

yarrunga

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2017

DATES FOR THE DIARY

OCTOBER 2017

Management Committee
Meeting - Wednesday 18th

NOVEMBER 2017

Yarrunga's Annual General
Meeting- Wednesday 15th

YARRUNGA'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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

ALL WELCOME!

Please Tell Us!

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



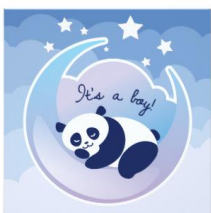
- A reminder to families to please update your child's enrolment details if you have moved house or changed jobs in the last 12 months.
- It is important for educators to have up to date contact phone numbers for all children in case of emergencies.
- Please see Claire to check your details or send us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

Congratulations to our Yarrunga Families that have welcomed new additions to their families: -

Jade, Shane & Sienna welcome their baby boy and brother -Blake

Melissa, Ben and Alfred welcome their baby girl and sister - Betty

Emma, Callum & Penny welcome their baby girl and sister - Amelia



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.

Sustainability Newsletter

We have had a busy month with sustainability the children have participated the kitchen classes to cook corn fritters, make salsa, bush tucker tomato sauce with damper and spinach hummus.

Our fritters and damper this month were the most enjoyed.

Our garden classes consisted of planting our top yard space with native draught tolerant grasses, a walk to our community garden patch to harvest silver beet weeding and worm compost maintenance. Next will we will plant flowers to encourage bees to our bee hotels and to enhance the aesthetics of the garden environment,

Our classroom classes have consisted of learning about waste and how long it takes to break down in the environment. All rooms made small waste books to learn more for their rooms.

We also learnt about the life of a worm with a worm race to finish off.

We have another school following Yarrunga on the Stephanie Alexander Website- Tommaso Fiaschi Childcare Centre.



Lynette

Staff Training Corner

ECA LEARNING HUB: Doing, being, becoming -
Leadership in early childhood contexts -
Debbie and Krystine; Code of Ethics -
Terri; STEM in Early Childhood - Julie
2017/18 Taxation and Payroll Seminar - Karen
Navigating the NQS Webinar - Claire

CAN FAMILIES PLEASE
REMEMBER THAT WE ARE
AN EGG FREE CENTRE AND
NOT PUT EGG CARTONS IN
THE RECYCLE, REUSE OR
REPURPOSE BASKET.

NURSERY/TODDLER NEWS

It's slowly beginning to feel like spring and we are now applying sunblock on arrival. If your child has sensitive skin, please advise educators if you wish to use your own sunblock. We are also encouraging children to wear their hats, practice at home will help us to keep our hats on.

We are also introducing water play on warmer days and encourage plenty of clothing changes, clearly labelled please.

There will be more casual staff than usual over the coming week as Nicole and Lesley are on holidays and Deb will be away for family circumstances. Please help us to maintain clear communication and up to date daily routines with our casual educators for best continuity of care during this time.

Over the next two months Lead educators will be working on Individual learning summaries for end of year reflection. If you have any concerns or interests about your child's learning, please don't hesitate to send an email or chat with your room educators.

We have been investigating the arts in nature and would love to see what flowers and plants you have at home. Photos or cuttings of your plants would be greatly appreciated if you would like to share.

Congratulations to our Nursery babes that have grown into big siblings over the last month, Alfie with sister Betty, Sophie with brother Charlie and Penny with sister Mim.

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



JUNIOR PRESCHOOL NEWS

We have been able to branch out in to the local community for outings this month attending Borella House, our local community garden, looking on the local bike track for insects and a trip to the train station to see the freight train and the Melbourne Express.

Today the Family Vet Centre attended to give us a class in pet care. We were able to see what to feed guinea pigs and how to hold them so they feel safe. We met some rabbits and were shown all the different toys they could play with and what they could eat also. We then met two dogs and were taught how to greet dogs safely and then the veterinarian showed us some tricks the dogs could do. The children then engaged with the dogs to promote their confidence around the animals by patting them, getting them to do tricks and by giving them treats.



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

Vitasoy
The Soy Experts
it's naturally better.

Thanks to Vitasoy for donating
Rice & 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



POLICIES BEING REVIEWED

A number of Children's Health & Safety policies and procedures are on Display and due to be ratified at the Committee Meeting in October 2017

EDUCATIONAL LEADER & NQS REPORT

QA4 - Staffing Arrangements:

Shared Leadership Update

This month was about celebrating our successes!

As we have all had time to settle into the shared leadership roles, and the end of the year is fast approaching, where we will need to decide whether we will continue with shared leadership next year. It seemed like a good time to reflect on the last few months and the positive outcomes that shared leadership has created for children, families and educators, as well as how we are overcoming challenges that have arisen along the way.

Positive outcomes educators identified include:

- Children are benefiting from the strengths and interests of each educator as they plan for children's learning
- Programming has better direction for educators to extend on children's interests.
- All educators have input into the curriculum and discuss future direction.
- All educators feel a sense of belonging, purpose and ownership over the curriculum.
- A variety of 'lenses' are used to view, articulate and extend on children's learning.
- The group plan can be completed prior to planning time, which frees up more time for individual learning during this time.
- All staff further develop relationships with children and families outside of their former primary care groups.
- Strong communication and collaboration is evident within teams.

