

Managers' Report

May has been a busy time at Yarram Early Learning with a new fence being installed along the northern side of the outdoor yard. We would like to thank all the families of the 3-year-old and 4-year-old Kinder children for their understanding and support regarding the Wednesday closure day while the new fence was being installed and are sorry for any inconvenience caused. The safety of the children is the top priority of the Centre.

We have had a number of cases of Hand Foot and Mouth and Impetigo (School Sores) particularly in the babies and toddlers' rooms. We have implemented an additional cleaning and sanitising round in our routine, are hot washing all of the hard toys and highchair trays and are strictly following all of our usual protocols around hand washing, sanitising, and encouraging children in hand washing. We are also following the guidelines around the exclusion periods for these illnesses.

Nature Kinder has been running this term and has been enjoyed by the children and educators. It has been lovely that even on the days that Nature Kinder has not been able to run we have still been able to do a walk over to the wetlands or visit the park. The change of environment from the room and yard to the larger outdoor spaces of the wetlands and botanical gardens allows each child to demonstrate new strengths and abilities.

Sarah Gregory
Manager



Committee of Management Report

AGM – The AGM for YELC was held on Monday Night and chaired by Garry Stephens. The previous minutes, Annual Financial Report and the Auditor's Report were passed. The new committee consists of Malissa Nicol – Chair, Gregor MacAulay – Secretary, Bek Muir – Treasurer, Helen Dwyer – Committee Member, Anne Morris – Committee Member, and Amy Norman – Committee Member. The position of Vice Chair is to be filled from within the committee. There are two vacancies on the Committee. If family or community members are interested in nominating for the committee, please see Sarah, our manager, or make contact with a committee member.

General Meeting – The following reports were presented to the Committee:

Finance: The April Financials were passed. The decision to waive the fee for care/kinder on Wednesday 17th May as per the announcement to families was noted at the meeting. The Committee also passed a 50% discount off the gap fee on childcare for YELC employees starting on the 1st full week of June 2023.

Grounds and Maintenance: The boundary fence has been upgraded and we thank our families for their understanding and support when 3 and 4 year old Kinder was cancelled on Wednesday, 17th May owing to safety concerns for the children.

The Manager's Report was tabled.

Policies - There were no policies presented this month.

General Business:

- Educator Support and Quality Improvement Program Support has been secured with the employment of Jo Nunn (previous teacher at YELC) and Jan Dean (Consultant) on a casual basis.
- Formation of sub-committees – Finance, Human Resource, Policy and Grounds and Buildings will be carried over to the next monthly meeting.
- The committee will investigate the merit of purchasing a house to assist with staff moving to the area.

Regards

Malissa Nicol - Chair

Important Dates



June 12 - King's Birthday .Public Holiday. The centre will be closed.

27th May-3rd June - National Reconciliation week.

5th June - World environment day.

8th June - World Oceans Day.

21st June - Winter Solstice

BANANA BLUEBERRY & COCONUT LOAF



PREP 15 min | COOK 1 Hour | SERVES 24

INGREDIENTS

2 1/4 cups (340 grams) wholemeal (wholewheat) flour
1 teaspoon cinnamon, ground
1 cup (170 grams) brown sugar
1/2 cup (125 grams) butter
3 bananas, mashed (approx. 2 1/4 cups)
1 cup (125 grams) blueberries (fresh or frozen)
3/4 cup (70 grams) shredded unsweetened coconut
1 banana sliced, to decorate

2 teaspoons baking powder
pinch salt
2/3 cup (170 ml) sour cream
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 Eggs

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 170c and line a large loaf tin with baking paper. Set aside. Sift flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon into a large bowl. Set aside. Using an electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat brown sugar, sour cream and butter in a large bowl until light and fluffy (approx. 4 minutes). Add vanilla and beat for 1 minute. Add eggs, one at a time. Beating well after each addition. Reduce speed to low, add flour mixture and mix until just combined. Add mashed banana, blueberries and coconut and mix until just combined. Pour batter into prepared tin and top with sliced banana. Bake for 1 hour or until a skewer inserted removes cleanly. If your loaf is browning too quickly before cooking through, simply pull the loaf out of the oven, cover with aluminium foil and return to the oven for the remaining cooking time. Allow to loaf to cool for 15 minutes before placing on a wire rack to cool completely. Enjoy x

