and its elements. Children touch and interact with the natural environment in their everyday play.

According to AS 4685.0: *Playground equipment and surfacing*, nature play is defined as:

"the elements of a playground consisting of natural, non-manufactured items that are incorporated into the playground, including items such as logs, boulders, plant materials and surfaces, changes of level and other landscape elements."

Benefits of Nature Play

Play is a vital part of childhood and growing up. Research indicates that natural environments and outdoor play are beneficial to children in many ways.

A well-designed playground entices children to play and learn key developmental skills. Providing children with an outdoor learning environment incorporating areas for quiet, creative, active and stimulating play will allow children to learn while using their imagination, to be spontaneous, curious and resourceful.

Accessing nature is an important strategy for building resilience, buffering stress, and recovering from adversity. Natural elements are diverse and the play opportunities are open-ended. Many offer the benefit that children can manipulate them for their own play purposes.



Nature play activities include:

- Playing with water and sand
- Playing with loose parts and found items
- Climbing
- Rolling down hills
- Growing plants to smell and taste
- Observing insects, animals and birds
- Nurturing and observing worm farms
- Digging patches
- Discovering and imagining
- Constructing in gravel pits (for older children)
- Talking about nature
- Being still and quiet
- Exploring interesting pathways
- Riding a bike over bumps
- Building arbours and tee pees



child safety is no accident

YARRUNGA CONCEPT LANDSCAPE PLAN 1:50 @A1 APPROX



References and Resources

- Munoz, S. A. 2009. Children in the outdoors. Sustainable Development Research Centre, Horizon Scotland
- Brussoni, M., Ishikawa, T., Brunelle, S., Herrington, S., 2017. Landscapes for play: Effects of an intervention to promote nature-based risky play in early childhood centres. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 54, 139-150
- Marin, K. 2014. Putting Nature back into Nurture: The Benefits of Nature for Children. The University of Western Australia
- Truscott, J. 2014. An exploration of nature-based play at Australian pre-schools. MEd thesis, Southern Cross University, Lismore, NSW
- Sharman, R. 2014. Too much screen time and too little outside play is hitting back kids. [The Conversation](#)
- Wyver, S. 2019. Letting kids play with discarded objects is great for their bodies and minds, and not as risky as you might think. [ABC Health and Wellbeing](#)
- Grow Me Safely - <https://www.kidsafensy.org/growmesafely/>
- Kidsafe NSW information sheets - <https://www.kidsafensy.org/information-sheets/playground-safety/>

Coming soon...

What's hot in Aunty Amy's Kitchen

Coconut curried sausages

3x packets of 24 beef sausages

1x brown onion diced

1tbs crushed garlic

2x 1kg packets of mixed vegetables (carrot, corn, peas)

2x zucchini diced

1tbs turmeric

2tbs curry power (more depending on how much curry you like)

2-3x can coconut cream

Boil sausages till cooked and skin falls off.

Fry off in a small amount of oil with the onion, garlic, turmeric and curry powder.

Add in vegetables and coconut cream and simmer till all vegetables are cooked.

Serve with rice.



You may hear and see more Wiradjuri words in our learning community. You can access the Wiradjuri dictionary app online to listen and research language



WILAY ROOM

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Reminders

- Please label clothing and pack appropriate hats
- Halloween Week
Monday
• 27th- Friday
31st October

Dear Families....

This month we have...

We have started seeing lots of progress with our carrot planting. The children have been watering them when needed. We can now see them sprouting and the children are so excited to see their plants growing.

Please remember to pack lots of changes of clothes now the weather is warming up. We are starting to have water play for the children and they do start splashing and get very wet.

The children have also been active participants in our flag raising each morning, helping the educators to put our flags up.



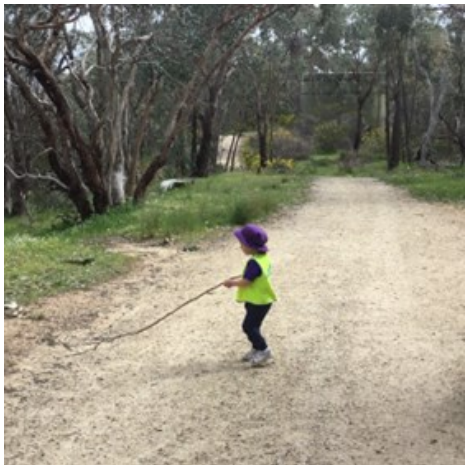


GUGUBARRA

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Important dates:

Hello from the Gugubarra room, we have been lucky enough to have been invited to Bush kinder with the Preschool children. The Juniors have enjoyed the long trek up the hill to the bush surrounding the water tanks, on arrival we enjoyed some morning tea and some much needed water, then it was time to explore the area, play in the Gunyah (Temporary dwelling or shelter, similar to a hut or humpy) and walk along some tracks; breaking off into groups. The children used little spades, bug catchers and plastic containers to catch ants, spiders, bees, butterfly's and many different bugs and Bettles for a closer look, before safely letting them go. After lunch we made our way back down the hill (Much easier going downhill lol), back to Yarrunga for a much-needed rest and reset.



Our Father's day lunch was a huge success! It was lovely to see so many Dad's join us for the celebration. Everyone enjoyed the food, laughter and time spent together. Thank you for making the day so special.