Thank you to families who provided a response to the reflective question in our foyer. We had 14 'yes' responses indicating that you have noticed the diversity in programming for your child's learning.

As always, your input is greatly appreciated and beneficial to our ongoing reflective practice. In helping us decide whether we will move forward with shared leadership within each room next year, each room has a quick survey that we would really appreciate your time to complete. With 2 easy questions:

- 1- Do you think that shared leadership outcomes for your child?
- 2- Are you comfortable with the notion of planning and communicating your child's learning with other educators?

PRESCHOOL ROOM NEWS



We had our second visit to Albury Public School in the last week of Term where the children participated in a Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden session with Lulu's Mum Linda. Many thanks to Linda for organising this for us. As this was part of our *Transition to School Program* we had the opportunity to participate in class time with Linda's Year 4 students. We read a story as an introduction to the lesson, and then we were assigned a 'Buddy' who 'scaffolded' our learning as we planted seeds in newspaper pots that were prepared earlier for us. The school children then showed us their compost/worm farm and their chickens. Before we came back we also completed an activity sheet about what we had done with the assistance of our 'Buddy'.



If your child is attending school in 2018 you will now have been emailed your child's '*NSW Transition to School Statement*'. Please complete all blue sections - D, E and F, and then email the completed document back to us by Monday, September 9th. We will then email your child's statement to their respective school in the first week of Term 4.

It was perfect weather for our Excursion up to Eastern Hill Reserve on Wednesday, September 27th. Some of the children that attend on Wednesday hadn't been to Eastern Hill yet, so they were very much looking forward this Excursion. The learning that takes place during this Nature Play includes managed risk-taking, play with 'Loose Parts', investigating the local flora and fauna, play with Heights, Speed and Tools, and Rough and Tumble Play. Belle came with us on the

Excursion this time and brought with her some brochures about the plants and animals that we might see or find while we were there. The children enjoyed carrying a flower/plant brochure around with them and trying to identify the many wild flowers that are now in bloom up on Eastern Hill. Claire also brought a picnic lunch up to us so that we could have an extended play this time. A huge thank you to Wendy, Jackson's Grandmother for joining us on this excursion.

A big thank you to Nicky Smith who came in last week and did a Clay Workshop with the children. Chrissy will now take the lead with this project and organise sessions again throughout the week so that all children have an opportunity to participate. Nicky will also make arrangements to have the children's pieces fired in the third or fourth week of term.

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. We have been including learning experiences and activities from the Sun Smart (VIC) website in our curriculum - there are lots of great Resources available on this website that are also available for you to access.

Please also ensure that children still bring plenty of spare clothing, and wears lots of layers. You may also need to change over any spare clothing kept in your child's bag to items more suitable for the warmer weather.

You will see lots of different educators in our room during the month of October, as both Krystine and Chrissy will be taking two weeks Leave consecutively.

Please be advised of the following upcoming Excursions and Events:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Thursday, October 12 th | Bunnings Workshop 10:00AM |
| Thursday, October 26 th | Transition to School - Vision Screening 10:30AM |
| Friday, October 27 th | Wiradjuri Cultural session with Ruth Davys |



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

A Quick Bite ...

A community that supports safe active travel

Your local council and Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) need your input into active travel in your community. This will help make active travel an easy, healthy and safe choice. Some things you can do:

- Contact your local council if you see paths that are broken or unsafe, or if you have ideas about improving the footpath or cycle path network.
- Contact RMS or your local council if you have concerns about safety at certain crossings—this could be because of vehicle speeds, volume of traffic, difficulty crossing wide roads etc.,
- Contact RMS or your local council about road signage or speed zones around schools, early childhood education and care services or your local neighbourhood to make active travel safer for your children.



For contact details:

- ⇒ www.rms.nsw.gov.au
- ⇒ www.olg.nsw.gov.au

For more information visit

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

Live Life Well
@ School



Health
Murrumbidgee
Local Health District



A Quick Bite ...

4 ways to start active travel

It can be hard to start something new and turn it into a habit. Active travel can be tricky to start and for some who live a long way from work or school, it can seem impossible. Maybe a portion of the journey could be active just by parking the car and walking the rest of the way. Some good ideas to start the wheels turning and feet stomping are:

- Walk to school day: Fri 18 May 2018, www.walk.com.au
- Ride to School Day: date TBC ~ Mar 2018, www.bicyclenetwork.com.au
- WOW (Walk-Wheel Once a Week): Once you've managed the annual Walk or Ride to School day, graduate to walking or wheeling once a week (or more).
- Park and Walk: This encourages driving part way, parking and walking the remainder of the journey

For more information on these visit:

www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/campaigns-programs/childrens-active-travel.aspx



Active Kids @ School: www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

For more information visit

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

Live Life Well
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A Quick Bite ...

Safe active travel

If your child is walking, cycling or scooting to school or early childhood education and care, ask them to:

- Hold a grown up's hand when walking on paths, crossing roads or in car parks.
- Stay on footpaths, shared paths or if needed, roads, with low speed limits.
- Cross roads at traffic signals, zebra crossings or other points where traffic slows and use refuge islands.
- Stop! Look! Listen! Think!
Be sure to check and double check all traffic directions before crossing to ensure it is safe to cross roads.
- Make eye contact with drivers before crossing roads.

For more information visit:

www.safetytown.com.au



Active Kids @ School: www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

For more information visit

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

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