

yarrunga

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE
APRIL NEWSLETTER 2017

DATES FOR THE DIARY

April 2017

Management Committee
Meeting - Wednesday 19th
April 7.30pm

EASTER BREAK

Friday 14th April to Monday
18th April

ANZAC DAY

The centre will be closed on
Tuesday 25th April 2017

YARRUNGA WAS SADDENED BY THE PASSING OF
JESSICA BROWNE'S MUM - TONIA. TONIA'S
SUFFERING FROM MOTOR NEURONE IS NOW OVER.
OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH JIM, JESSICA AND
FAMILY.

STAFF

CARLY GRINTELL IS GOING ON MATERNITY
LEAVE AT THE END OF APRIL AND
RETURNING IN JANUARY 2018.
WE WISH HER WELL FOR HER IMPENDING
BIRTH

EASTER

YARRUNGA WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
FRIDAY 14TH APRIL - GOOD FRIDAY
MONDAY 17TH APRIL - EASTER MONDAY



STAGE 2 OF SENSORY GARDEN

The Sensory Garden is now well on its way to being completed, completion should be the end of this week or early next week.

POLICIES BEING REVIEWED

Nutrition policies and procedures are on display and due to be ratified at the Committee Meeting in April 2017.



Thanks to Vitasoy for donating
Rice and Soy Milk to Yarrunga

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



Please Tell Us!

HAVE YOU MOVED HOUSE, CHANGED JOBS, YOUR PHONE NUMBERS OR YOUR EMAIL?



- A reminder to families to please update your child's enrolment details if you have moved house or changed jobs in the last 12 months. **It is important for educators to have up to date contact phone numbers for all children in case of emergencies.**
- Please see Claire to check your details or send us an email.

WELCOME TO OUR YARRUNGA FAMILY



Congratulations to our Yarrunga family that has welcomed a new addition to their family:-
Shane, Chelsie and Flynn - welcome their baby girl and sister - Eleenor

SUSTAINABILITY



The pre-school children have made pizza, Indian flat bread potato, leek and chive soup and pasta and green pea soup this month.

We have venture down to our community garden with the juniors and pre-school children to install our gardens signage, weed our garden bed and explore the new environment. It was great to see some of the children become so engage in their setting.

A big thank you to Therese for volunteering her time with this excursion.

We have cleared our garden beds out the back to make way for some new planting. Watch this space!

Lynette, Sustainability Officer

NURSERY NEWS

We have been enjoying the beautiful Autumn days and have been venturing out to preschool yard to do some climbing and exploring in the bigger space.

Our children have been great helpers in the garden picking rosemary to smell and helping plant herbs donated by the Fellow's family Thank you!!

Please continue to label bottles and clothing and shoes.

If you can please pack a range of clothing as weather is unpredictable.

Have a lovely Easter and safe travels to those of you going away



Thanks Nicole, Deb, Lesley and Kelly
nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

We have been fortunate with great weather to be able to venture into the community more with the trip to the train station and we had the opportunity to view the inside of the train. At children's request we followed the stopped fire truck to the East Street overpass to view all Emergency Services, Tow Trucks and SES at work, we focused on the police keeping the other traffic on the road safe as the highway was closed. We plan to play on the grassed area out the back with the Nursery next Tuesday.

Housekeeping- Please label children's clothing, our 2-3 year-old children are striving to be interdependent and sometimes bags are emptied and it makes it easier for staff to place the clothing in the correct bags if needed.

Toys we have had numerous children bringing favourite toys to Yarrunga that have become lost. It is hard to ensure they return home if lost and we can always accommodate for something similar to help your child settle in.

To help build children's confidence and save your back it is encouraged that they walk alongside you into care so they adapt and manage their own feelings.

Holly and Lynette have been to some fabulous training and hope to start to incorporate new things into our room to enhance Children's learning and well-being.



Thank you Lynette, Emma and Holly
juniorschool@yarrunga.com.au

EDUCATIONAL LEADER & NQS REPORT

QA7 - Leadership and service management:

On Monday night (3rd April) Nicole, Lynette and Emma accompanied me to the first Educational Leaders network meeting for the year which focused on qualities of 'leadership'. Our Yarrunga team learned a number of strategies to enact 'leadership' by reflecting on our own core values and how these have evolved through our work with children and families. We also investigated the difference between 'mentoring' and 'coaching' which can be shared within room teams.

Our networking meeting between Yarrunga and two early learning centres within our local community was held on Tuesday evening (4th April) and I am pleased to announce that this planned opportunity to share experiences and ideas relating to a number of issues within our sector proved highly beneficial.

Educators separated into curriculum teams and discussed issues relevant to their own age groups before we returned as a whole group to share our learning and affirm each other's strengths. Key points of interest included:

Programming

- Hard copy - paper version / electronic
- Critical reflection practices
- Linking service philosophy
- Including theorists in documentation
- Each service has the same format throughout curriculum groups

Routines

- Individual and group
- Behaviour management strategies

Excursion Opportunities / Risk Assessments

***It was agreed to continue these network meetings on a termly basis and hold them at a different service each time.**

In advancing our networking opportunities within our local ECEC sector we have now made considerable progress towards our Quality Improvement Plan No. 19 - Industry Networking, which in turn improves curriculum quality and outcomes for children, families and educators by broadening our knowledge base and debating new initiatives.

QA4 - Staffing Arrangements:

As a follow up from our March staff meeting we have now developed a new plan for our QIP which focuses on 'Equity of roles within curriculum teams' the goal of developing leadership skills in all educators.

