



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2019

DATES FOR THE DIARY FEBRUARY 2019

Management Committee
Meeting Wednesday 20th
February @ 7.30pm

AUTHORISATION FORMS

The Education and Care services regulations require us to have a new authority form completed for each child each year. These have been emailed to you but if you require a paper copy ask in your room or at the office. These forms need to be completed and returned ASAP.

PHONES - We have had our phones diverted from Yarrunga to City Central Church, but we are experiencing some difficulty in families not being able to reach us on the phone. Please try these numbers 0417 915 106

0418 247 037

ROOM PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS

Each room emails out a weekly photo collage of the group engaged in play and learning. **Please let room educators know if you are not receiving these 😊**

Project Update

CityCentral
Church

If you have taken a drive down Woodstock Ct recently, you would have noticed that work is well and truly underway at Yarrunga! We are met with mixed emotions- while it is daunting to see our beloved centre this way, we are very excited for the next chapter of Yarrunga. You may have also seen our feature in the local media. It has been wonderful to receive such support for Albury City Council and we look forward to working in partnership with them to see our project through to completion. We have settled in well to our temporary location at City Central Church and feel very grateful to have this as our home away from home. If you have any ideas or feedback on how we can make the most of our time here and ensure a happy stay for all, it would be greatly appreciated.

Yarrunga can now be followed on Facebook and Instagram



CHILDREN'S T-SHIRTS

If you would like to order a t-shirt or shirts for your child/ren, order forms will be available in the office - \$12.00 each

Please see Claire, Lisa or Karen



NURSERY/TODDLER NEWS

Hello everyone,

Welcome to all our new families starting with us in the Nursery/Toddler room.

Everyone should have received a form "All about me" and an introduction letter showing who your primary carers are, please return forms ASAP.

We have been busy getting to know all the individual routines and building relationships with all the children. As the children start to settle more, we will venture outside as much as we can.

Our new space is working well, and we are resourcing new ideas for setting up experiences.

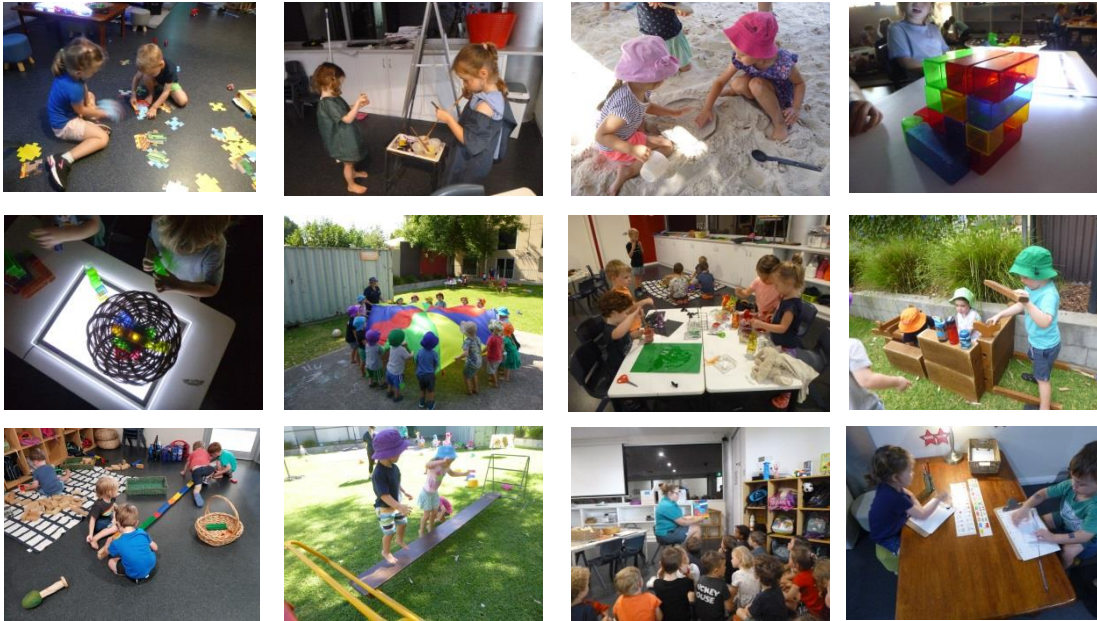


Nicole, Emma, Serena and Lesley
nurserytoddler@yarrunga.com.au

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

Wow, January seems to have flown by and hopefully with it some of the stifling weather! Needless to say we have been very fortunate in having the only room with refrigerated cooling, so our children haven't been affected too much.

