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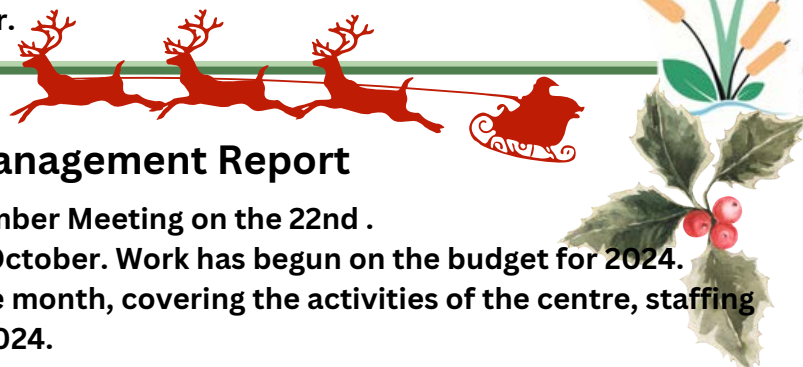
## Managers' Report

Here we are at the end of the year already. Hasn't the year gone so quickly. To all those families leaving us as you transition from Kinder into school, we hope your time with us has been enjoyable and we wish you all the best. To all our families, thank you for the support you have shown us this year, as a new administration team it has been delightful to get to know your children and yourselves and we appreciate all the positive and constructive feedback we have received.

There is a lot happening at Yarram Early Learning in December and you will see some evidence of this at the centre on drop off and pick up. With the advent of two new Kinder rooms and the ability to separate the younger age groups into three rooms there is much to be done sorting and rearranging the current rooms and trying to get as much done as possible so we can move into the new rooms and be ready to go immediately in the new year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee of Management for their support and commitment to Yarram Early Learning Inc. and the staff for all of their hard work and effort to make Yarram Early Learning an excellent place for the growth and development of all the children who attend our services.

From Yarram Early Learning we hope you have a safe and happy holiday season. For those of you leaving us we hope you encounter only smooth sailing on your journey, for those of you who will be with us next year we look forward to seeing you in the new year.



## Committee of Management Report

The Committee of Management held their November Meeting on the 22nd .

The committee passed the financial reports for October. Work has begun on the budget for 2024.

The Centre Manager presented her report for the month, covering the activities of the centre, staffing changes, current enrolments, PD and plans for 2024.

The Sub Committee for the New Building gave an update on the progress, noting that the Landscaping of the garden has started and that handover, planned for December, is on track.

The Grounds and Maintenance report included repairs to the Perimeter Fence and plans for the existing garden for 2024.

The committee passed the Coeliac Policy and the Sleep and Rest Policy. Both are available from the office on request.

Other matters discussed were the move to the new building during the Christmas/New Year period, planning works for the existing garden, staffing and programs, and Christmas Break up.

On behalf of the YELC Committee of Management, I would like to thank all families for their support and involvement in the learning program at the centre.

The committee takes this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

2024 is going to be an exciting year with the new Kinder building opening, and many new learning opportunities for your children as they progress through their preschool years at Yarram Early Learning Centre. Please enjoy the end of year break with your family, and we look forward to seeing you back at YELC next year, ready to take on the year ahead.

## Important Dates

- Last day of care: Wednesday 20th of December.
- First day of care: Tuesday 9th January.



## Christmas closure

- Vacation care will run on Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th.
- Last day of OSHC at Alberton Friday 15th of December



*Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.*

*Thank you for a fantastic year and we look forward to seeing you again in 2024.*

*Good luck to our kinder kids starting school.*





Children and nature have always been connected. We are all connected to the natural world. The natural world is one of best environments for children to observe, explore and enjoy.

Children begin to wonder when presented with different environments to explore. Natural materials such as pinecones, grass, rocks, seashells, and sand can provide endless possibilities for play and imagination. These materials don't come with instructions which facilitates investigation and discovery. Ngarawert's have explored and experimented with many interesting textures prompting thoughts, awareness, action, and conversation.

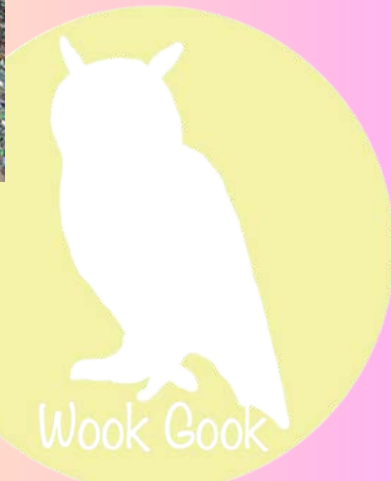
As we are rapidly approaching the Christmas period, the Ngarawert room would like to wish a very Merry Christmas to all the Yarram Early Learning families.

This month the Wook Gook room children have had a joyful time exploring a sensory experience within the program.

The children have been very intrigued with the experience of using a tray filled with warm soapy water that educators have coloured using food dye: mixing, pouring and swishing their hands through the mixture. They have used different containers and utensils to move the water from one place to another learning about mathematical concepts during their play.

During the weeks leading up to Christmas the children will have the opportunity to participate in Christmas card making as well as a range of Christmas crafts to take home for the holidays.

All educators in the Wook Gook room would like to wish all of our wonderful children and their families and happy and safe holiday and Christmas period. We all are looking forward to seeing everyone in the new year!



# Wook Gook



# Bataluk



Throughout the month of December, the Bataluk room has been reflecting on the many learning experiences that have taken place throughout 2023. The Bataluk children have connected to the community through local excursions to the Yarram Memorial Park. The children have developed their respect for the environment through an Acknowledgment to Country and learning to sing Innanay. The children's portfolio's are filled with photos of their artwork and memories to look back on their three-year-old kindergarten year. The teachers in the Bataluk room are very proud of all the Bataluk children and their efforts and achievements throughout the year.