Hayley Douglas Green

Tiddalek Room Leader

I was born in New Zealand and came to Australia in 2022. I have a Bachelor of Teaching and have had this qualification for 4 years. I have worked in Early childhood for 10 years. I have wanted to be an early childhood teacher since I was 10 years old. This was around the time my youngest brother was born, so I guess you could say he inspired me. I was so excited to get started in Early Childhood I started working the day I finished school.

I love seeing the children grow and flourish. This year I hope to achieve a few things. I would love for the children to all be able to write their names. I want to ensure they feel confident to go to school and I want to prepare them for the transition from 4-Year-old to Prep as much as possible. We hope every transition goes smoothly.

Outside of work I enjoy swimming and going to the gym. I have a very large family and we spend lots of quality family time together. I often look after my nephew and niece. My nephew is 2 years old, and my niece is 2 weeks old. I'm so excited to watch them grow up.



Ngarawert



In the Ngarawert room this month the children enjoyed the last of the warm weather and made the most of our beautiful outdoor program. The sandpit is always a popular space where the children enjoy scooping and pouring the sand. Dump trucks and diggers also provide the children with lots of fun. The quiet reading corner of the Ngarawert room has been very popular this month. The children have enjoyed relaxing on the cushions entering a journey of discovery through the pages of their chosen books.

Children have also enjoyed the experience of finger painting. Exploring the different texture of the paint by using their hands, swishing, and swirling it around the paper. Brightening our space, the completed artworks are located at the entry to the Ngarawert room.

Over the last couple of weeks, the Wook Gook children have been caring for and nurturing a cabbage worm. This experience started when Tania had been wandering in the outdoor yard with the children searching for cabbage worms. The cabbage worm had then been placed into a tank with its surrounding environment. The children have been observing the worm each day to investigate any changes occurring. Tania has been leading many discussions with the children about cabbage worms and how they transform into moths. Throughout each day the children would go back to check on the cabbage worm with Tania. Tania read through a white butterfly cycle book by author A.H. & A.W. Reed, that describes the process of caterpillars turning into butterflies. Tania explained the similarities between the cycles and how the cabbage worm would eventually turn into a cabbage moth. A child in the room screamed with excitement one morning when she had noticed that the cabbage worm had turned into a moth. The children ran over in a hurry to examine the transformation. Tania re-explained the cabbage moth cycle to the children to scaffold and build on their ongoing knowledge. The cabbage moth was taken outdoors to be released back into nature; the children waved to the moth as it flew away. The children in the Wook Gook room then began their very own artworks of cabbage moths using charcoal on paper. The experience opened further discussions on cabbage moths and their cycle of life.



Wook Gook

Bataluk



This Month many of the children's activities are a wee bit different from last month. In the art area cutting and pasting with different materials, paper with colours and texture, scissors with different shapes.

Playdough is out, nice light chocolate with new stamps and shapes, building site with hammers, nails and off course a hard hat and safety vest to make sure the workers are good !!

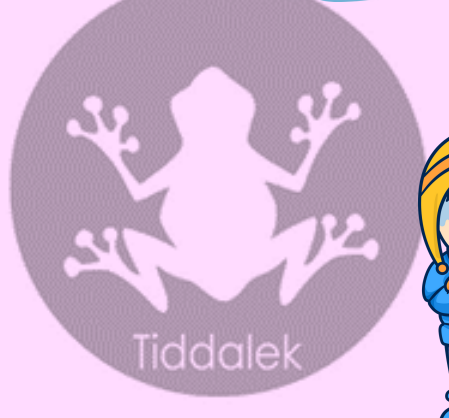
While talking about traveling the children were able to see, smell and touch some Scottish material, a cook book, a kilt, socks and some photos from Joan and her sons with their kilts on.

While we have decent weather the children still have the opportunity to go outside. Having new sand for the sandpits have made a huge difference to playing with no shoes and socks on our feet – yeeha !!

