



DATES FOR THE DIARY

February 2017

Management Committee
Meeting - Wednesday
15th February 7.30pm

March 2017

Friday 24th - Half Day
Holiday - Albury Gold
Cup

EASTER BREAK

Friday 14th April to
Monday 18th April

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2017

AUTHORISATION

FORMS

Any families that have not
returned their 2017
Authorisation Forms please
due so ASAP as this is a
regulation set down by the
Education and Care
Services.

STAGE 2 OF SENSORY GARDEN

As you will have noticed the work has begun on the sensory garden, there has been a slight holdup but are hoping this will be rectified in the next week and the work will re-commence. This will see part of the top yard barricaded off for a number of weeks. We are confident the inconvenience will be forgotten once we are able to use this new area.

POLICIES BEING REVIEWED

A number of policies and procedures are on display and due to be ratified at the Committee Meeting in February 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
Kelly, Justin, William, Thomas &
Lachlan
on the arrival of their baby girl and
sister Matilda

SUSTAINABILITY

Our worm compost garden has been set up and this week we have continued with it and added vegetable scraps for the first time. We have planted Broccoli, Sugar Snap Peas, Dwarf Beans and Spinach. We have an abundance of tomatoes growing and have made a Napolitano sauce for lunch.

If you have any pictures of your garden or pictures of work on your gardens please email to admin@yarrunga.com.au so we can see what's growing in your home environment.

Please feel free to look in the Foyer to see what is happening in our garden.



NURSERY NEWS

Hello Families,

Please remember to label all your children's belongings and their bottles, formula and drink cups. Also we provide food for your children while they are at Yarrunga so there is no need to bring food from home fresh fruit is ok. If you don't get time to give breakfast let us know.

Drop off times can be very busy in the mornings but please let us know if your child has had a disrupted sleep or evening this can help us know if they are tired or what they may need. We would also like to know a rough pick up time so if your child is tired or unsettled we can decide whether to put them back for a sleep or hold them out. Helping you to have a happy settled child at the end of the day.

We have had lots of renovations in our room it looks fantastic new bench in play room and new sinks with cupboards and a new hand wash basin and top in nappy change area. Make sure you have a look.



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

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

- Things to remember - a good healthy breakfast before play is a great start to the day.
- Just a quick reminder - Morning Tea is eaten at 9am.
- We have had a few items of clothing without names, please ensure your children's clothes are labelled and there are spares in their bag.
- Donations of summer shorts would be greatly appreciated.



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

EDUCATIONAL LEADER & NQS REPORT

At our February staff meeting curriculum teams reflected on goals for the coming year which have been linked to our Yarrunga Values for 2017:

- ***Wellbeing*** - Educator Wellness
- ***Communication*** - Educators / families / children
and
- ***Philosophy*** - Professional representation within our broader community

I am now using team responses to develop Yarrunga's Educational Leader Goals for 2017 and these along with our Values will be displayed and added to the strengths in our Quality Improvement Plan.

Through '*critically reflective practice*' we have also been able to identify and celebrate individual team strengths including:

- Team work
- Documentation
- Transitions
And
- Positive feedback about our new Weekly Highlights format

All educators are in agreeance that this has been a very smooth and settled beginning to 2017 which has been made possible by the ongoing trusting communication between families and educators. With parent / educator meetings now underway we aim to strengthen relationships to provide the best possible outcomes for your children.

QIP Update:

QA7 - Leadership and service management:

We are currently working on building networking opportunities within the early childhood profession by organising regular get-togethers with other services in our immediate community. Our aim is to provide a platform for professional development through the sharing of experiences, issues and ideas within our industry.

Philosophy Review:

We are currently reviewing our Philosophy with input from educators and children, and seek comments from families which will ensure our Philosophy continues to be reflective of all stake-holders. As always any input, no matter how small, is always valued.

Regards,

Krystine

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

We are well and truly back into the 'swing of things' in the 3-5 Preschool room with all families having returned or commenced for 2017.



This week we have started our Small Focus Group times prior to lunch - we have left this to the start of February until all children have returned from holidays, and are settled into the 3-5 Preschool room. These groups are usually only 10-15 minutes in duration at this time of the year, gradually extending to 30-45 minutes as the year progresses. Each day for Small Focus Group time our large group is divided into two smaller groups. Small Focus Group times are planned around children's interests and facilitate

exploration of new and more familiar materials / ideas / concepts with adult or peer support. The daily curriculum will also include larger group times which are generally planned around language/drama and music/movement experiences.

This month in consultation with the children we will also be developing our room limits and guidelines which we will then email to families.

You should have received an email from us each Friday with our Weekly Curriculum attached - please let us know as soon as possible if you have not received these as our contact details for you may be incorrect. You should have also received an email last week regarding our February Parent / Educator Meetings. If you would like to meet with Krystine or Terri they both still have a few spots available.

Another reminder to please return both your 'Voices from Home', and 'Transition to School' (if applicable) sheets as soon as possible, and provide a photo of your family to display in our room - thanks!

Please note that Yarrunga supplies sunscreen unless your child has an allergy. It is available on arrival for you to apply to your child.

We wish Chrissy well at Country Week tennis - she will be away for the next two weeks. We welcome back Lisa Parker to the 3-5 Preschool room - Lisa will be helping with coverage of staff RDO's.