The Tiddalek Kinder children's adventures this term—it's been incredibly busy and full of exciting experiences! We've embarked on several Nature Kinder excursions, braving the elements in destinations like the delightfully wet Port Welshpool, Morwell traffic school, Seaspray, and Woodside Beach. The children have shown remarkable resilience, especially during the wild weather at Port Welshpool, embracing the various conditions with enthusiasm, excitement and curiosities that came with being at the beach on a wet day.

In addition to our outdoor explorations, the Kinder children have been immersed in Prep Transitions. To further support this transitional period, we've created a school dramatic play space for the children. We are now focused on Christmas arts and crafts and preparing for our big graduation day on the 19th of November, which all our children are very excited about.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and would like to say a big thank you for a great Kinder year and hope all our children do amazing at school next year.

Love the Kinder team, Hayley, Krystle, Carrie, Britt, Emma, Jess, Monique, Josh and Kim.



# Tiddalek



# Narrt



A favourite for all the children this term has been playing outside in the nice weather as well as in the gym. We have done a few excursions to the library when our numbers have been low to get out of the school. The children have been creating some craft using their imaginations including some Christmas themed ones.

As we are now approaching the end of the year our 2024 Summer Holiday Program is out, there are limited numbers on the days so if you would like to book your child/ren in please do so before they all fill up. The staff up at OSHC would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We can't wait to see you back next year and welcome some new faces.

On days where the weather has been kind, the children have chosen to use the sand for engineering projects...even though they weren't aware that's what they were achieving! They began with some sports equipment familiar to them (a child golf set and a hockey set, using these for 'normal' use (what they were designed for), then when in the sand, I suggested they might like to use the sand to help them play with the equipment differently. The children began digging trenches, furrows and experimenting with how to make a path for the balls to travel. Some children added animal behaviour to the process, using the hockey stick as a horse jump.

The use of clay was also requested....and the result for one child was astoundingly talented and has been explored further, which I'll encourage.



Ngurran



# Ngurran

## SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS



Choosing sustainable gifts is about considering the health, environmental and social impact of each item. Sustainable gifting is an opportunity to take your sustainability a step further, in that you can choose to give items that actively support the causes that you feel passionate about.

### A FEW SUGGESTIONS

- A gift in the form of a donation to a worthy cause, perhaps a charity with a focus on the environment, is the most sustainable gift you can give. Some charities have fun with this idea, by allowing you to gift a range of quirky items to your friends and family for communities in developing countries. Gift a goat, a well, or even pig manure with an illustrated gift card (or e-card) adding to the fun.
- Gifting an experience such as a massage, a cooking course, a yoga class, or dinner, is an excellent way to end the cycle of accumulating things.
- If gifts are unavoidable at Christmas, a Kris Kringle or Secret Santa is a fun way to reduce the amount of 'stuff' we all end up with.
- If a donation or experience is not possible, remember to consider the quality of your gifts including what they are made from. Ensure your gift has minimal negative environmental impact, will be enjoyed and will last.

Every time we purchase a product or service – gifts, food, fashion, property, appliances, hot water systems and energy – we have the option to shop sustainably. Decide on an area that's important to you and start making a difference through your choices.



### The after dinner walk

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

Maybe a little more than 5 minutes however, very worthwhile. After dinner is finished for the night take a walk, down your street, to a local park. It doesn't have to be a long walk but getting out into the fresh air while the days are long can be a great way to get some extra movement into your day.

Walking after meals improves overall well-being, help digestion, and reduce blood sugar levels. Doing an activity as a family post meals can also give you a chance to unplug and connect.

Source: [NYtimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)



# Community Events

9th December - Yarram Christmas Market  
Commercial Road , Yarram. 9am to 12pm

15th December - Rosedale Twilight market  
33 Lyons St, Rosedale. 4:00pm to 8:30pm

13th December - Maffra Christmas festival  
Maffra Town Centre, Johnson Street, Maffra. 5:30 to 9:00pm

28th December -1st January Loch Sport Annual Carnival  
Foreshore Reserve - Lake St, Loch Sport 2:00pm to 7:00pm

31st December - Port Albert NYE market and Fireworks  
4 Bay St, Port Albert. 6:00pm to 11:00pm





# Christmas Brownies

PREP 15 mins | COOK 30 mins | SERVES 16



## INGREDIENTS

85 grams good quality dark chocolate

1/2 cup (125 grams) butter

1 1/3 cup (315 grams) caster (white) sugar

2 eggs

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

1/2 teaspoon sea salt flakes (or pinch of salt)

2/3 cup (100 grams) plain flour

### To Decorate:

50 grams dark chocolate, melted  
3 candy canes, crushed

## METHOD

Preheat oven to 175 C and line a 20 cm x 20 cm square tin with baking paper. Grease the baking paper with a little butter. Set aside.

Place chocolate and butter into a heat-proof bowl and place over a saucepan of simmering water. Do not let the bottom of the bowl touch the water. Stir the mixture until melted. Take off heat and allow to cool for 5 minutes.

Add the sugar, eggs and vanilla to the melted chocolate and whisk to combine.

Add the salt and plain flour and whisk to combine.

Pour the batter into the prepared tin.

Bake for 25-30 minutes or until a skewer inserted removes cleanly. Allow to cool in the tin. Cut into 16 bars.

### To Decorate:

Drizzle melted dark chocolate over brownies and top with crushed candy canes. Enjoy x

# 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