This month the Tiddalek room has enjoyed being back from school holidays. We have had a huge focus on fishing, which our children have loved. We have done lots of art work involving sea animals, we have been fishing and enjoying books about sea animals and learning a lot about them.

We have enjoyed a couple of Nature Kinder days and love being out exploring. We are asking that parents begin sending more warmer clothes in their child's bags, gumboots, and wet weather gear every day if possible. This means that not only nature kinder days but every day we can get outside and explore no matter what the weather is like.

We have begun enjoying intentional teaching programs where children are broken into groups and enjoy exploring different areas, and playing games with an educator. We have loved PMP and love being able to use lots of energy in this program. We have learnt lots of new games as a group which we love, some of these are musical chairs, freeze, floor is lava and the bean bag song!



Tiddalek



This month in our after school care program the children have thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with craft activities, such as making their own stress balls and animal craft. As per usual, the children love to wind down in the afternoon with free choice of activities, which have included team games in the gym and sensory experiences like slime, kinetic sand and playdough.

Narrit

This term our room has been making the most of the beautiful weather to explore our school grounds, listen to trees drinking, building dinosaur caves in the sandpit, playing tiggly on the playgrounds, improving our ball skills, and inside we've been playing board games, using Roz's 'useful bag' to create artwork for mum's, and using clay for masterpieces to take home.



NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Flower | <input type="checkbox"/>  Butterfly |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Water | <input type="checkbox"/>  Grass |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Tree | <input type="checkbox"/>  Green Leaf |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Spiderweb | <input type="checkbox"/>  Brown Leaf |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Bug | <input type="checkbox"/>  Ant |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Rocks | <input type="checkbox"/>  Fern |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Bird | <input type="checkbox"/>  Cloud |
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Tree Bark | <input type="checkbox"/>  Sand or Dirt |



Nature Scavenger Hunt



Children learn through play, and learning to be more sustainable and caring for the environment follows that same trend. Spending time in nature can help children develop a connection to the environment, making them more aware of the beauty, diversity and interdependence of natural systems.

Create a scavenger hunt for your children by drawing pictures of things you may see within your area jump onto or print the one on the next page from ecoexplorers.com.au. We will also have some copies at reception. Then go for your hunt and see what you can find but most importantly have FUN playing in nature!

Tissue Dance
Short simple activities to get some active minutes in the day.

This is a fun game that works on posture, body control, balance and concentration. Have everyone start by placing a tissue on their heads. When the music starts playing, everyone starts dancing. But be careful; don't let the tissue fall off your head! If the tissue hits the ground, you're out.

So simple yet so much fun! Who pulls out the craziest moves to keep that tissue on their head?



FLOUR AND SPRINKLE WRITING



This fun, sensory activity will help your little ones to form their letters and learn lowercase and uppercase letters. You will need a cookie sheet, sprinkles, alphabet cards, and flour. Give your child a letter card and have them write their letters in flour.



Events in Gippsland

Coal Creek Farmers Market - Saturday 10th June - 8:30 to 12:30
Coal Creek Community Park & Museum, Silkstone Road, Korumburra VIC, Australia

2023 Loch Food and Wine Festival - 11th June - 10:00 - 3:00
Loch Railway Station Reserve
Via underpass in Speight St, Loch VIC 3945

Korumburra Southern Lights Festival - 11th June
Gates open @ 3:00pm – Entertainment kicks off @ 4:00pm
Festival fireworks @ 8.30pm – Gates close @ 10:00pm sharp
\$15 per adult, Children FREE but must hold a ticket
Coal Creek Community Park & Museum, 12 Silkstone Road, Korumburra VIC, Australia
<https://www.korumburra-business.com/korumburra-southern-lights-festival>

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT



A curved leaf



A spider web



A spotted rock



Something yellow



A track or footprint



A flying insect



A seed or seed pod



A hole



A bug or insect



A funny shaped cloud



Something beautiful



An evergreen tree



A feather



Three types of birds



Some water



A stick shaped like a letter of the alphabet



tree sap



Something smooth