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Managers' Report

We would like to welcome Danielle O'Neill as a new member of the Committee of Management and thank her for her commitment to the ongoing improvement of Yarram Early Learning. We would also like to welcome Sarah Groombridge to our staff working in the Ngarawert room.

Best wishes to Andrea Cruikshank, who has recently gone on maternity leave, we are all looking forward to meeting the new little addition to your family when they arrive.

At the recent Committee meeting a fee increase was passed and the new fees will come in to effect as of Thursday 25th July. If you are not aware of the fee increase please check communications in the Xplor App or notices on the doors of our services to make yourself aware of the details of these changes.

We have two positions available on our Committee of Management, if you are interested in becoming a member please contact the front office for a nomination form. We will be distributing a short Parent Opinion survey towards the end of July and would really appreciate as many families as possible responding to the survey. This will help us identify what we already do well and the areas that families feel need the most focussed attention for improvement. Constructive feedback is always welcome and can be sent via email to manager@yarramelc.com.au.

Sarah Gregory
YEL Manager



Committee Report

Our committee welcomed a new member in Danielle O'Neill. We look forward to working with Danielle and I thank her for this commitment.

The Committee now consists of myself, Anne Morris - Chairperson, Malissa Nicol - Vice Chairperson, Gregor MacAulay - Secretary, Rebekah Muir - Treasurer, Helen Dwyer - Member, Amy Norman - Member and Danielle O'Neill - Member.

With regard to risk management and OHS it was noted that a tree arborist has assessed the trees in the outdoor areas in line with their annual audit. Some trimming of branches was then carried out.

Plans for redevelopment of the Playground in main building were discussed. Plans have been completed and landscape constructors are now being sourced.

Sarah and Shantaz are preparing parent and staff opinion surveys. We ask all families to fill these out when they are distributed late next month.

The Centre underwent its four yearly audit against the National Quality Standards. The Assessment rated the Centre at Meeting in all seven quality areas: educational program and practice, children's health and safety, physical environment, staffing arrangements, relationships with children, collaborative partnerships with families and governance and leadership. This shows the centre not being below in any areas. I thank the staff who put in considerable time in preparing for this assessment.

In line with our Fees policy our annual assessment took place. There has been a fee increase to cover payroll increases as at 1st July and increased hours for Vacation Care.

Anne Morris
Chair
Yarram Early Learning Centre





Important Dates



Naidoc Week
7th -14th July

Pyjama Week
Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd
August

Grand Final Public Holiday
Friday 27th September

Pesto Chicken Tray Bake



PREP 10 mins | COOK 50 mins | 4 People

INGREDIENTS

1 carrot cut into batons
1 red capsicum cut into batons
1 zucchini, cut into rounds
1 eggplant, halved and cut into half moons
1 red onion, cut into thin wedges
1 small bunch asparagus, ends trimmed
and cut into three
200 grams cherry tomatoes, halved
2 tablespoons olive oil
sea salt and pepper
500 g chicken breast
1 tbs basil pesto
Sea salt and pepper

YOGHURT SAUCE

1 cup Greek yoghurt
1 tbs basil pesto
1 tsp olive oil

to serve: a small handful of fresh basil leaves

METHOD

1. Preheat oven to 190°C and line an oven tray with baking paper. Place the carrot, zucchini, red capsicum, eggplant, red onion, asparagus, cherry tomatoes and olive oil onto the prepared tray. Season with sea salt and pepper and toss to combine. Pop into the oven for 30 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, place the chicken and pesto into a large bowl. Season with sea salt and pepper and toss to combine. Nestle the chicken breasts into the vegetables and bake for another 20 minutes, or until the chicken is cooked through. To make the yoghurt sauce, place the yoghurt, pesto and olive oil into a small bowl. Season with sea salt and pepper and gently stir to combine. To serve, pop the yoghurt sauce into the corner of the tray, sprinkle fresh basil leaves over the gorgeously golden chicken and vegetables and enjoy.



Ngarawert

The children have been engaged in spontaneous sensory experiences over the past few weeks, including painting and craft. The children have applied the paint using a range of materials and textures to create their masterpiece. Whilst participating in the craft experience the children applied flowers, leaves and other natural items to different surfaces, when doing this the children would say 'Pat, Pat'.

We have purchased wet weather overalls to continue exploring the outdoor environment during the winter months. This allows the children to keep warm and dry. Andrea will be leaving to go on Maternity Leave. Andrea has shown the children a sense of comfort and support during their time and care. We wish Andrea and her family all the best.

