



Important dates:

- General Committee meeting 18th March 7pm
- 3/3/2026 @6.30pm Big feelings little people. Parent Workshop with Nurtured Insight.
- Albury Gold cup Public holiday 20th March 8.00-12.00 noon
- Harmony week– 16th–20th March

Staff News...

Staff training– Gecko mandatory training for Child safe standards

Farewell to Deb her last day being the 3rd of April 2026

Wiradjuri language gatherings on Tuesday nights each fortnight



Congratulations to Alicia, Josh and Paddy on the birth of their little bundle of joy, Oliver

Message from the Management team..

Outdoor experiences are an important part of children's healthy growth, learning, wellbeing and development. The benefits of outdoor learning environments and engagement in nature play for young children are varied and many.

Encouraging babies to spend time in the outdoor environment (including touching sand, grass, dirt or leaves), has potential health benefits and can help stimulate their immune systems. Opportunities to move freely, grasp objects, kick legs, crawl and observe others running and playing supports physical development. Research indicates that spending time in fresh air also encourages better healthy sleep patterns for babies as they begin to understand the difference between night and day.

Providing babies with varied experiences and early opportunities to engage in natural outdoor play can additionally support their sense of belonging to the world. It also creates an important foundation that embeds a continued and lasting interest in exploring, questioning and appreciating nature and fostering curiosity. Making sense of new sights, smells, textures and sounds stimulates brain development and provides a foundation for learning by encouraging discovery and exploration.

When educators and families engage in outdoor learning experiences with and alongside children, there are further opportunities for social exchange, relationship building and language development.

Practical ideas for outdoor experiences for babies include:

a variety of objects that are soft and hard, heavy and light, rough and smooth, wet and dry, cool and warm, things that make sounds or blow in the breeze or when shaken or kicked

natural objects, such as leaves, feathers, flowers, herbs, grass, smooth river stones (must be larger than a D-size battery)

objects for muscle development, such as things to push and pull, balls, large hollow blocks, and hanging things to reach, grasp or kick

open-ended materials that babies can explore in their own way – objects to grasp, poke, bang, squeeze and shake

containers, boxes and baskets to take things out of and put them back in

different surfaces to crawl on, such as grass, wood, pavers, rubber, straw matting

places to crawl over, under and through, such as a low wide bridge, a short tunnel, a plank close to the ground, a small ramp, and places to play 'peek a boo'

sturdy items to pull up on (logs, ledges) with soft ground to fall back onto

sand play for experiencing wet and dry sand on their hands and feet

wind chimes and mirrors

sturdy picture books and other indoor resources, preferably made from natural materials or safe repurposed items

water play in a shallow basin or trough, with two or three small containers that are easy to hold, a spoon or small ladle, a few smooth large flat stones, and objects that float/sink.



Calendar of Events

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Clean up Australia day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 ← Harmony week	17	18	19	20 Albury Gold Cup	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Public holiday	28
29	30	31				

Harmony week activities

Wear orange all week or special cultural dress/clothing

Monday- Sushi making with Jay

Chopstick learning with Hanna

Aunty Amy's multicultural weekly menu will highlight many favourite family meals

Friday– Marjorie– spring roll making



Easter Raffle 2026

Our annual Easter raffle is approaching. If you are able please donate a small gift to the basket in the foyer. Tickets will be available for purchase soon.



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 Josh or Leah for more information.

What's hot in Aunty Amy's Kitchen

The Easy Peasy Meatballs

This was made in a hurry and it was such a hit. These were rolled small for a platter style lunch and served with hummus and cucumber.

For 4 people

Ingredients:

1Kg beef mince

2 tablespoons marjoram

A liberal sprinkle of onion flakes

3 teaspoons of vegeta stock powder

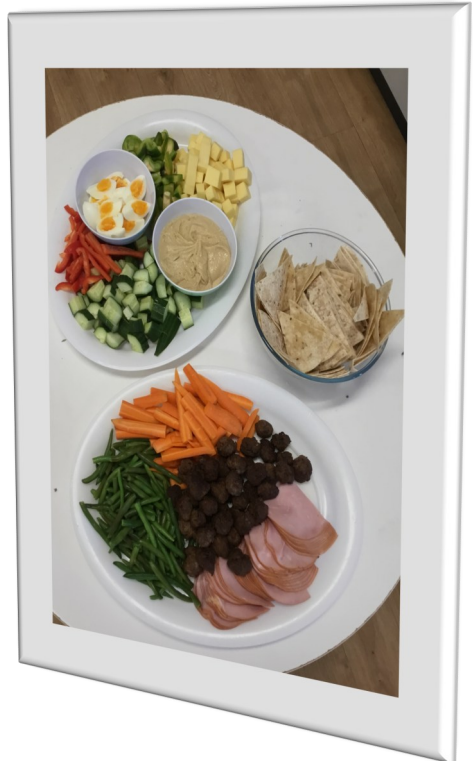
Ground pepper

Method:

Mix in together well, fry.

