

yarrunga

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2019

DATES FOR THE DIARY

DECEMBER 2019

Children's Christmas party
Thursday 5th December
5.30-7.30

Last day for Children -
Monday 23rd December

JANUARY 2020

Children return - Monday 6th
January 2020



WET BAGS

We have several wet bags left, if anyone would like one or two please see Karen or Lisa in the Office, they are \$5 each.

YARRUNGA'S CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The last day for the children will be Monday 23rd December 2019
and the first day for children in 2020 will be
Monday 6th January.

Please organize your holidays or leave so that you are covered for care in this period.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY & CONCERT

THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2019

From 5.30-7.30pm

Come along and enjoy a family sausage sizzle
and get together with families.

Santa will be there and there will
be activities for the children



Fees:

A reminder to all families that all fees must be paid up to the end of the year prior to Wednesday 11th December 2019. No fees will be charged for the period 24th December 2019 - 3rd January 2020.

Yarrunga can now be followed on Facebook and Instagram



CHILDREN'S T-SHIRTS & JUMPERS

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

Please see Lisa or Karen



FEE INCREASE:

Yarrunga's daily fees will increase to \$95 per day from the 6th January 2020.

A letter explaining the increase has been emailed to all families.

SCHOOL LEAVERS:

Most of the children have already had their "Big School" visits and we wish them well for their next big adventure - Primary School.

Hamish Lum

Archer May

Noah Merrett

Grace Ellis

Hudson Fisher

Mabel Cuming

George Beanland

Jina Hardham

Louie Bassingthwaighte

Liesel Wilson

Vienna Wallen

Orlando White

Sienna Butler

Arthur O'Connell

Archie Mitchell

Emily Wundenberg

Kiera Davis

Olivia O'Connell

Frankie Robertson

There are also a few Yarrunga families that will leave us at the end of the year, we wish them well and thank them for their support and friendship.

Children's Educators for 2020

Nursery/Toddler Room

Nicole Owens
Lesley Wood
Serena Woods
Jungeun Park

Junior Preschool

Chrissy Clark
Emma Murray
Alana Smith

Pre-school Room

Krystine Masterson
Lynette Lascelles
Natt Kramer
Molly Millington

Floaters:- Julie Schilg, Belle Lowe & Carly Grintell

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2020

Executive

PRESIDENT	Kate Chandler
SECRETARY	Genna Richter
TREASURER	Carly Sheather
VICE PRESIDENT	Alana Wilson
VICE SECRETARY	Therese Lum
VICE TREASURER	Rinelda van den Berg

General Committee

Annie Meredith	Justine McCormack
Lauren Hanna	Ben Nott
Rachel Graham	Emma Sargent
Megan Dallinger	Kimberley Prigg
Melissa Sellwood	
Leah Wiseman	

Roast Pumpkin Rice Salad



Ingredients: $\frac{1}{2}$ a butternut pumpkin or any variety, peeled and cubed, dried cumin, paprika and ground coriander, olive oil, packet of 2 min brown rice, handful rocket leaves, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sundried tomatoes, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup toasted almonds and sticky balsamic vinegar dressing.

Method: Sprinkle cubed pumpkin with dried cumin, paprika and ground coriander then drizzle with olive oil. Roast in 200 degree Celsius oven for 30 mins, let cool. Add pumpkin to large salad bowl. Then add cooked brown rice and rocket leaves with sundried tomatoes, toasted almonds and balsamic vinegar.

NURSERY/TODDLER NEWS

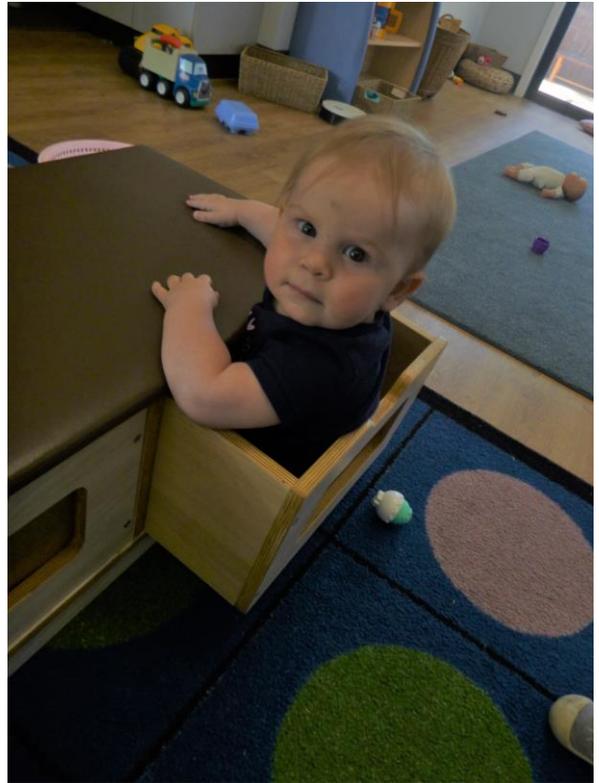
The children have been enjoying doll play and using the handbags and wallets through their pretend play. During this play they have shown kindness and fairness to those around them by taking care of each other and mimicking what they see around them.

Don't forget to pack lots of changes of clothes during this up and down weather so we can dress your children appropriately for all conditions.

We have had a fabulous year and we appreciate your patience and understanding while we made the big transition to and back from City Central Church. The children have shown resilience and adapted to change well during this time. We have loved being back at 'Our Yarrunga'.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Thank you for a great year!



Emma, Nicole and Serena

Nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

This is the last newsletter for 2019. What a big year we have shared. We started the year at City Central Church which provided us with many opportunities to make community connections within the CBD. We also continued our relationships with our established community connections including the Library, train station, Botanical gardens and Wonga Wetlands. Visiting local schools for special events and building a relationship for those heading to school in 2020. Moving back to our Yarrunga Environment we reconnected with Borella House.

