



YARRUNGA ELC



Newsletter

Important dates:

- SGM Monday 15h December 7pm
- Centre closure December Thursday 18th 2025 to Tuesday Jan 6th 2026

Staff News...

Students:

Steph– Swinburne UNI Nursery 24th Nov to 18th Dec 0-2yrs

Harper– albury high student 8th-12th PS room

We will farewell Liv on the 10th December to travel with her family next year, we will miss her happy presence but wish her all the best for her big adventure.

We also farewell Jay as she will take on a position at Albury Preschool. Jay will return in the new year to assist in the settling of the NT children to the JPS room



We will welcome Janelle to the Wilay room Thursday and Friday, Nabin to the Gugubarra room Mon to Fri and Prakash to the Dinawan room Mon to Fri



Congratulations to Josh and Nicole!

Josh will be acting Assistant Director

Nicole will be acting Assistant Educational Leader



For the remainder of the Year.



Deb will be stepping down from the Director role and mentoring the new management team in the New year.

Please let me walk in and put my things away!



Saying goodbye can be hard, encouraging your child to walk in the gate and carry/put away their belongings on arrival can help the morning routine become a smooth transition to the day.



CHILDREN'S WET BAGS & SUN HATS

If you would like to purchase a Wet Bag or a Sun Hat for your child/ren, please see the display in the office for available colours.

Wet Bags are \$10 each & Sun Hats are \$15 each.

Kids T shirts \$15 Adult T shirt and windcheaters \$18 are now also available for order.

Please see Deb or Leah for more information.

What's hot in Aunty Amy's Kitchen

Beef And Vegetable Pie

Heat oven to 180 degrees

200g mushrooms

300g spinach

2 onions

2 Grated zucchini

2 grated carrots

3 sticks celery

1 sweet potato grated

1 passata

1 tin chopped tomatoes

500 g beef diced or mince

Filo pastry

Butter (or alternative product)

In food processor blend all ingredients except beef to make thick sauce, place into pot and slowly bring heat up to simmer for 30 minutes, you can add stock or water to thin.

Heat frypan and cook seasoned diced beef until brown on outside but medium rare, when cooked you can blitz in short bursts to break down and add to pot of vegetables. Allow 15 minutes of cooking then season with salt and pepper to taste. Use appropriate dish to top pie with pastry.

Melt butter and spread between layers of pastry to build two or three layers to put on top of pie and bake in oven for 30-40 minutes



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

Bring mixed clothing as the weather is unpredictable.

Our last day for children is Thursday 18th December

Dear Families....

Been very busy with Christmas craft. We have been preparing the children's learning journals to had out this week and the children have made a cute surprise present for their parents.

Our carrots are starting to sprout and they are getting plenty of rain water to help them grow.

We have Steph (3rd year Uni student) in our room until the end of the year. She will be in our room Mondays through to Thursdays.

We would like all families with children that can walk to encourage your child to walk in through the gate as your child uses further independence skills. You can also get them to help put their bags and drink bottles away as well. This will help them settle in when they move to the bigger rooms and their rituals.

Please remember to give all information to educators on arrival so we can give your child the best care throughout the day.

We would like to thank all the families this year for all your cooperation and understanding throughout the year. We have enjoyed getting to know you all and looking after your children.



Nursery Team

Jay, Emma, Hanna, Sarah, Robyn and Serena



GUGUBARRA

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Reminders

- Please ensure your child has seasonally-appropriate changes of clothes in their bag each day they attend. This includes a broad-brimmed or bucket hat, or a legionnaire's cap.

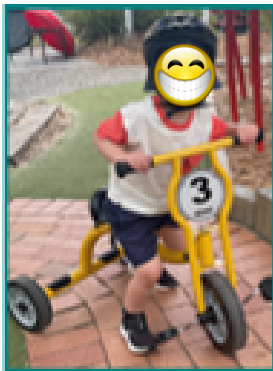


Over the past month we have...

... excitedly begun our preparations for the festive season. We have been very busy compiling our end-of-year goodie bags!

We are very eager to hand out children's Individual Learning Journals to families! These have been a year-long collection of observations, ranging from art works to learning samples, photos to learning stories, checklists to anecdotal jottings. We hope you enjoy reading these and cherish them for many years to come.

Class members are loving exploring nature and discovering minibeasts within our environment. They have delighted in finding lady beetles and ants in their habitat, as well as the occasional skink. This generates a flurry of movement as children rush to observe them and a good deal of discussion about their latest find. This ties in beautifully with Yarrunga's ongoing commitment to sustainability.



Our new bikes have been a huge hit with the children, as they race each other around the yard and confidently show off their riding skills. This has been a wonderful opportunity for informal discussions about road safety, including the wearing of helmets and being mindful of 'pedestrians' - other children, educators, and family members also utilizing the same space. It has also been a great lesson in patience and turn-taking, as cyclists wait for their go. Thank you to the Committee for the purchase of these bikes!

When transitioning children into the Yarrunga day, it is very common for children to experience some degree of separation anxiety. One of the most important things to support your child through this is to create (and adhere to) consistent and predictable routines. Having the same rituals every day will assist children in settling quickly, as they know what is coming and can prepare themselves. This may include children walking into the room independently, putting their bag on a hook; finding their name tag to hang above their bag; placing their water bottle on the shelf; applying sunscreen; and sharing a hug / kiss before family members leave. If you are ever concerned about a rough transition, please feel free to contact the Centre, or we can send through a quick update via the Xplor app.

