



PO Box 7192  
Tathra NSW 2550  
ABN: 34 372 966 314

Phone: (02) 64941847  
Director: Jane Courtney  
President: Sarah Little

e-mail: [tathra.preschool@internode.net.au](mailto:tathra.preschool@internode.net.au)

## Term 2 Newsletter 2018

### Our staff

**Jane Courtney**

Director/Teacher

Admin: Mon/Tue.

Teacher: Wed/Thur/Fri

**Kym Hawthorne**

Teacher: Mon/Tue.

Educator: Wed, Thur and Fri.

**Annette Turner:**

Educator: Mon/Tue

**Mayumi Murphy:**

Educator: Mon/Tue

**Corrie Shepherd**

Educator: Mon/Tue (10-2)

**Judy Trim**

Educator: Wed/Thur/Fri

**Trish Whitford**

Inclusion Support Educator: Wed/Thur/Fri.

**Chris Fantham**

Administration Officer: Wed /Thur

### Handy hints to remember:

- Name everything
- **BROAD BRIMMED** hat or beanie to play
- Healthy food: **Currently no food allergies**
- More food is welcome for hungry tummies in the cold wintery months
- Minimise throw away packaging
- 1 drink bottle with water only.
- A few changes of spare clothing.
- Bring in a USB for digital portfolios
- Bring in a reusable bag for wet and soiled clothing (single use plastic bags no longer available).
- Fill in enrolment survey for preschool and transition to school.



### Staff News

Judy Trim has announced her retirement and will finish up at the end of the term. Judy has worked at Tathra Preschool for the last 20 years and has been actively involved in many preschool and community projects which have built on the quality of our Preschool. Last year Judy spent many hours volunteering her time to work on "Tathra Preschool Group Photo



History Book 1987-2017" to celebrate the Preschools' 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday anniversary. Over the years Judy has shared her mapping skills which have contributed preschool building improvements and is the queen of organised storage solutions. Judy has enriched the lives of many children and supported many families over the last 20 years. We will all miss Judy and wish her all good things as she embraces this new exciting stage of her life.

### Educational Program

This term we have had visitors from the RFFS, the Surf Life Saving Recue Boat and the Police Highway patrol. The children are learning about their community and the organisations that play an important helping role. We discovered new information which children used as a springboard to inform their imaginative play. As part of children's play we set up a rescue boat, fire operation centre and hospital, the high 'Vis' vests got a big work out. We created a learning journey book to help children revisit and consolidate their learning. You will find a copy in your child's digital portfolio.

We have been learning about our bodies and the importance of fruit and vegetables for healthy eating. We have planted sugar snap peas which are now growing. Such a joy to see the delight expressed by children as they observe changes, water and care for our peas. Book and puzzles have also been a great resource for promoting healthy eating messages. Ask children to teach you the Rainbow Pie song

Rainbow Pie, Rainbow Pie roll the pastry press it high, chop the veggies, 1,2,3, carrots, beetroot, broccoli, chop the vegies 4,5,6, green beans, red beans celery sticks, good for your tummy and oh so yummy, share with friends, then start again

Children's interest in volcanoes led us to create our very own volcano using Papier Mache. Working on projects over a number of weeks provides children with the opportunity to create imagine and immerse themselves in their learning. Kym's

science experiments in the sandpit using bicarb soda and vinegar provided another opportunity to explore the science of how volcanos work.

**Numeracy and Literacy** are integrated across many experiences throughout our day. Our key approach is the 'everydayness' of maths and literacy. Maths is everywhere and you can have fun at home, cooking with children, counting, recognising numbers and lots more. This term children have been;

- ≈ Measuring the volume of rain in the rain gauge, documenting our findings and making comparisons;
- ≈ Measuring the height of our sugar snap peas;
- ≈ Counting forwards and backwards from 10;
- ≈ Learning to recognise numerals 1-10;
- ≈ Sorting using ten frame number boards.

There has been keen interest in making books in our literacy centre. Children are learning how books are made and that they can be authors and illustrators of their own books. Throughout our day we use songs, rhymes and chants which are a fun way to promote **literacy** and numeracy skills. This term children;

- ≈ Enjoyed listening to stories from picture books and 'told stories';
- ≈ Had opportunities to recognise some letters and words;
- ≈ Have been making up stories to accompany their art works;
- ≈ Made puppets to tell a story;
- ≈ Make their own books;
- ≈ Practising writing and drawing;
- ≈ Using props to tell a story.