We were lucky enough to have had a lovely lady from Bunnings come and help our children plant some delicious fruit and vegetables. We got to plant strawberries, carrots and capsicums in our kitchen garden and we are excited to care for them, watch them grow and then harvest our crops (Fingers crossed, lol)

Our student Nabin has been doing a wonderful job during his placement. He has built some lovely relationships with the children and he is gaining confidence daily. We appreciate his enthusiasm and positive energy.

We would also like to welcome Sid to our room, the children are really enjoying showing him

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self help



DINAWAN ROOM

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Newsletter Dinnawan room

What a wonderful month the preschool room has had. Bush kinder was an amazing and wonderful experience for all our children, educators and families. We explored the bush looking for bugs and found centipedes, scorpions, Rolly Polly bugs, beetles, dragonflies, butterflies, bees and caught them in our bug catchers. We collected rocks and sticks and built our own cubby area called a Gunya which is an Indigenous word for hut or shelter. The children dragged big sticks up the hill, and we built our shelter they cooperated, communicating about how and where to place the sticks. We enjoyed many yummy picnic lunches up at the bush kinder. The feedback and excitement from the children and families was great to hear that they enjoyed the outings.

Thank you to all our family helpers you are amazing!!! We will be running the program again next year for sure.

Upcoming dates to remember

Bike Weeks - Monday 3rd - Friday 14th November (first two weeks of November). Please bring in your child's bike or scooter to ride. These can be left here for the week.

Borella House Visit - Friday 24th October

Responsible Pet Program - Friday 31st October

Halloween dress up day - Friday 31st October

Healthy Harold - Tuesday 11th November

Dental Visit - Friday 20th November

Christmas concert and Preschool Graduation - dates TBC

Last day of Yarrunga - Thursday 18th December

We understand the children going off to school next year will be having upcoming school orientation visits. Can you please let us know the dates and times so we can plan ahead with excursions, lunches etc.

Thank you,
Preschool Team
(Liv, Cole, Josh, Lisa, Mahaya)



EDUCATIONAL LEADER

Educational Leader Update:

Focus of the Month (FOM) QAZ PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Once again we have utilised our Children’s Council meetings to capture the voices of our children, families and educators as we review our physical environments. As we move towards the end of the year we have been thinking about what children want from their educators in 2026, which has been timely as educators and children have commenced room orientations for next year.

Key findings include:



- Feeling safe and secure
- Having a voice about things that matter to us
- Playing with our educators
- Family culture represented
- Family grouping and playing with children from other rooms
- Autonomy in setting up environments and helping with daily rituals

We are in the process of adding this information in our Parent and Educator handbooks.

FAMILY & CHILDREN SURVEY RESULTS

Wiradjuri name for the office:

- “Wambad” - With a resounding victory

Children’s Mid-Year Assessments:

- Addressing milestones and goals with the voices of children, families and educators represented using wording from the Early Years Learning Framework and National Quality Standards

Philosophy Review:

- Families feel our Philosophy accurately represents their values and represents what they see and hear in daily practice

Focus of the Month (FOM) Follow Up:

September QAZ CHILDREN’S HEALTH AND SAFETY

We continue to capture children’s Voices in our intentional discussions about Child Safe Standards with children.

Thank you

Krystine



In complying with the National Quality Standards, we ensure that a copy of the Law and Regulations can be accessed by families, including those seeking to enroll their child at the service?

Access via <https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2011-0653>

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK!

How can we make our newsletter better?

What information would you like us to include?

Call us on: (02) 6021 7597

Or EMAIL admin@yarrunga.com.au



NO FOOD FROM HOME!



A reminder that we have children attending Yarrunga with severe allergies and anaphylaxis 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

Policies/Procedure/Reflection being reviewed this month:

Quality Area 2 Sleep and rest

Risk assessment, Code of conduct, Model code

Yarrunga Policies:

Just a reminder to families – our policies can be accessed on our website www.yarrunga.com.au and the password is 2640

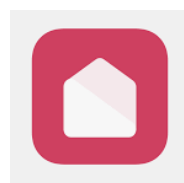
WEEKLY MENU

Our weekly menu is displayed in the foyer



Home App

Please check your home app for your billing account and statement as these will no longer be sent via email.



Reminder to please bring a broad brim sun safe hat for your child as the days are becoming sunny. All children require sun protection when the UV reaches 3.

It's important to keep your family details up to date so you get the right amount of CCS and FTB. This will help you avoid being overpaid and need to pay money back later.

You can update your details online using your Centrelink online account through myGov or your Centrelink Express Plus mobile app.

Raising Children Network have wonderful free and up to date advice and support for families on all topics family, children and babies.

This includes:

- your family's activity test hours
 - the type of activity you or your partner do
 - your family income estimate.
- Learn more about reporting a change in your circumstances for [FTB](#) and [CCS](#).



raisingchildren.net.au



Yarrunga is a smoke free environment
This includes vaping and e-cigarettes

Educator of the Month

Nicole for the continuous efforts in conducting Bush Kinder

Dinawan room

For the presentation and continuous experience of Bush kinder



Screen time: Disconnect to reconnect

Tips to reduce and balance screen use
Find out more at schn.health.nsw.gov.au



Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Australia

Please access the kid safe website for information at home <https://kidsafe.com.au/>

Parent Line NSW

Call 1300 1300 52

Parent Line is a free telephone counselling and support service for parents and carers with children, aged 0 to 18 years, who live in New South Wales.