

yarrunga

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE
NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2017



Yarrunga would like to thank all the families that donated their time and attended the working bee held on Friday 27th October. Both yards are now looking neat and tidy, so once again THANK YOU

DATES FOR THE DIARY NOVEMBER 2017

Yarrunga's Annual General Meeting- Wednesday 15th

DECEMBER 2017

Children's Christmas Party
Thursday 7th - 5.30-7.30
Last Day Children - 21st
December.

YARRUNGA'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGM WILL
BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY
15TH NOVEMBER 2017 AT 7.30PM**

GUEST SPEAKER - CATHERINE NORTHAM

ALL WELCOME!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY & CONCERT THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2017

From 5.30-7.30pm.

Come along and enjoy a family sausage sizzle and get together with our families. There will be activities and Santa will make an appearance





Congratulations to our Yarrunga Family that has welcomed a new addition to their family: -
Therese, Stephen, Patrick & Hamish -
welcome a baby girl Matilda

YARRUNGA'S CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The last day for children will be Thursday 21st December 2017 and the first day of attendance in 2018 will be Monday 8th January.

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

Staff Training Corner

ECA LEARNING HUB:

Professional partnerships for early childhood inclusion - Claire

Stem in early childhood - Julie

Education for Sustainability - Kelly

ECECD October Consultation - Claire

Thanks to Vitasoy for donating Rice & Soy Milk to Yarrunga



Fees:

A reminder to all families that all fees must be paid up to the end of the year prior to Wednesday 13th December. No fees will be charged for the period of 22nd December 2017 - 5th January 2018.

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





One-Pot Italian Sausage Rice

Ingredients: 1 Tablespoon olive oil, 375g lean Italian beef sausages, 1 large finely chopped onion, 2 cloves crushed garlic, 2 teaspoons dried Italian herbs, 250g cherry tomatoes halved, 1 medium chopped red capsicum, 400g can diced tomatoes, 2 x 250g packets 90 second rice, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup frozen peas, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely chopped fresh basil leaves, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely chopped fresh flat leaf parsley leaves & grated cheddar cheese to serve.

Method: Heat oil in a deep frying pan over medium heat, snip one end from each sausage, squeeze meat into pan, forming small meatballs. Discard casings, cook meatballs, turning 4-5 minutes or until browned. Add onion and garlic, cook stirring for 3 minutes or until onion softens. Add dried herbs, cherry tomatoes, capsicum and diced tomatoes. Season with salt and pepper, cover, bring to the boil. Reduce heat to low, simmer for 8 minutes or until sauce thickens and tomatoes start to collapse. Add rice and peas, cook for 2 minutes or until heated through. Stir in basil and parsley, top with cheese, serve.

POLICIES BEING REVIEWED

The last of our policies to be reviewed for this year are to be ratified at the November Management Meeting are: - Guiding Children's Behaviour, Inclusion, Diversity & Anti-Bias and Electronic Media. Please have a read and comment.

NURSERY/TODDLER NEWS

We have been very lucky the past month with beautiful weather and being able to get out and about in our pram. We held a picnic under the big shady tree out the back. It was nice to have the freedom of space. We love exploring our local community and this has been easier to do with our CSU student, Sumer, participating in our routines and curriculum. Please feel free to introduce yourself and ask any questions you may have. Sumer will be with us for 2 more weeks and will take partial control of the program next week.

Nursery/Toddler Educators are busy writing Individual yearly summaries. We are continuing with shared leadership as we write these which allows each educator to have input to your child's learning and development.

Thank you for the great response of updated food allergy sheets. If you haven't returned your completed form, please do so ASAP to keep us up to date with providing appropriate meals for your child.

We have also been enjoying our cultural visits from Ruth as she teaches us about the land we live on and our heritage of country. Using the clap sticks, dancing and singing with Ruth is really enjoyable. Some of our smallest babes love to get up close and in the lime light.

We are now getting ready for our Christmas party and will begin song practice with the Jnrs and Pre-schooler's this month.



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

JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

In the last month the children have been engaged in various types of water play from jumping in the puddles left by the rain, water play expiration tables by measuring and pouring or sea animal inquiry. Our water pump has been repaired so the children have commenced play with this. We have enjoyed Ruth coming on various days to help further embed our Wiradjuri Indigenous culture.

We are having a fire visit next Wednesday the 15th, for all children to participate in.

We have started transitions throughout the centre in preparation for next year when there is space available. The Nursery/Toddler children have been coming into our room as well as some of our children going down to explore the preschool room.

The educators have started working on the children's end of year assessments and completing their learning journals ready to hand out next month.

Thank you Lynette, Emma and Holly

juniorpreschool@yarrunga.com.au

Christmas Book Drive

It is that time of the year when many of us are having a cleanup and getting rid of excess toys and books before the arrival of new Christmas presents.

At Yarrunga we would like to encourage you to bring in a book that your child has outgrown and that another less fortunate child would treasure. I will place a crate in the foyer for your child to place a book, till the end of November.

The books will be given to the Care Van for distribution.

Looking forward to your support.



EDUCATIONAL LEADER & NQS REPORT

QA4 - Staffing Arrangements:

Shared Leadership Update

After reflecting our trial of 'shared leadership' over recent months' educators have decided to continue this initiative next year. In making this decision we have considered the positive outcomes that shared leadership has created for children, families and educators, and how we have supported each other to overcome small challenges that have arisen along the way. Thank you to families who provided a response to our Parent Survey Last month indicating that you also support the diversity in programming for your child's learning. When room teams are finalised for 2018 there will be some 'fine tuning' to ensure our professional practice meets the needs of each curriculum group.

