



Bush Baby News

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**Term 1 – Week 7
2016**

Chairpersons Report

It was great to see some new faces to Monday night's AGM and Parent Information night. Thank you to the staff for giving up their time to host the AGM, provide childcare and take minutes as well as Miss Anthony for her thorough presentation. I would like to congratulate the newly elected Board members for 2016. I look forward to working collaboratively with you throughout the year. I am very honoured to once again be Chairperson at Preschool, a position I have held for several years now. I hope to help Preschool achieve yet more goals over the remaining year. Deputy Chair - Jen Hackett, Treasurer- Nicole Campbell, Maintenance Officer- George Karliotis, Newsletter Editor- Sarah George, Promotions- Rachael Caines, Staff/Parent Liaison Officer-Nic Humphreys.

Easter is just around the corner so hopefully you are decorating your Easter hats and having a wonderful time doing so. This also means that we have our Bunnings BBQ on the horizon and we still desperately need some more volunteers. Please put your name (or hubby's) on the roster near the sign on area.

In preparation for Bunning BBQ and to minimise our overheads, can we ask families to donate cans of soft drink (Coke, Coke Zero, Lemonade) or fruit juice poppers (apple or orange) for the volunteers to sell

at the BBQ. Every bit helps so please do what you can. We have plenty of water already so please try to assist with one of the above items if possible.

Take care,
Renée Jenkins

Dates to Remember:

Sunday 20 March Bunnings BBQ

Friday 18 Easter Hat Parade

Monday 21 March Easter Hat Parade

Harmony Day 21 March

Wednesday 23 March Easter Hat Parade

Friday 8 April Preschool finishes for term 1

Tuesday 26 April Preschool returns for term 2

Thank you

Gerhard Brown for cutting up our trees for resources for Preschool, including a gorgeous table and chairs.

Sinclair, Humphreys and Moore family (from many years ago) for coming to help clear away our storm damage, as well as Rodney and the RFS for getting them off our fences and clearing them away on Sunday morning.

Pram, toys and resources (Karlle) from a few years ago

Hoffman family for the dolls clothes and travel bag for dramatic play

Funky Hair Day

Preschool would like to support the Leukaemia Foundation by joining in The World's Greatest Shave. We will be participating in Funky Hair Day, so go WILD AND WACKY with your hair on FRIDAY 11 MARCH AT PRESCHOOL. Gold coin donation for leukaemia research.

Teachers will also have coloured hair spray you can spray on your child for a \$2 donation if you forget to do hair before you arrive.

JOIN IN THE FUN NEXT FRIDAY!!!
WITH The Teachers.



Reminders

Easter Hat Parades

Less than two weeks until our first parade. Children have been learning some songs and dances to show you. Invitations are going home this week, look for them in your child's communication pocket in the Wattle Room.

Parades start at 2pm on Friday 18, Monday 21 and Wednesday 23 March. Children bring hats in the morning ready to put them on before the parade. We would like to take a photo of each child for their photo CD, so please bring them in the morning, not in the afternoon.

Easter Hat Parade



Harmony Day is Monday 21 March. The Preschool will be having their Monday Easter Hat Parade that day, so we will celebrate the day in the morning with games from other countries and discussions about how we are all different, but the same.

Camden Show Collage has been submitted. The children enjoyed drawing on the slices of off cuts from our broken trees that were lost during the recent storm. We all glued our own picture on, collaged leaves and nuts around the edge and collaged the letters of the Preschool name on to the mirror. If you go to Camden Show this weekend, and would like to go and find the artwork, it is in the front room of the pavilion, near Argyle Street.



Wollondilly Story Time

Next Thursday 10 March, Wollondilly "Story Time" will visit Preschool at 11am. Julie will present a group time focussing on "Healthy Eating". Please see a teacher if you have any questions. We will have some photos of the session on display at pickup time for you to see.

One of our families requested the words to this song, as they are having confusion at home sorting out the words. Here are the words to one of our current songs:

RAM SAM SAM

Our recent song is **A Ram Sam Sam**
(A Moroccan Lullaby)

A Ram Sam Sam A Ram Sam Sam
(actions hammering hands)
Gooli Gooli Gooli Gooli
(action:rolling hands)
and a Ram Sam Sam
(action:Hammering hands)
A Raafi A Raafi
(action: hands in air and down)
Gooli Gooli Gooli Gooli
and a Ram Sam Sam.

FUNNY SPOT

One of the children was counting, using their fingers, 7,8,9,10. Mrs Sayre said "That's great, what comes after 10 and the child replied "I've got no more fingers!!"



Sign In/Out

*It is a requirement of our licence, under the NSW Department of Education and Communities, that all children are **signed in and out of the centre.***

*To ensure that our licence is not placed in jeopardy and for the safety of your child,
Please remember to sign the attendance book upon arrival and departure.*

NEWS ITEMS

Teachers encourage children to bring items to preschool to tell for news. This builds confidence, speaking ability, expressive skills and memory development. Children also enjoy telling the group about something important to them.