The large open grassed area in the Church yard served us well for large movements and games, such as obstacle courses and ball games. We followed up with team ball sports with CSU student Blake.

We introduced bike riding and ball games behind Yarrunga on our return. The new gym equipment was also a great addition for our Gross motor skills.

Throughout the year we have promoted Literacy and Numeracy learning through small and large group experiences, planned play spaces and targeted games.

This year we saw many young budding artists blossom in both environments as they resourced their own learning through unlimited resources and recycled materials.



Thank you for sharing all your learning experiences and wish all those children moving on to preschool and big school the best of luck and we look forward to watching all those returning grow and learn in our Big preschool room.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the Preschool Educators



Krystine, Natt, Netty and Deb.
preschool@yarrunga.com.au

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

Another busy month in our room with a new team member Alana starting in our room and settling in beautifully. A big thank you to Jay for all her help in the room we will miss her but at least we will still see her around.

This month we have been working very hard to create some beautiful Christmas presents for the end of the year and we have been practicing our songs for the Christmas concert. To extend on this with the children, we have begun to create a Christmas workshop, exploring Christmas puzzles and reading Christmas stories.



Please ensure that the children have sunscreen on when you arrive and pack plenty of changes of clothes as we explore our messy play and water play. As the weather warms up, we will certainly be undertaking more sensory play, enjoying the cooling and calming properties of water.

Learners have been loving the opportunity to engage in collaborative construction projects, creating some amazing designs and structures with the blocks. As children cooperate in these tasks, they are learning vital prosocial skills, including reciprocal communication; negotiation and sharing, embedding traits that will be valuable through their entire life.



There has been a good deal of creativity happening at the child-initiated art station, with Junior Preschoolers practicing their cutting and scissor skills; manipulating the tape dispensers



and engaging in mixed media drawing. These fine motor skills are important for pre-writing, as little hand and finger muscles are being strengthened.

Just a quick word from Alana - A massive thank you to the Yarrunga family for facilitating my smooth transition back to the community here and making me feel so welcome! I am beyond excited to be collaborating with an amazing team of educators and meeting and working alongside families and your children. If I haven't met you yet, please feel free to come and introduce yourself.

Belle, Alana, Chrissy and Molly
juniorschool@yarrunga.com.au



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

Educational Leader Report

2019 has seen a year that culminated with great reward for our Yarrunga educators, children and families.

Commencing the year with a relocation to City Central Church whilst the refurbishment of our building was undertaken presented minimal disruption for children as educators ensured a smooth transition by bridging the gap between the familiar and new. All children quickly settled into their new learning environments which included resources from *old Yarrunga* that were creatively used in the spaces available. The central location of the church also provided an abundance of learning opportunities in our CBD. Children and educators from all groups became a familiar presence as we visited local businesses and tourist destinations in our florescent vests.

Coming home to our newly refurbished 'Runga' rejuvenated and inspired everyone's passion for teaching and learning as we arranged the bright, airy, purpose-built play spaces, having access to unlimited resources once again

Moving Forward:

We have addressed recommendations to build on the achievements noted in our Assessment and Rating Outcome Summary Report, September 2018. This has been largely due to our building upgrade which has allowed educators greater scope in the delivery of their curriculums.

To date we have:

- Reintroduced an emergent curriculum
- Implemented indoor/outdoor play within all rooms and across groups
- Reflected with children and families on how to best document children's learning and added improvement strategies to our Quality Improvement plan

- Incorporated input from children and families in planning the staff roster for 2020
- Sought advice from our local Aboriginal community representative, Aunty Ruth Davys, on partnering us in a Physical Acknowledgement of country project which will incorporate a collaborative artwork by the children to be displayed outside our foyer
- Developed plans to ensure we 'give back to the community' in a meaningful way (building on exceeding themes in QA6) by providing a 'Certificate of Appreciation' to community organizations detailing how their support has been included in planning for children's learning

An area of ever- increasing strength for our Yarrunga community is the way we have been able to capture the essence of building relationships through our engagement with local community businesses, people and resources. This past year has seen old relationships consolidated and new ones formed including:

- Visiting with the residents of Borella House at both venues now that we have the facilities to cater for their needs thanks to our refurbishment
- Partnering with local primary schools and OOSH services to support continuity in transitions
- Visiting CBD shops and businesses - bicycle shops, hairdressers, bank, pet shops, opportunity shop, supermarkets, train station, Information & Visitor Centre Library Museum, QE11 Square events
- Utilizing the bike path for sight-seeing and bike riding, using the East Albury Fitness Stations for Fundamental Movement experiences, visiting the Community Garden to supplement our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, and going to local parks for ball play, physical challenges and games

In 2020 our aim is to:

- Further draw on educator strengths to enhance professional practice by implementing a new Peer Mentoring system and facilitating Peer to Peer learning opportunities
- Focus on one area of the National Quality Standard at a time and develop strategies to strengthen practice until our goals are achieved
- Ensure our Quality Improvement Plan is short and concise with the aim of making it more manageable for educators and families
- Add evidence of exceeding themes for each Quality Area as we reflect on our strengths
- Align educator goals, professional development and Educational Leader mentoring with links to our Quality Improvement Plan
- Match policies and research articles for reading time with Quality Improvement review

As always if you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can continue to improve on Quality Early Childhood Education and Care we want to hear about them!

Wishing you all a very Merry Xmas and Happy New Year

Krystine

If parents have any concerns or complaints, please follow the attached *Grievance Policy*

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 Kathryn Chandler (phone 0457 717 624) 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.

Merry
Christmas

and a Happy
New Year