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## Managers' Report

Welcome to Yarram Early Learning for 2024 to all our new and returning families. We hope you had a safe and enjoyable holiday period and that the new year has started off positively for you all. From the feedback I have received from the Kinder children they are all enjoying the new spaces and resources over at the Kinder building. The new space has been such a positive asset, allowing us to expand not only the Kinder programs but also allowing for most of the 2023 waiting lists to be able to be accommodated into care with spaces still available in several rooms.

Transitions can be challenging for us all and with the added uncertainty of new room structures and the inability to access the new build to help children acclimatise to the new spaces I think that everyone has done wonderfully to demonstrate such a high level of resilience. A special thanks to families and the Yarram Early Learning Community for their ongoing support of educators and staff.



## Committee Report

Hello Everyone

Welcome to the New Year at Yarram Early Learning Centre!

During the break for Christmas and New Year there has been a huge amount of work done in the Centre to set up the two new Kindergarten Rooms in the new building, and establish a new look room structure for the existing Centre. Thank you to Sarah and her team of teachers and assistants who helped with this exciting preparation.

The committee meeting covered the following points:

- The new buildings are now open and operating for 3 and 4 year old kindergarten classes.
- There was an update from the Kindergarten Working Group regarding developments with the kinder buildings and future plans. Please keep an eye out for dates for the opening.
- A draft budget was passed and they reviewed the finances of the previous year.
- They also heard about new staff that had been appointed. The committee welcomed Jo Nunn to the 3 Year Old Kindergarten. Jo had previously worked at the kinder some years ago.
- There was a report on Vacation Care, and the OSHC program running during the holidays.
- Sarah, the Centre Manager, informed us that the fence was to be repaired in the next month which will improve the appearance of the Centre and blend it in with the newer buildings.

Next month will be a full meeting, including policies and grounds and maintenance.

If any parent is interested in becoming a committee member, could they please see Sarah to register their interest.

Regards

Malissa Nicol

# Important Dates



**\*Photo Week\***

**Monday 4th March to Friday 8th March**

**\*Labour Day\***

**Monday 11th March**

**\*Good Friday\***

**Friday 29th March**

# New Staff Members

The start of 2024 brings with it a number of new staff members for Yarram Early learning. Please join us in welcoming our new staff members.



We welcome back Josette Nunn as our 3 year old kinder teacher

In late 2023 we welcomed Emma Rich who is working towards her Certificate 3



We welcome Karyn Oakman as a qualified educator



We welcome back Janette Mansell as a qualified educator



In late 2023 we welcomed Joshua Botta who is working towards his Certificate 3

We welcome Kim Becker who is working towards her Certificate 3



We welcome Rebecca Cutts who is working toward her Certificate 3

In late 2023 we welcomed Taleigha Johnston who is working towards her Certificate 3



We also welcome Caroline Punton as a qualified educator



We welcome Sally Pimlott and Tori Lubeck as support workers





**EVERY 33 MINUTES SOMEONE'S  
LIFE IS TURNED UPSIDE DOWN  
BY EPILEPSY**

**Help turn things around!**

**MAKE MARCH  
PURPLE  
FOR EPILEPSY**



## **PURPLE DRESS DAY**

**Dress in purple for a Gold Coin Donation  
to support the 1 in 200 Aussie school kids  
living with epilepsy**

**WHEN** **Tuesday 26th of March**  
.....



Epilepsy  
Action  
Australia

**MAKE A LIFE  
SAVING DONATION**

**#MakeMarchPurple  
1300 37 45 37**





We have had a wonderful month of meeting our Ngarawert children and watching them settle into a new environment. Building relationships, connections and providing comfort has been our focus. The children have spent their time on our mellow mat allowing them access to sensory toys and movement; sitting, rolling, climbing and crawling. The family photos have been put on display at the children's level whether they're laying down or standing at furniture. Throughout the day we observed the children crawling over to the area and identifying their family members, grinning and babbling away. For those who are not yet mobile, educators have shown the photos to them. These have created a sense of belonging and security for the children.

Our focus is to provide a warm, welcome environment where learning occurs naturally within a rich, stimulating, relaxed atmosphere. This in turn supports a smooth transition from the family home into the early learning environment. There are many ways we can support positive transitions, many of which come from having quality relationships. Collaborative relationships between parent, child and educators builds strong, trusting relationships ensuring your children's learning journey is both captivating and inspiring.



Wook Gook

Welcome Back! We are very excited to be in a new space in 2024! Since coming back the 2/3 LDC children have enjoyed exploring and getting to know their new environment. We have enjoyed time in the quiet area reading books, exploring clay and our home corner space. The children have also enjoyed getting involved in art experiences where we have used different types of brushes and rollers to make different patterns. Exploring their new outdoor space has been another enjoyable past time for the children, and we have had fun climbing, riding bikes, and playing in the sand kitchen. We are looking forward to the year to come.



## 2-3 Long Day Care



## 3-4 Long Day Care



Our children are back after a restful Christmas break with their families and we have been very excited to see everyone.

Many of the children were delighted to be back to see and share their stories and experiences with their friends and educators.

We have been exploring and learning about bugs and caterpillars and many have enjoyed collecting their own insects and bringing them in to show us.

The children have been very engaged in the sensory experiences we have had setup in the room and outdoor yard such as clay and water trays.

We are looking forward to a great year ahead with the children.



# Bataluk



The children over the first weeks have spent their time learning within the outdoors and indoors – to build a sense of calm, to allow for the emotions of excitement, parting and saying goodbye, delight with new encounters, space for energy release or a quiet place to wonder, along with the knowing that they can pause at any time for a refreshment break – picnic snacks and lunches. The indoor spaces have captured the children’s engagement with long lengths of play in our Yarram Park space, the block building area and the children’s fascination with the light boxes – the magnetic tiles, the wonders of the sea and the coloured liquid timers as the children enter the space.

