TATHRA PRESCHOOL

Term 1 2019 Newsletter
Contact details: Phone: 6494 1847. Email: tathra.preschool@internode.net.au

Wallawani
Wallawani we welcome you to our Preschool. Djiringanj, Thaua and Dhurga were the languages used by indigenous people of the South Coast. Wallawani is a local Aboriginal word used as a greeting and farewell.

Our staff

Jane Courtney
Director and Teacher Admin: Mon/Tue.
Teacher: 3-day group Wed/Thur/Fri
Kym Hawthorne
Teacher Mon/Tue: 2-day group.
Educator: 3-day group
Annette Turner
Educator: 2-day group
Mayumi Murphy
Educator: 2-day group.
Corrie Shepherd
Educator: 2-day group
Trish Whitford
Educator: 3-day group
Emily Monck
Educator: Support worker
3 day group
Chris Fantham
Administration Officer Wed/Thur

Handy hints to remember

- ✓ Name everything
- ✓ BROAD BRIMMED hat to play is a must please
- ✓ 2 LUNCH BOXES please
- ✓ Healthy food.
- ✓ Minimise throw away packaging
- ✓ 1 drink bottle with water only.
- ✓ A few changes of spare clothing.

Welcome Family BBQ and AGM
8th of March
Invitations out in the next few weeks.
Pop the date in your diary

Educational Program

The National Early Years Learning Framework has been developed to ensure children receive quality education in early childhood settings. At Tathra Preschool we use the Early Years Learning Framework in partnership with families to develop an educational program which is responsive to children's ideas, interests, strengths and abilities. Our teaching and educational program is organised around 5 learning outcomes:

1. Children have a strong sense of identity.
2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world.
3. Children have a strong sense of well-being.
4. Children are confident and involved learners.
5. Children are effective communicators.

Each child will have a photo above their bag hook and a photo at the front entry to sign in and out each day. These resources create a sense of belonging and foster a sense of identity. "A sense of belonging is essential if children are to be successful learners. By fostering belonging we also foster wellbeing and learning" (Early Years Learning Framework).

We have also prepared a book for your child to take home after their first day of preschool. This resource helps you and your child to become familiar with the names of their teachers and the children in their group.

We will be planning our day to provide familiar and open ended experiences which enable children to feel successful and confident, eg books and story experiences, imaginative play, play dough, painting, water and sand. There will be lots of opportunities to share holiday experiences and the joy of summer in our coastal town.

Getting to know you child

You will find the Children's Diary next to the sign in and out book. We encourage you to read through the diary, ask questions and make suggestions. It is always great to hear about the things that interest your child and family, which can be incorporated into our day. In the afternoon you will see photos we have taken (downloaded onto a digital photo screen) so we can share our day with you.

We have a Teaching Journal in the staff room where we document children's learning, interests and needs. Each year we will set aside time for parent/teacher

meetings in Term 1 and Term 3. The 2 -day group Parent Teacher meetings will be on the 18th March and 3-day group will be on Tuesday 19th of March. Pop these dates in your diary and we will send you a booking invitation closer to the date.

Transition to Preschool: Your child's weeks at preschool
We aim for children to feel safe, secure and supported at preschool as they establish relationships with teachers, educators and other children. In our experience children are very individual in how much time they need to become comfortable and confident at preschool. Some children will come running in the door keen for you to go. Some children will need more time to get to know us and become familiar with the routine of the day. Some children will settle quickly in the first few weeks and then experience separation anxiety in week 3 or 4.

Families are welcome to spend time at preschool to help children as they settle in. Half days can be helpful as children are becoming familiar with the preschool day. Feel free to approach any of the teachers and educators if you need help to settle your child. It is a good idea to link your departure to a specific activity, eg, time your departure with morning tea or stay with your child to do a painting together and then say good bye. An early pick up can be good while your child is settling in to the preschool routine. You may choose to come at 2pm and then stay for a play or perhaps you might leave at morning tea but be back for lunch. Please feel free to talk to us about what suits you and your child best.