Wishing all of our families and our wider community a happy and safe festive season. Thank you all for a fabulous year filled with laughter, learning, curiosity, and fun! Take care and all the very best for a bright and joyous 2026.

Kind regards, Alana, Chrissy, Zoe and Rae Rae



DINAWAN ROOM

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Hi families,

We have been busy writing our end of year letters and prepping the children's individual journals for the end of the year. We have also been making graduation hats for those attending school next year. We love this time of the year where you get to sit and look over your child's year and reflect with them.

The preschool room has been enjoying construction with the Duplo blocks and they have been making vehicles and buildings and collaborating together.

We have had to close down some areas such as the sandpit due to illness, We have reintroduced some scooters to our outside area and we received some new basketballs through munch and move, so we borrowed the basketball hoop for our yard.

Most of our school children have completed their school transitions and they are ready to go. We have enjoyed hearing about their big schools and for many of these families it will be goodbye after many years here at Yarrunga. We look forward to inviting you all back to talk to us about big school in January.

We are ready to jump into festive crafts and activities over the next couple of weeks.

We say goodbye to Liv and wish her all the very best on her adventures around Australia she will be very missed by Educators, Children and Families.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and will see some of you return to us next year!

Nicole, Liv, Josh, Lisa and Mahaya.





EDUCATIONAL LEADER

Educational Leader Update (December):



MEETING PLACE

THE YEAR THAT WAS

2025 has been another rewarding year for our Yarrunga community. Many of our educators have upskilled their teaching qualifications and are continuing to higher levels in 2026. We have all been supported to undertake ongoing Professional Development which has enabled us to explore different ways of working with children and families to achieve best outcomes.

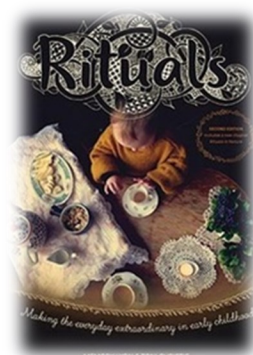
Transformative change began early in 2025 with changes to the wording in children's Background Information sheets (*Voices from home*) to reflect:

- children as confident and creative individuals who are active and informed members of the community (*EYLF V2.0*),
- our commitment to creating everyday rituals and routines that capture life's beauty and embrace the moment by responding to each child's daily rhythms of time and place; and
- an understanding of what is important for children to learn and thrive in today's world, that being the development of a skillset known as 21st Century Skills (*Resilience, Perseverance, Compassion, Respect, Empathy, Curiosity and Mindfulness*).
- And MOST IMPORTANTLY the visualization and implementation of "Children's Voices" throughout Yarrunga.

Responses from Children's Council meetings have been used to update policies and handbooks, organize staffing for 2026 and plan our learning environments to support secure attachments and reciprocal relationships.

It takes time to embrace change and throughout 2025 educators have been reflecting on how to make children's learning relationships more visible by introducing inclusive planning walls which depict images and voices of our Yarrunga community using the 8 Ways of Aboriginal learning as an inclusive guide. Educators take this knowledge and collaborate with others to enhance what children know and can do and continue the learning cycle. We aim to capture the voices of children and families in 'real' time using the Xplor Playground App more in 2026 (upskilling for all educators).

Daily routines in all rooms have evolved to become much more like rituals through the implementation of progressive meal and snack times in carefully thought-out environments. We have all noticed how these new rituals in their relaxing atmospheres are promoting social interactions and independence.





EDUCATIONAL LEADER

Educational Leader Update (continued)...

Amy's enthusiasm for gardening, beauty and rituals in nature has supplemented our Intentional planning for Rituals as she has invited children to cultivate flower and vegetable seeds, then harvest, prepare and share the produce. You can always see children of all ages happily chatting with Amy at her kitchen window which is displayed with seasonal herbs and flowers that awaken everyone's senses! Amy has also been a driver for sustainability and the implementation of Yarrunga's SAP (Sustainability Action Plan).



And Liv's passion for Community engagement has seen the development of a Community Action Plan which complements our RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan).

Further to this way of thinking educators have trained in the 8 Ways of Aboriginal Learning, which sees the combining of contemporary early childhood theories with Aboriginal perspectives. Child-centred play encourages an adult to "hold the space" while children play, learn and make sense of their world. By slowing down and simply sitting in a space with thoughtful attention to what is happening for that child/or group of children we are creating a circle of security which is essential for wellbeing and growth. We are discovering the similarities between the 8 Ways concepts and Yarrunga's Philosophy and want to build on this further in 2026 through mentoring, team workshops and the expansion of our bush kinder program.

Hope you enjoy reading about your child/ren's learning and relationships in their Learning Journal.

Wishing you a safe, restful and very merry Xmas

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:

We will be working on an overall audit of Policies and procedures

Yarrunga Policies:

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

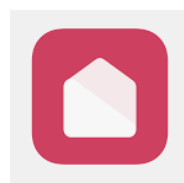
WEEKLY MENU

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

Sarah- Cot master builder

Elle – Positive & consistency

Amy – Creating the grad gowns

Robyn – Creating the grad gowns

Krystine – Supporting & Leading the team.

schn.health.nsw.gov.au'."/>

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.