Some things to remember about news:

- Toys are not able to be brought to preschool, not even for news. They are not appropriate items to speak about. They may be mislaid or broken at preschool.
- Children must tell their class teacher about their news on arrival and teacher will put their name on the whiteboard on the piano. If names are not on the whiteboard children cannot tell news. (This helps in allocating time for news items and saves 20 children calling out that they have news when we sit down for group time!!) It also gives the teacher an opportunity to talk to the parent about the news item and gain some information that may help to prompt the child in their news telling.
- Excellent news items (and interesting to others listening) are photos of trips or occurrences, nature items, new babies, holidays, trophies.....

CRAFT

Children often put a lot of effort and thought into their creations. You can help them to feel special and valued if you seek out their work, talk about it and care about it. There is an outdoor hanger for work completed in the morning and a hanger in each room for indoor work. Please check both each day, and discuss the item with

your child. Ask questions about their work that require more than a yes or no answer. This encourages language development, descriptive skills and confidence. Please collect your child's craft at the end of the day. Items left behind are filed in the clear crates in alphabetical order in each room.

Room Reports

Willow Room

The start of term has been super busy in the Willow room. The first few weeks were spent supporting the children to become familiar with the preschool routine and encouraging them to practice their self-help skills such as putting their belongings in their bag and attempting to put on their own shoes. Once all the children were settled, the educators spent some time getting to know their abilities and interests. This was done through our observations, including the name writing task, about me page, and cutting work samples that can found in each child's portfolios.

One group interest that many of the children enjoyed was learning about living things in the garden including insects and bugs. To further our knowledge on this topic the educators and children researched the internet and books to learn all there is to know, such as foods they eat, life cycles, and habitats. Another interest was drawing and creating artworks of ourselves, our friends, and our family. This was a wonderful opportunity to develop each child's sense of identity and awareness of others, including accepting similarities and differences in a positive way.

Over the coming weeks we will be following up on individual goals set for each child that have been developed from previous

observations. Please keep up to date with your child's progress through discussions with any of their educators and through viewing their learning journals.

Wattle Room

We have had a wonderful start to the year in the Wattle Room. Children have been settling into the room and working hard on the routine. For our new children they have given the educators a great idea of their stages of learning and goals are being set for the remainder of the terms observations. For our returning children they are continuing to work towards goals set from last year as they continue their learning journey. Children's portfolios are being filled with wonderful information, we encourage you to take the time to look through these as the children are proud of their achievements.

We have been working on safety this term, sun safety leading to a large group interest over several days, and many children creating our wonderful display on the office door, water safety, oral hygiene and healthy eating. We will round out the term with road safety in the coming weeks. Children have been busy in our craft area, working on wonderful creations, please be sure to check their craft folders for their special work. Please feel free to discuss any aspect of your child's learning with their teacher, we are more than happy to chat with you.

What a great alternative to cereal in a plate!!!



Get active

Toddlers and pre-schoolers should be physically active for at least 3 hours per day, and limit their use of small screen entertainment (computer games, computer and TV) to no more than 1 hour per day for those aged 2-5 years. No screen time is recommended for children younger than two years of age.



Screen-Free Activities

There are many activities that can be enjoyed, instead of watching the TV, or playing computer and console games. Remember, for children 2 to 5 years of age, small screen activities should be limited to *less than one hour per day*. Here are some screen-free activities to keep your whole family active this school holidays:

- ✓ Buy 'active' presents for your kids such as hula hoops, skipping ropes and soccer balls.
- ✓ Cool off at the beach or community swimming pool
- ✓ Set up an obstacle course in the backyard
- ✓ Try and introduce one 'screen-free' day each week

Community Notice Board



You are invited to advertise on our community notice board. This is for families wishing to sell goods, advertise party plan businesses, business cards for advertising or anything you would like to tell others about.

Maximum size is A4 page, and ads will be reviewed and replaced regularly when out of date (eg garage sales date has past). Please feel free to add items to the community notice board. Please put your name on the back of any advertising in case we need to contact you for any reason. Ads with no contact name on the back will not be able to remain on our Preschool Board.



EARLY LINKS NSW

Supporting children and families in the community

What is Early Links?

Early Links NSW is for families of children aged 0-8 years living with developmental delays or disabilities. An Early Links worker can support families and carers to identify their individual needs and the appropriate services and supports to achieve their goals.

Where can I find an Early Linker?

Lifestart provides Early Links support in the Eastern, Southern, St George and South West Sydney areas. We can also connect you to Early Linkers in other parts of Sydney and NSW.

Contact details

E: earlylinks@lifestart.org.au

T: 9311 0177 (Southern/Eastern Sydney) or 4633 3870 (South West Sydney)

W: www.lifestart.org.au



An Early Linker can assist you with:

- Information
- Learning about your child's needs
- Setting goals and making plans
- Creating stronger links with your community
- Referral to specialist and community supports