Done.

Aunty Amy



What's growing in Aunty Amy's garden

Sustainability

Just putting out a call for any larger styled garden pots in plastic and or decorative as the children will be planting out for the garden. We only have the small seedling pots and will need larger ones to be able to move them for the weather changes.

Thanks in advance,

Sustainable Amy,



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



Elle & Rae

Hello families,

This month in our program we will be taking part in Munch & Move's "Veggie Month" which encourages children to develop healthy eating habits and stay active through fun activities based around veggies.

We will be talking about healthy foods and why they help our bodies grow strong. You might like to continue the conversation at home by encouraging your child to try different fruits and vegetables and stay active together as a family.

We are also forwarding surveys to families for input into our menu.

DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY RECIPE TO SHARE?

**CHILDREN AND EDUCATORS LOVE TO GROW,
HARVEST, PREPARE AND SHARE.**



CELEBRATING VEGGIE MONTH AT HOME

Please help yourself to our vegetable themed resource loan basket including games, books, song ideas, puzzles and craft activities.



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WILAY ROOM

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Reminders

- Please bring in a family photo to add to our family collage

- Let us know if your child's routine has changed so we can continue the consistency of care

- Harmony week– 16th–22nd of March

This month we have...

Been strengthening our relationships with all the children as we continue to help settle them in to their new environment. We know it can be hard separating from their families in the morning but we are working closely with those children to ensure they end up having a great day.

The children have been getting very engaged in story books, either by themselves or sitting with educators to explore further.

With the rain we are having we would like to remind families to pack a rain coat and gumboots in case we head outside to have a play. We are open to going outside in all kinds of weather when we think it is appropriate.

We have been trying to get outside when we can so the children can further experience gross motor play. The children have enjoyed this time.

We have added some more role play props to our room including baby dolls and beds for them as well. This has been of great interest to the children as they learn about the world through this avenue of play.

We have started our Easter craft which is an extension of previous art and craft experiences.

SLEEP AND REST RITUALS IN THE WILAY ROOM:

Babies and toddlers in our room follow individual sleep routines based on the background information families provide at the beginning of the year. Most children are put to bed in our sleep rooms after lunch, usually around 11:30–12:00pm, unless their personal routine differs. Educators respond to each child's sleep cues and settle them according to their needs.

Children's sleep times are recorded on our daily sleep sheet and later added into the Playground app. As per our safe sleep policy and procedures, educators complete and record sleep checks every 10 minutes. For children who wake early or do not require sleep at that time, quiet and developmentally appropriate activities are provided while still maintaining a calm and restful environment for those who are sleeping. We value your feedback. Please let us know how you feel about sleep and rest in our baby room, and inform us if your child's sleep requirements change at any time.

Nursery Team



GUGUBARRA

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Reminders

- If you are needing to communicate with the JPS, please, where possible, either speak directly to room educators or send a message via the *Xplor* app or conversely speak to admin staff. This ensures that messages are relayed in a timely manner and reduces instances of misinterpretation and error.

Hi there wonderful families, we have had a busy couple of months getting to know both yourselves and your children and watch how quickly our little Gugubarra's have engaged themselves in our daily routines and rituals.

DAILY RITUALS:

Part of our daily rituals include our sleep, rest and relaxation routine where we offer the children opportunities to sleep and encourage children to express when they are tired and need an earlier sleep. Some of our children are at the stage where their bodies and minds just need a quiet down time and we offer them a stretcher bed to ensure that these needs are met. We are also providing opportunities for some children to have a quiet play on the mat. During these times of rest educators conduct safe sleep checks every ten minutes to ensure the safety of all children that are sleeping while in our care.

If any changes occur to your child's sleep and rest requirements we encourage you to discuss with one of our friendly educators to see how we can assist you in this.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO:

During this past month we have been exploring a variety of art experiences based on the children's interests and voiced requests. These have included exploring a variety of mediums including pencils, textas, crayons, chalk, a variety of paint mediums including poster paint, crayon paint and water colours. This has been exceedingly popular with many of the children very eager to have a turn.