Over the past month children and educators have been planning our indoor and outdoor learning environments with lots of emphasis on the creation of specific play spaces based on current interests and abilities. We have included both familiar and new resources which are interchangeable to ensure all children's ideas and growth is consistently catered for. These include numeracy and literacy learning, dramatic play, science/technology, creativity and fundamental movement.



We have also been on community outings to the library museum where we had opportunity to experience the playschool exhibition and borrow some books to read back at Yarrunga. This has led to an emergent interest in familiar classics like the *Three Little Pigs* which we have been acting out and making puppets to promote confidence in group experiences and an understanding of sequencing. Through these community outings we are also learning about community landmarks and have begun creating a community scrapbook with photos and comments from the children. We will be planning many more outings as the weather cools a little with the aim of ensuring we include all children on different days of the week.



In February we will be introducing Small Group Times so that children and educators can spend time together strengthening relationships and learning new skills. Thank you for your ongoing input into our curriculum. We love to include interests from home for all children!

Please return your background information sheets as these are our initial way of getting to know you and your child, and commence planning for their learning and development.

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

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

We have had a lovely start to the year in the Junior Preschool room with the children settling in much quicker than we anticipated given that the majority of our JPS group have just moved up from the Nursery this year.

We have also really been surprised by the number of children that have already commenced toilet training (this usually happens around 2 to 2.5 years). During daily Nappy Changes educators ask the children if they want to sit on the toilet - most times they do, but if they don't then that's okay too! Please ask your child's Primary Carer if you require more information about Toilet Training, including tips for moving your child from Nappies to Undies.

We continue to build on the children's self-help skills and autonomy through our daily routines in the JPS room. Educators encourage the children to help apply their own sunscreen, put their belongings away in their bag, store hats in their locker after outside time, place their drink bottle in the drink basket, help pack up after play time, practice using tongs to serve their own Morning Tea, get undressed for sleep/rest and help educators put their sheets on/take sheets off their beds.



Early Childhood Road Safety Education Program

We have been discussing Key Road Safety Messages from the *Kids and Traffic* program with the children since relocating to our new venue at City Central Church.

Educators have safety talks and daily practice with children in relation to crossing the driveway when transitioning to/from the building and our outdoor playground area.

Educators have been fostering the children's knowledge and understanding of Counting from 1 to 10 (in sequence, one to one correspondence) during routine times such as handwashing, with Aunty Ruth's Wiradjuri numbers, practicing counting everyday objects (spontaneous), using props for "Five Little Ducks" and "Three Cheeky Monkeys" and singing songs at Group Time such as "Once I Caught a Fish Alive" and "Ten Fat Sausages".

We have followed up a child's individual interest in cutting. The children have been practicing and refining their fine motor (small muscle) skill in using scissors with paper and playdough. Educators have also been promoting the children's sense of belonging to the JPS group through dances and games both indoors (Hokey Pokey) and outdoors (Parachute Play).

And finally, you should have been receiving a Weekly Photo Collage via email from the JPS room for - please let us know if you haven't got it!



Terri, Chrissy, Molly and Belle
juniorpreschool@yarrunga.com.au

Educational Leader & NQS

Welcome to all of our new families and those returning in 2019 for another year full of fun and learning!

Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF):

It has been wonderful to see such a settled start to the year in our new temporary location at City Central Church, with children, families and educators building or re-establishing supportive relationships with each other. Our indoor and outdoor learning spaces are working well and we have noticed children from all groups enjoying play and learning together as we share the lovely grassed yard.