This month the following Excursions / Incursions have been planned:

- Bin Smart Class - Halve Waste Tuesday, February 14th
- Worm Composting - Halve Waste Wednesday, February 15th
- Wiradjuri Cultural Session Friday, February 24th
- Drum Beat Monday, February 27th

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



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

CHICKEN & MACARONI BAKE

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups macaroni, 4 (460g) chicken breast fillets, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup olive oil, 1 med chopped onion, 1 med chopped carrot, 3 rashers chopped bacon, 2 med chopped zucchini, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup sour cream, 440 g can tomato soup, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups grated cheese, salt & pepper to

METHOD:

- Preheat oven to 180 C, trim chicken of excess fat, cook macaroni in a large pan of rapidly boiling water with a little oil, cook until just tender, drain.
- Slice chicken into long strips then cut into cubes.
- Heat oil in heavy based pan, cook chicken quickly until browned but not cooked through, drain, add onion, carrot and bacon to pan. Stir over medium heat 10 minutes, add zucchini and soup. Bring to boil, simmer uncovered 5 minutes, remove from heat.
- Combine pasta, chicken, tomato and cream, season to taste, spread into a shallow ovenproof dish, top with cheese, bake 20 minutes until golden and cooked through.



**SALTS
OF THE
EARTH**

KEEP NASTY BUGS AT BAY!

Salt therapy is a natural therapy that relieves the symptoms of a wide range of children's conditions including: asthma, croup, bronchiolitis, cold and flu and eczema.

It involves inhaling dry salt, which cleanses both the airways and skin to relieve congestion, inflammation and allergies. It helps to loosen congestion to allow easier and improved breathing and helps reduce inflammation and irritation caused by skin conditions when the salt comes in contact with the skin. Safe for even the smallest lungs, salt therapy is great for children of all ages to keep them happy, healthy and breathing better.

Salts of the Earth Albury
02 6021 2004

1/469 Olive St, Albury, NSW, 2640
www.saltsoftheearth.com.au

A Quick Bite ...

Crunch & Sip doesn't have to be boring!

Are your kids bored of always having the same thing for their Crunch & Sip break?

Yes, then why not try packing a variety pack?

Some ideas could include:

- Sugar snap peas and tomatoes
- Grapes and mango
- Kiwi fruit (don't forget the spoon...)
- Corn, carrot, and cucumber
- Green beans and red capsicum.
- A tub of frozen peas, cherry tomatoes and mushrooms
- Melon balls – using various type of melons
- Add a little spice with radish, rocket and cucumber



<http://healthykids.com.au/fruits-vegetables>

To continue adding a bit of variety why not change the packing too. Instead of whole fruit, why not pack a combination of fruit and vegetables in little boxes, or sealable bags.

For more information visit

www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/services/health-promotion-1

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A Quick Bite ...

Add more variety to Crunch & Sip.

Do your children take the same fruit and vegetables to school each day for Crunch & Sip? Do they drink enough water?

Why not create variety, and encourage children to try new things with these great ideas?

- pack several different fruits or vegetables instead of just one.
- Help your children “eat a rainbow” by providing fruit and vegetables of different colours.
- Mix new fruit and veg with ones children are familiar with.
- Place some fresh or frozen fruit in a bottle with water to change the taste.
- Let the child choose a water bottle that they would drink water fun. Make it fun instead of a boring, clear water bottle.



<https://www.healthkids.net.au/activities/programs/>

For more information visit

www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/services/health-promotion-1

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A Quick Bite ...

Crunch & Sip at home.

Have you ever been stuck for ideas for games to play with your children?

Why not try some of these ideas? They are great for the imagination and can help children learn and develop in many ways. The games can be played for 2 minutes, 5 minutes or occupy children for longer depending on their age.

- A-Z game—what fruit and vegetables can the children name beginning with the letters of the alphabet
- Colours of fruit and vegetables—how many fruit and veg can the children name of the same colour eg, what fruit and veg are red?
- Draw a new fruit or vegetable
- Draw a superhero made from fruit and vegetables. What would their superpower be?
- What else could fruit and vegetables be used for, other than eating eg, a pretend telephone (banana), shampoo etc. What new ideas can your children think of?



For more information visit

www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/services/health-promotion-1

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Our Philosophy

Relationships

Relationships are central to everything we do. We value equitable, respectful and reciprocal relationships between educators, children, families and community. Relationships create a sense of connectedness that is inclusive for all

Children

Children's voices guide our curriculum. As each child learns through play, they follow their own interest which is scaffolded through intentional teaching. We encourage self-expression, creativity, exploration and risk-taking to develop a strong sense of self and respect for others

Educators

We value and support each other as equal team members, committed to continual learning and development, both as a collective and as individuals. Learning is strengthened as we share ideas, share decisions and reflect on our practices together

Community

Each family is unique and brings richness in culture, values, beliefs and practices to our community, growing us all. We foster these family connections and promote partnerships with our wider community to grow a sense of belonging for all

Environment

We are committed to providing a safe, healthy, nurturing, and consistent environment in a welcoming natural atmosphere. Sustainable practices support children to participate fully and actively in society and become global citizens of the future