We have also explored some cooking experiences with Elle! Photos included are making pizzas! Where we learnt all about

Exploring the fundamental movement skill of Jumping has also been of interest to the children and it has been wonderful to watch the various levels of skill and determination amongst the children, who for some jumping is a relatively new skill.



Kind regards, Alana, Chrissy,
Zoe, Nabin, Jay, Elle, Robyn





DINAWAN ROOM

Yarrunga Early Learning Centre Newsletter

Hi Everyone welcome to March!!!

Wow what a great month we had ! With our excursion to Mama last month the staff at Mama commented on how well the children did and that we are more than welcome anytime to use their spaces. We are building strong community connections for all the children and our amazing service.

In April on a Monday, Mama museum will be bringing Art workshops to our Centre we are very excited to participate in this 6 week program.

As we are now in March all of your child's background information sheets should be returned to room educators so that goals are set for programming both group and Individual needs If you have already returned Thank you, if you need another form please see preschool

We would also like to build a family picture wall. Please email your pictures through Robyn is collecting them to display.

Things we are interested in now are building and construction, Bugs and catching them, digging in the sandpit alongside the trucks and diggers, Dinosaurs and water play.

Upcoming events:

Harmony week is coming up Monday 16th- 20th if you would like to share your family culture or stories we would love you to contact us.

OUR SLEEP AND REST RITUAL:

Children are offered a bed for sleep and rest as per information from background Info sheets given to educators at beginning of the year. Educators ask the children that usually sleep and have a rest if they would like to. Children's rest and sleep is recorded on a sheet and then added into playground app. As per policy and procedure children are checked at 10 min intervals as per safe sleep. For those who do not rest there are quiet activities available on the mat and at the tables. How do families feel about sleep and rest in our preschool room? We value your feedback and please let us know if your child's sleep requirements change.

Thank you

Nicole, Lisa, Rae, Prakash, Robyn and Elle.



EDUCATIONAL LEADER

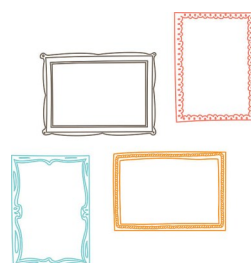
Follow Up from February (FOM)

QAI Educational Program and Practice & QA5 Relationships with Children

Educators have been:

- reviewing their room displays to ensure they reflect Yarrunga's philosophy, children's voices, and values such as belonging, respect and agency,
- reflecting about how children's wellbeing and relationships are being supported; and
- supporting their teams by modelling expectations during the day, especially around listening to children's ideas, calm interactions and consistent routines -
(please see your room's daily sleep and rest rituals)

Robyn has commenced a 'Belonging' project with children from all groups. Please remember to bring a family photo in or email to admin@yarrunga.com.au and we'll print it off



March (FOM)

QAZ Children's Health and Safety

Early Childhood Education focuses on children's health and safety through proactive risk management, hygiene, nutrition, and supervision to prevent harm

During March we are:

- Conducting supervision walk-throughs of our rooms and documenting any blind spots or high-risk areas. Immediate adjustments will be made where required,
- clearly outlining supervision, child safe practice, and digital device expectations to our team,
- modelling active supervision strategies in rooms, demonstrating positioning, scanning, and movement during busy periods,
- facilitating reflective discussions with educators on how protective behaviours are intentionally taught and reinforced during daily routines such as nappy change, toileting, conflict resolution, and group discussions;
- and guiding educators to embed discussions about safe play, protective behaviours, and wellbeing into group times and Children's Council meetings by asking questions such as "Where do you feel safe playing?" "What helps you remember how to stay safe?" "What makes sleep and rest time feel calm and comfortable?" in age- stage appropriate language.

The Australian Department of Education now requires all staff and educators to undertake mandatory National Child Safe training. Courses consist of Foundation training (available now) and Advanced training (available from July 2026)

A new National Early Childhood Worker Register (Worker Register) will show regulatory authorities who is working in education and care services, and where. This national view will help them better monitor, identify and respond to risks more effectively

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:

National Quality area 2 Children's Health and Safety

Yarrunga Policies:

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

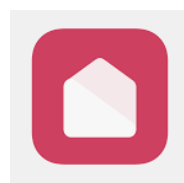
WEEKLY MENU

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 March

Rae- Shining in leadership and adapting to roles supporting staff



Elle- Professional approach in all rooms and
Advocating for healthy eating through
Munch and move



Nicole- Being a confident leader within the Management team

Emma- Thinking outside the box, solution focused leadership while
taking on new roles.



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.