QA6 - Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities:

Links between engaging with communities and quality education and care

Ensuring that Yarrunga is 'inclusion ready'

Educators are currently reflecting on professional practices that support secure, respectful and reciprocal relationships with each child and family and the organisations within our local community. Our focus is on how these are interrelated and beneficial for the support and wellbeing of all children and families. At our November staff meeting we brainstormed the following questions:

- **How does Yarrunga promote learning experiences interactions and participation to build on children's strengths and encourage involvement?**
- **How will we engage with families in the community who do not currently access ECCC services?**

It was pleasing to hear educators consistently referring to our philosophy in action which demonstrates our stake holder values in this quality area! We now have a number of ideas to explore further and add to our Quality Improvement Plan. If you have any suggestions (particularly relating to the second point) please don't hesitate to speak with Claire, myself or your room educators. Your knowledge and community experience ensures we maintain a focus that is contextual to Yarrunga, our families and community.

Wiradjuri language and culture sessions

Ruth Davys has recommenced her sessions and fortunately is able to alternate her days due to more flexibility in her availability. Now every child can experience this worthwhile learning through face to face interactions with Ruth and follow up curriculum experiences with educators.

Krystine

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS

Our 'NSW Transition to School Statements' been emailed to your child's school. Krystine and I plan to contact schools for their feedback in relation to the information provided, and how it is used by the schools for their transition programs. Many children have started their individual school Orientation programs, and whilst they have been out of the centre we have also begun transitions for the JPS children that will be moving up to the 3-5 Preschool room in 2018.

As part of our School Transition Plan children will be able to bring their lunchboxes to preschool starting in the week beginning November 20th, for two weeks. Your child can either bring their packed lunch once a week, or each day that they attend. They will also still be offered the food provided in our Daily Menu as well. Please ensure that your child has a piece of fruit for 'fruit break', and a reminder that due to the children attending our service with life threatening allergies, **please do not send any products that contain egg/may contain traces of egg, or peanuts in their ingredients.** We have included some lunchbox suggestions from the 'Munch & Move' program in this Newsletter, and will also attach some ideas to our Weekly Curriculum highlights over the next couple of weeks.

SUNSMART - it is now time to start wearing our sunscreen and hats again as per our Sun Safe Policy which is available for your inspection in the policy manual located in our foyer. Just a reminder that clothing should cover and protect the shoulders, and footwear needs to be fitted and sturdy for running and climbing.

Weather permitting Water Play will be available in both our morning and afternoon outdoor environments so please ensure that your child has a spare change of clothes in their bag. Educators encourage and remind children to play with the water, rather than it, and will turn the water supply to our pump/creek bed off in the afternoon in time for children to dry off and/or get changed if required prior to being collected.

We welcome back Chrissy from three weeks leave and thank Julie for all her hard work and assistance in the 3-5 Preschool room over this time.

All educators are currently finishing off Individual Learning Journals, and starting to prepare with the children for our end of year celebrations.

Please be advised of the following upcoming Excursions and Events:

Monday 4th December Borella House 9:15AM - 12:15PM

Thursday, December 7th Bunnings Workshop 10:00 - 11:00AM

StEPS Vision Screening CATCH UP DAYS Fridays 10th November 9:00AM-12:00PM

24th November 9:00AM-12:00PM

If you have missed the eye sight screening at your child's preschool/child care centre Albury Community Health Centre are offering two CATCH UP DAYS. **Please phone 6058 1800 to book an appointment.**

Terri, Krystine, Chrissy & Molly

Preschool@yarrunga.com.au

[Sustainability Newsletter](#)

This past month we have cooked cheesy vegetable muffins from The Munch and Move website, tomato and garlic pull apart and fetta salad.

Our garden classes have established our summer garden beds and planted corn, tomatoes and pumpkin. We have made a succulent wall garden that doesn't require much water. We discussed summer and added bright flowers to our preschool garden bed. To finish off today we walked to the community garden and harvested our first bunches of celery.

A big thank you to the Chandler's and Jones's for the succulent donations and another thankyou to those families whom meet at the Community Garden for the yellow page's photo day. It is most appreciated.

We have new projects coming.



Lynette

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.



A Quick Bite ...

Bowled Over— Doing the Overarm Throw

Mastering any Fundamental Movement Skill will vary for each child. Of course the chance to see, learn and practise the skill is vital. Here's one example—the overarm throw.

Overarm throwing



Through the Munch & Move and Live Life Well @ School programs, these skills are taught and practised using a range of fun games and activities. See the next newsletter for some examples you can do at home.

For more information visit

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

Live Life Well
@ School

NSW Health
Murrumbidgee
Local Health District

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& move

A Quick Bite ...

What are ... Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS)?

Are Fundamental Movement Skills a skill in the sense that they need to be taught and ultimately 'mastered'? The short answer is 'yes'. Being skilled in certain movements can help children in many ways.

Fundamental Movement Skills are developed over time and, if taught correctly, can help children gain confidence in many sports and leisure activities. This impacts on social skills, acceptance, self-confidence and motivation for children to follow a healthy journey throughout their lives.

There are 13 different Fundamental Movement Skills such as overarm throwing, running, catching, jumping and leaping.

Through the Munch & Move and Live Life Well @ School programs children are given the chance to learn and practise these skills at their age level.



For more information visit

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A Quick Bite ...

Putting FUN into fundamental

We've been talking about the Fundamental Movement Skills the past few newsletters. Here are some games ideas you can try at home for overarm throw.

Water bombs – Simple and a lot of fun. Equipment: water bombs, a target plus a good sized open space. Activity: Fill water bombs with water. Set up a target that can be soaked with water (e.g. a box, a target drawn on an outdoor wall) and get your child to throw at the target using the correct overarm throw.

One for the
Littlies.



For more information visit

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