## 2 day group news

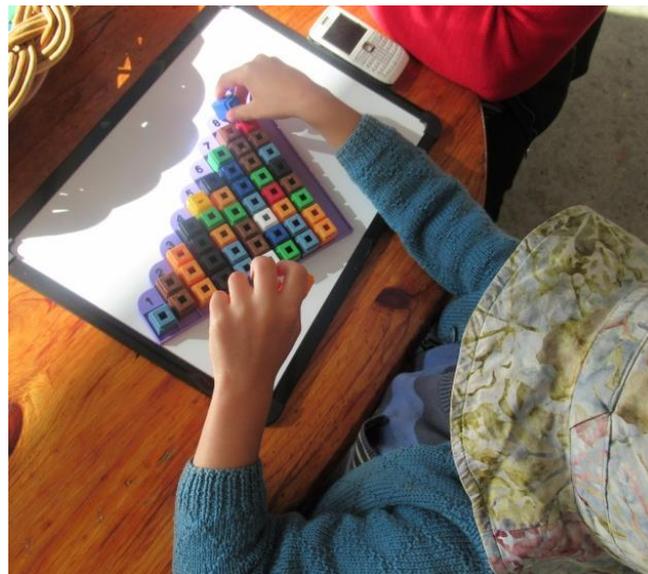
The Monday Tuesday children have been fascinated with the building works that started this term. When the bricks were being laid for the foundation, Jack (the bricklayer) told the children he was using a 'stretcher bond' to make the walls strong. The children then used this principal when they were building with blocks, repeating this process and play for many weeks after initially learning it. Several weeks on some children extended on this by creating a 'stretcher bond' collage at the art table. This term has now become a part of the children's vocabulary, demonstrating that they are able to "make connections between experiences, concepts and processes" (Early Years Learning Framework, 2009).



### 3 day group news

Autumn inspired us to wonder how long it would take for the leaves to fall from the Claret Ash tree in our garden. Like every good scientist we recorded our predictions, observed and documented our findings. You will find the answer in the learning journey book in your child's portfolio.

We would like to thank Marianna for teaching us Heads and Shoulders in Portuguese and the new song about the cat. We look forward to perfecting this catchy traditional Portuguese song.



Our collaborative robot project has been a great way to explore the idea of reusing boxes, bottle tops, plastic containers cables and cords. Ask children to teach you our **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** song. Children worked together over a few weeks, sharing ideas, negotiating and problem solving to create Zippy Zippy Zap. There have also been lots of opportunities to dance, sing and explore creative movement using children's interests in robots.

### Documentation and your child

Remember to bring in a USB so we can share your child's interest, learning and friendships from term 2. This is the preschool version of your end of term report.

### Parent Teacher Meetings

It was wonderful to catch up with families at our parent teacher meetings. Both Kym and I value the opportunity to share your child's preschool learning, interests and friendships. These meetings help us to develop a more in-depth knowledge about your child and find out what is important for your family. This partnership based approach is "based on the foundations of understanding each other's expectations and attitudes, and build on the strengths of each other's Knowledge" (Department of Education: Early Years learning Framework p12). In this way, these meetings support our planning and educational program which meets the needs of each child. We look forward to the next round of Parent teacher meetings in term 3. Check out the dates at the end of this newsletter.

### Positive Strategies for Managing Children's Behaviour

We received lots of positive feedback from parents who attended this workshop in May. We have some new books in our parent library ready for you to borrow. The "Yes Brain" and "Whole Brain Child" by Daniel Siegel, "When Your Children Push Your Buttons And What You Can Do about It" by Bonnie Harris and "Happy Child, Happy Home: Conscious Parenting and Creative Discipline" by Lou Harvey-Zahra are very popular with families.

Check out the library in the hook room and or ask for assistance to organise a loan. Below you will find a couple of helpful links to on-line parenting resources:

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/>

<http://challengingbehavior.fmhi.usf.edu/do/resources/backpack.html>

### **Preschool Enrolments**

Tathra Preschool welcomes the announcement of additional funding for early childhood education, particularly the extension of the funding model to include three-year-olds.