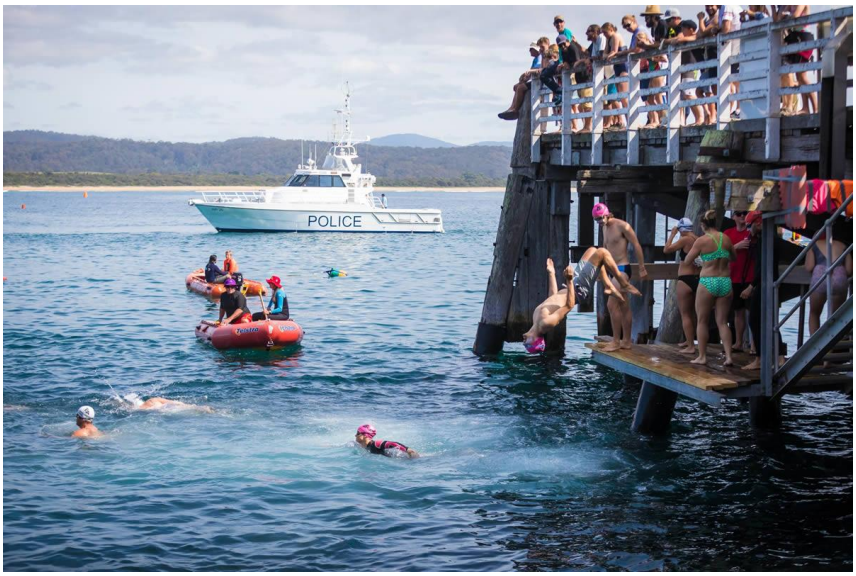
If your child is upset/anxious or unsettled while at preschool we will ring you to seek your guidance. You are welcome to ring and check on your child throughout the day.

EAT A RAINBOW EVERYDAY
Two lunch boxes for our meal times please. A separate container for morning tea and lunch makes it easier for the children and us. Please avoid thermal bags to store children's food. **The Department of Health has advised us that we are unable to store food in the fridge in thermal bags as they keep the cold out.**

Water only please in children's drink Bottles. The Department of health recommends water daily. Fruit juice and cordial is referred to as a sometimes food and not appropriate for daily consumption.

We like to ***avoid packaged foods***. Fresh fruit, sandwiches, last night's dinner

are all good to encourage healthy eating at preschool and help us reduce our rubbish. Chocolate treats, lollies, flavoured yoghurt (which is high in sugar) and chips are classified as sometimes foods and not recommended as part of children's daily food intake and not appropriate for preschool.



Children are often hungry by Morning Tea and often require something substantial to eat like a sandwich. A sandwich for morning tea and lunch is fine. Please, please, please remember healthy food options for preschool. It gives children a mixed message if they are eating an apple and then sitting next to a child who is eating chips or chocolate biscuits. In the interest of creating great lifelong habits please support our healthy food policy.

Annual Feedback Survey

Hooray!!We had a record number of responses from our annual feedback survey which was sent out at the end of last year. Thanks to all those families who responded, we have started to use this feedback to plan for our quality improvements in 2019.

Sun safe policy

We are a Sun Smart Preschool. All children are required to wear a broad brimmed hat. You are welcome to apply sunscreen before your child starts the day. You will find sunscreen next to the sign in and out book. We program our day so we are out of the sun in the hottest part of the day and we are lucky we have lots of shade in our playground. We will help children to apply broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors for our afternoon play. Please let us know if you do not want your child to use the preschool sunscreen.