A warm welcome to all!

Embarking on this journey into the new year together feels even more special as we explore and settle into our wonderful new surroundings. The anticipation and excitement is evident, especially as our children joyfully navigate the enriching learning spaces within the 4yo Kinder room. In this new environment, we are not only acquainting ourselves with our surroundings but also with each other, fostering a strong sense of community and discovery.

Here's to a year filled with growth, learning, and the creation of cherished memories



# Tiddalek



We have had a fabulous start to the year. We enjoyed lots of activities during vacation care including Wheels Day, Color run and obstacle course, botanical gardens and milkshakes in the park, Movie Day and Dance Day. On our cooking day our children were able to cook and provide food for themselves for the entire day including pizza pinwheels for morning tea, spaghetti bolognaise for lunch and chocolate mousse for afternoon tea. The children also attended a terrarium day where children were able to build their own terrariums which they then took home with them to enjoy. We are now running before school care from 7:30am. Children attending Yarram Primary School join the school day at 8:35am and St Mary's Primary School children are walked to the school gate to safely commence school.

We welcomed the children back to Alberton OSHC for a brand-new year. We are excited to see them return to before and after school care and look forward to seeing what achievements they make throughout 2024.

We have been using Lego to create masterpieces from our imagination and using problem solving skills when something doesn't quite work out how we had planned. In one instance, a child had created a "super craft", it had wings and wheels and it hung from a horizontal crane. From this creation he wanted it to move between two tables. In order to achieve the outcome, we found cardboard and used 2 stools to create a ramp. At first the ramp fell, and the "super craft" broke, but it was rebuilt, and the ramp was made stronger using sticky tape. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves by learning new skills. Recently knitting has become a focus, it is a skill that develops patience, resilience, and mathematical thinking.





## TAKE 3 FOR THE SEA



Plastic pollution is devastating oceans, killing wildlife, changing our climate and threatening the health of our planet. It is a global problem and it can be easy to think that we, as individuals, can't do anything to solve it. But you can and it's simple!

Take 3 pieces of rubbish with you when you leave the beach, waterway or...anywhere, and you have made a difference.

<https://www.take3.org/>



### PLANK RACE

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

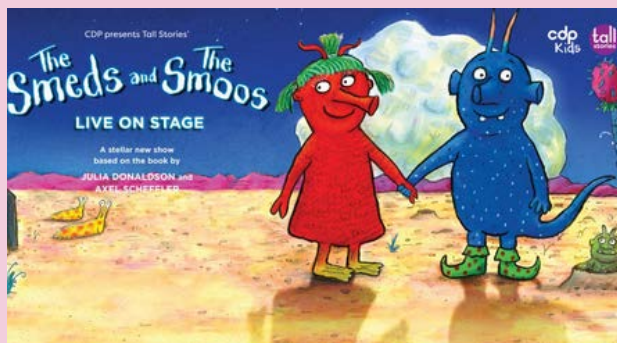
**Plank Race.** Everyone gets in a plank position along a horizontal line. On the "GO" command, the person in the back stands up and runs to the front of the line. As soon as this person gets back in a plank position, he screams "GO," and the next person in the back of the line gets up and runs to the front. Since it's a race, you have to mark the time at the first "go." Then you mark it again, the time when you covered the whole distance, and someone's head touches the farthest wall. Whatever time you've got, make sure that the next time you do this race, you beat it! A fun variation is when the person who moved from the back of the line gives the front person a high five before getting in a plank. So that would be a one-hand-plank for a few moments? Yep, but you can do it!



# Community Events

Tarra Festival  
Friday 29th March - Monday 1st April

Gippsland Centre Country Market  
39 Cunninghame St, Sale, 3850, VIC  
9:00am to 1:00pm.  
Saturday 2nd March  
Saturday 6th April



### The Smeds and the Smoos

Live on stage - adapted from the book by Julia Donaldson and Alex Scheffler.

Venue: John Leslie Theatre 100 Foster Street Sale, 3850  
Show times: 1:30pm, Thursday 7 March 2024 10:00am, Friday 8 March 2024 12:00pm, Friday 8 March 2024.

Runs for 55 minutes with no interval.

Adult - \$37.00./ Senior - \$35.00. /Concession - \$33.00.  
/Member - \$33.00. /Under 30 - \$31.00. Group 10+ - \$31.00.  
/Child U15 - \$19.00



# Protein Pancakes

PREP 10 min | COOK & SERVE as needed

## INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups milk (I use coconut or almond milk)
  - 2 cups flour (I either do 2 cups spelt or 1 cup tapioca and 1 cup oat flour, but you could play around with different options)
  - 4 tsp baking powder
  - 4 eggs
  - 6 tbsp protein powder\*
  - 2 tbsp hemp or chia seeds
- \*Optional nutra organics makes a great family protein powder try vanilla in this recipe.



## METHOD:

Simply blend all of the ingredients together and store in a jar! I cook ours in butter in a cast iron pan and they never stick. Serve with berries, banana, Greek or coconut yoghurt, pure maple syrup or raw honey, cinnamon etc! Or as one of my kids loves - peanut butter!

SO WHAT ARE THEY GETTING? Good fats, fibre, protein, omega 3's, calcium, iron and fresh fruit, all before they leave the house for the day!

Recipe by Jo Kate Nutrition

## Seeking Qualified Educators

If you are interested in working for Yarram Early Learning and are either Diploma or Certificate qualified, we would love to hear from you!!

Please come in and speak to Sarah in the office or call 5182 5190