We organise enrolments and staffing arrangements to provide continuity for children on a daily basis. A sense of belonging is nurtured when children encounter the same people on the days they attend preschool. In line with Tathra Preschool's funding agreement with the Department of Education and Communities, we will continue to give priority to school eligible children, however, we will now be able to offer places to 3 year olds once all the 4 year old places are filled. In 2019 families will have the option of choosing:

- 2 Day Group on Monday and Tuesday
- 3 Day Group on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Remind your friends to put their child's name on the preschool waiting list.

### **Enrolment Survey for 2019**

You will all receive an on-line enrolment survey. This survey helps us plan our preschool enrolments for 2019 and provides information which supports our transition to school program.

## **EAT A RAINBOW EVERYDAY**

In these cold wintery months children are often hungry by morning tea and need something substantial .You can just provide the same thing twice to make it easy. Great to see so many healthy food options in children's lunch boxes. Healthy food options are the best gift you can give your children in creating great lifelong healthy eating habits. Check out our website for lunch box ideas.



### **Bike Enduro**

The preschool received \$500 from the Bike Enduro this year. We plan to use these funds to purchase threading beads and maths games. A big thankful goes out to Renay Barker and Jane Courtney for volunteering as marshals on the forest track to keep bike riders safe and heading in the right direction .

### Staying healthy at Preschool

The wintery weather brings with it an increase in cold and flu like symptoms. At Preschool we follow National Health and Medical Research Council Guidelines to minimise the spread of infection and stop the spread of diseases at preschool.

Strategies include;

- ≈ Effective hand hygiene;
- ≈ Exclusion of ill children, educators and other staff;
- ≈ Immunisation;
- ≈ Cough and sneeze etiquette;
- ≈ Appropriate use of gloves;
- ≈ Effective environmental cleaning.

If your child needs Panadol, is coughing and or unable to manage a very runny nose we recommend you keep them home to reduce the potential for spreading illness to other children and adults.



### Fees

Please make sure your term 2 fees are fully paid. It is preschool policy that term 2 fees are to be paid prior to commencing in term 3. Chris will send out an end of term fee statement to show your balance. If you are having financial difficulties please call Jane or Chris.

### Extension

Our building works are progressing well. We are creating a designated kitchen area, larger craft preparation area, increased storage and an extra adult toilet. You will also notice changes in the story room which will increase storage and remove the jumble of things currently stored there. The Preschool has been saving for this project for the last 6 years and it is exciting to see this project in progress.



### May Murray Donation of Books

The families at May Murray Child Care Centre in Marrickville donated around 60 children's picture books as a gesture of kindness following the bush fires. Many of the books have a personal message from the family who donated these new picture books. We had them displayed at the preschool and have sent a thank you to all at May Murray.

## Garden

We would like to thank Corrie and her merry band of helpers in advance for the gardening they are planning during the closedown.

## Reduce, Reuse Recycle

- We are after a supply of soft wood for children's wood working table in next term.
- Old telephone handsets, old mobile phones, computer keyboards and old technology to deconstruct
- Lids from milk bottles, yogurt containers and plastic bottles.
- Scrap booking supplies
- Material off cuts, buttons and wool are fabulous resources for art.
- Scrap booking supplies
- Greeting cards
- Material off cuts, buttons and wool are fabulous resources for art.



## 2018 Management Committee

**President:** Sarah Little **Vice President:** Vanessa Milton. **Secretary:** Steve Totterdell.  
**Treasurer:** Carmen Shoveller. **General Members:** Simone Harvey, Corrina Addy, Suzi O'Brien.

Term Dates 2018  
Dates for your diary

Term 2: 30<sup>th</sup> April to 6<sup>th</sup> July

Term 3: 23<sup>rd</sup> July to 28<sup>th</sup> Sep

- ≈ 15<sup>th</sup> August :Transition to School Q&A Session: 6-7pm with a light supper provided at the preschool
- ≈ 10<sup>th</sup> September: Parent Teacher Meeting 3 day group
- ≈ 11<sup>th</sup> September: Parent Teacher Meetings for 2 day group.

Term 4: 15<sup>th</sup> Oct to 20<sup>th</sup> December

- ≈ 20th December 2017: End of year Celebration and family Picnic