Educational Leader Update:

A number of educators attended a workshop on the importance of Outdoor play and learning this month with a key focus on Philosophy interpretation and enactment. This month I am asking educators to review different phrases within our philosophy to ensure our interpretations are consistent

Regards,

Krystine

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

Our bi-monthly visits from Rachel at Bunnings have commenced. For the first visit the children planted Basil in water crystals and then decorated a paper cup pot plant holder for their seedling. Rachel also provided a Bunnings ruler for the children to measure the growth of their plant. This year we have chosen Craft activities instead of Gardening activities, so as not to 'double-up' with our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program which is already well underway.



Have you seen the new whiteboard at the entrance to our room? We can now document the children's outdoor play as it unfolds through the day, as well as any other relevant information for parents.

School Transition has commenced for some primary schools - please keep a look out for notices in the foyer, at the entrance to the Preschool room, and on the School Transition noticeboard in our room. We do also email some information. Schools are, or shortly will be, accepting enrolments for the 2018 school year. If you are undecided which school you would like your child to attend, we suggest that you either go to their Open Days, or make an appointment with the school to arrange an individual visit.

We are looking for 'olden day clothing' to dress a Scarecrow following-up on one of the children's interests - we would appreciate donations of long pants, a shirt, jacket and a hat! We are also looking for two 2 litre empty soft drink bottles to extend on an experiment we have been doing for our STEM learning.

If your child will be away for an extended period of time we would appreciate you notifying both the office and the preschool room as soon as possible, preferably by email, to ensure that we have the correct dates as Casual days can be offered in your absence.

Please be advised of the following upcoming Incursions / Excursions:

- Borella House

Wednesday, April 12th

Terri, Krystine & Chrissy
Preschool@yarrunga.com.au



Salmon Croquettes

Ingredients:

220g (7oz) can Salmon, 1 teaspoon curry powder, 1 small onion, 1 tablespoon chopped parsley, 2 teaspoons lemon juice, 2 eggs - glazing, dry breadcrumbs, oil for deep frying. White Sauce - 90g (3oz) butter or substitute, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup plain flour, 2 cups milk, salt & pepper.

Method:

1. Melt butter over low heat, remove, stir in flour, working until smooth, return to heat and cook few mins, remove, gradually stir in milk. Return to heat, stir until boiling, reduce heat, simmer further 3 mins, season with salt & pepper.
2. Drain salmon, remove bones and flake, peel and chop onion finely. Add salmon, curry powder, onion, parsley and lemon juice to sauce, mix thoroughly. Spread mixture on to shallow tray, refrigerate until firm.
3. Mould mixture into croquette shapes 2.5cm thick by 5cm long (1inx2in), dip into beaten eggs, press breadcrumbs on firmly, refrigerate 1 hour.
4. Fry in deep hot oil few minutes until golden, drain on absorbent paper, makes approximately 12.



Volunteers Wanted for Kitchen Garden Classes

The success of food education relies
on the support of volunteers.

There is nothing more satisfying than sharing a delicious
meal created with fresh produce that you have grown
from seed to harvest. Every week over school
children share in this experience at

Wednesdays 10-11am and Fridays 2-3pm.

You don't have to be a green thumb or a naked chef, you just have
to love growing food, eating food and being with children.

If you would like to volunteer in the kitchen or garden, whether
you have one hour to spare or a whole afternoon, we would
love to hear from you.

Contact: Lynette Lascelles
On: juniors@yarrunga.com.au



Move More ...



Encourage your children to play
Set an example by being active yourself
Create opportunities for your children to be active



60min

of moderate to vigorous intensity activity each day for 5-12 year olds [so that you huff and puff]

10 minutes
Active playtime before school @ home or school



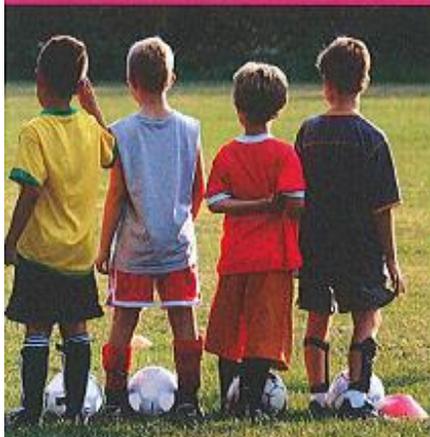
20 minutes
Walk or ride to and from school



30 minutes
Active play after school



60 minutes



Fundamental Movement Skills

The building blocks for playing games, sports and fun activities. Examples include overarm throw, jump, catch and balance.

Ideas for Active Play

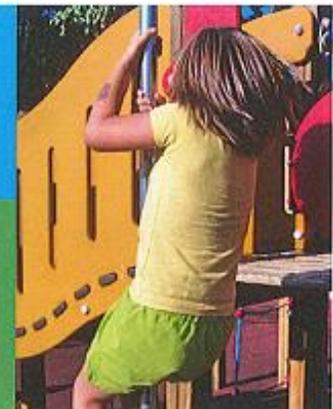
Running, skipping, trampoline, riding a bike, scooter or skateboard, swimming, frisbee, climbing, gymnastics, hopscotch, dancing, martial arts and organised sports.

Sit less ...

2 hours

Use of electronic media for entertainment should be limited to **less than 2 hours** per day

Some activities, like reading and school work, may need to be done while sitting. The key is to find a healthy balance and limit time spent in front of a screen for fun. Screens include TV, computer games, iPad, LeapPad, surfing the internet and smart phones.



Sources: Australian Physical Activity Guidelines for 5-12 year olds; Andrew May, Sydney Morning Herald; www.freedigitalphotos.net; Munch & Move Resource Manual, NSW Health.

Produced by MLHD Health Promotion



Health
Murrumbidgee
Local Health District