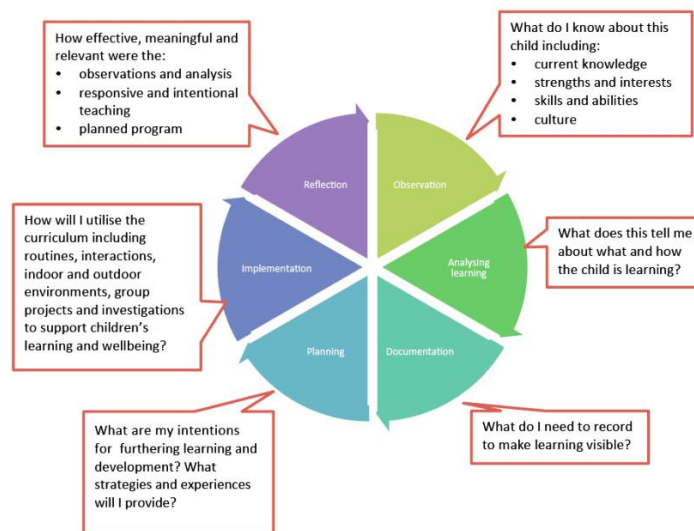
During January room teams have developed their curriculums and sent out information relating to their teaching and learning goals for 2019. The background information sheets you have received are our initial way of learning about what you feel is important and want your child to achieve in the coming months. Please do take the time to fill these out as you are your child's first and foremost educator, and with your input educators can begin documenting individual plans for learning and development.

In early February we will also offer parent/educator meetings so you can meet with your child's primary educator and share ideas. You will receive further information about available dates and times from your room teams.

Quality Improvement:

As you will have noticed we have modified our group planning format this year to ensure we meet the needs of families in our present Yarrunga community context. With feedback from our Facebook poll and conversations with families in January it was established that the majority of families prefer photos of their children engaged in play and learning via email as opposed to the hard copy floor books we have previously used. Your child's individual learning journal will remain the same and is always available for you to view with more in-depth detail about their participation in curriculum experiences.

The new group plan also ensures educators are continually striving for best practice as it aligns with the exceeding themes of Quality Area 1 in the National Quality Standard - Educational Program and Practice. With feedback from our Assessment and Rating visit in September last year all educators are being supported to consistently implement the Early Years Learning Framework planning cycle for both group and individual learning.



(Assessment and Planning Cycle [ACECQA, 2018])

Thank you,
Krystine

Chicken Fried Rice



Ingredients: 1 chopped onion, 1 red chopped capsicum, 3 stalks chopped celery, 4 rashers chopped bacon, 2 beaten eggs (optional), 1 bch chopped buk choy or cabbage, handful of baby spinach leaves, 6-8 cups cooked rice, shredded cooked chicken, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup soy sauce, half bunch chopped spring onions or shallots, 1 lime,

sesame oil, black pepper and chopped fresh mint and coriander - optional.

Method: Heat oil in wok until hot, add onions, capsicum, celery and bacon, cook for 5 mins until golden, move to the side of the wok, add beaten eggs - let set slightly then mix the egg around and cook with vegetables. Add buk choy and spinach leaves - stir, add cooked rice and chicken - stir, add soy sauce - stir. Turn off heat - add spring onions, juice of lime, 1 tablespoon sesame oil and loads of black pepper. Sprinkle with fresh herbs.

Note: Add whatever vegetables you have on hand - the more the better.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND RESOURCE FEE

As Yarrunga is an Incorporated body and needs to abide by the Incorporation Act 2009, the annual Membership fee of \$11.00 will be charged to each family during February.

Also, as in previous years, a Resource Levy of \$50.00 will also be charged. This levy was put in place by the Management Committee in lieu of fundraising and is used to buy resources for the children.



Children Drop-off and Pick-up

Please remember to drive carefully and slowly as children and Educators have to cross the driveway to access the playground.

We could set a 'no screen time' rule
at dinner time and before school.



What could you do?

"We could turn off the TV
and go for a walk
to relax as a family."



What could you do?



There are lots of ways to
enjoy screen-free quiet time



NSW Health
Murrumbidgee Local Health District



Screen-free memories
= priceless

NSW Health
Murrumbidgee Local Health District