Budget

We love payment via the internet. Make sure you use your child's full name so we can identify the deposit. Details can be found at the bottom of your invoice. You can contact Chris in the office on Wednesday and Thursday if you would like to discuss fees and or have administration questions. $8 per day for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, $8 for families with a health care card. $25 Standard Fee for 4-year old's and $35 for 3-year olds. **Extended Care Fee -** $5.00 per half hour (8.30 - 9.00am and 3.00 – 3.30pm). This fee will only apply to children in the 3-day program. For charging purposes, a "half hour" is defined as more than 15minutes in the 30-minute slot

Updating Paperwork

When and if your child receives a new immunisation please provide a copy of the Immunisation History Statement for our records. Low Income Health Care Cards will also need to be updated before the expiry date so that we can continue providing fee relief.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

We like to deconstruct old technology to investigate their inner workings. Please collect old desktop computers, old stereos, computer keyboards and old technology. If it can be taken apart with a Phillips head screw driver then we can reuse it

- ✓ Scrap booking supplies are a good resource for children's art. Milk bottle lids and yogurt containers are also good.
- ✓ We love the shoe boxes from the shoe shops.
- ✓ Material off cuts, buttons and wool are fabulous resources for art. Grandparents are often a good resource for these types of supplies.
- ✓ Greeting cards are good resources for office /post office imaginative play. A great way to re-use old cards.

Bits and pieces

- ➢ Please bring in flowers and greenery to fill our vases and create a beautiful space in our playroom.
- ➢ Keep an eye out for any preschool bits and pieces that come home. Children at this age can be such hunters and gatherers
- ➢ We are also keen to get hold of a good supply of old telephone handsets, old mobile phones, and computer keyboards.

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

Tathra Preschool 2019 Term dates

Term 1: Tuesday 29 January to Friday 12 April

- ≈ 29th Jan: Set Up day for staff
- ≈ 30th Jan: PD Day for staff
- ≈ 31st Jan: 3-day group start
- ≈ 4th Feb: 2-day children start
- ≈ 8th March Family BBQ and AGM
- ≈ 18th March Parent Teacher Meetings: 2-day group with Kym
- ≈ 19th March Parent Teacher Meetings; 3-day group with Jane

Term 2 – Monday 29 April to Friday 5 July

- ≈ Jane long service leave

Term 3 – Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September

Term 4 – Monday 14 October to Friday 20 December

- ≈ 19th End of Year Celebration
- ≈ 20th December: Clean-up day: staff

Wharf to Waves

Wharf to Waves is our annual fundraiser run in collaboration with Tathra Surf Life Saving Club. This year we had a record number of volunteers and we would like to send out special and heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to make this community event possible. Wonderful community spirit surrounds this event.

The weekend was a huge success and we had perfect weather and conditions for the fun run, bike ride and swim. Check out the Wharf2Waves website for news and photos.

Special Thanks to the Wharf2Waves committee for pulling off such a successful event.; Jane Funston; Sarah Little; Jane Courtney Emma Cattermole; Kylie Dummer; Jennifer O'Leary; Richard Gallimore, Tony McCabe, Patti Mc Cartney and Alarna Hokin, Lara Poupard, Lee and Bernie Ryan.

Funds from Wharf to Waves are always set aside for capital improvements to our preschool. 2018 Funds were put towards our preschool extension which now includes, 2 preparation areas in the kitchen for food and craft prep, increased storage and a second adult toilet with disability access. This is a huge improvement and contributes to the quality of our preschool for future generations.

Positions vacant on our committee have been filled by Corrie Shepherd (data entry and management) and Vanessa Milton (Publicity). We still have the secretary position to fill and need to fill this position for the event to proceed in 2020. Jane Funston is happy to provide lots of support to help you learn all that is needed for this role. We ask that all be proactive in helping us fill this role.

Wharf2Waves Secretary Position Vacant

Wharf2Waves is looking for a Secretary to join our friendly proactive Committee. Wharf2Waves is run by volunteers and supported by massive community involvement which benefits the local economy and provides much needed funding to Tathra Surf Club, Tathra Preschool, Tathra Primary School, Rural Fire Service and Tathra Playgroup. Wharf2Waves will be unable to run in 2020 unless we fill this position Jane Funston is happy to provide lots of support to help you learn all that is needed for this role. We ask that all be proactive in helping us fill this role. Do you have a friend or relative that has time to give? It is our event, an important community event and a collective search for a Wharf2Waves secretary would be much appreciated. Please contact Jane Courtney on 0427219447 to find out more and or express interest in this position or email: info@tathrawharf2waves.com.au