Throughout the month, the children have been eager to engage with their educators and peers as they explored their environment and the experiences in the program. The children are starting to form and recognise friendships with each other and interact between themselves on a deeper level. The children have a growing interest in art and have been exploring different mediums throughout the month. They have enjoyed drawing with pencils, markers and paint and have been experimenting with gluing feathers on paper. Even though the colder weather is upon us, we still encourage children to stretch their legs in our outdoor yard and enjoy the various experiences in the outdoor environment. The children have enjoyed playing ball games with their educators and friends, they have been hard at work practicing their throwing and catching.



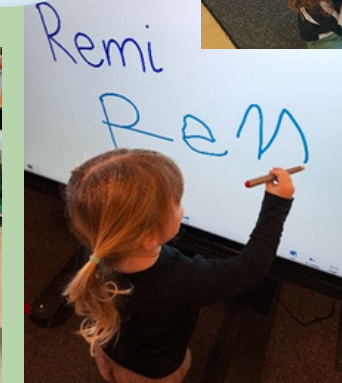
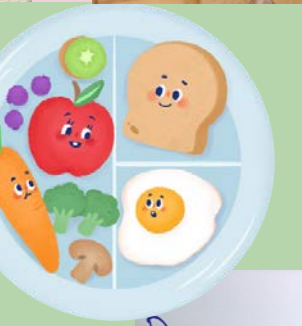
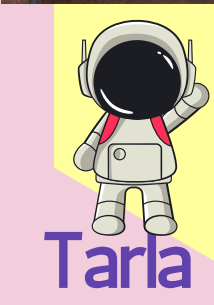
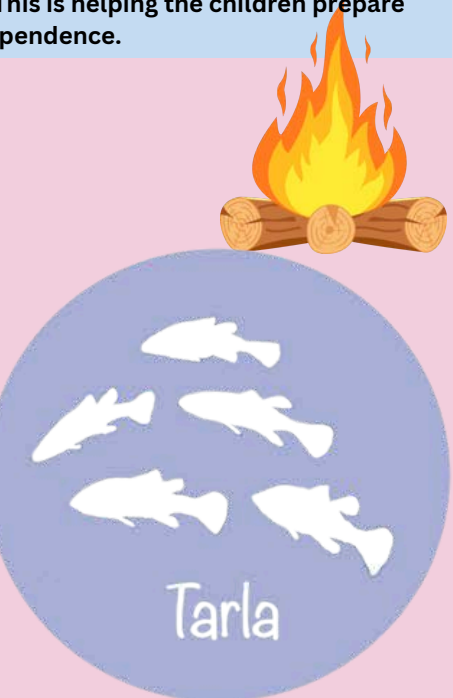
Wook Gook

Wook Gook

This month the children have enjoyed a lot of new resources in the Tarla room. Outside we have added a trampoline to our program, the children have enjoyed jumping and taking turns with friends. We have added a whole new range of balls and a totem tennis pole that has taken the interest of most of the children. Both these supplies are great for children's development of their hand eye coordination. We also had a big construction filled sandpit and a dinosaur mud pit for the children to feel a different texture and help with their fine motor skills. The children spontaneously built a fire pit with all the sticks and leaves that had blown into our yard. This was very exciting for the children as they worked together to build the fire.

Inside, our Tarla friends have had a wide range of resources to explore. We added some new costumes, including fairy dresses, tools and work vests, butterfly wings, an astronaut and many more. The children are taking a very big interest in our water and sand sensory table. This is half sand, half blue water and filled with ocean animals and shells. The Tarla room has also made a volcano that is currently drying and will move onto next month where we will paint it and make the volcano erupt. Clay and Playdough have also had a lot of interest allowing children to express themselves in a creative way. Clay is available for children in the mornings to create masterpieces and then let set dry. Parents and Guardians will see these starting to be displayed at the front of the Tarla room entry. Playdough is brought out in the afternoon for children to create with. We also have a book corner with a feelings display and sensory items, a kitchen set up for children to role play, puzzles and a block corner.

This month we have started to introduce independence with the children allowing them to have their lunch box left in their lockers rather than in the kitchen and dished on a plate each break. This is working very well so far, the children will wash their hands and get their lunch boxes themselves, they will then sit down and pick what they are going to eat. This is helping the children prepare for kindergarten next year and is working well and allowing them independence.



This month in the Gidi room we have been focusing on healthy eating, we have been incorporating the fruit we get donated from Woolworths into the program. We have made some freshly squeezed orange juice and smoothies which the children are able to pick out their own ingredients. We have also been doing some mindful stretching and name writing, which the children have been taking part of in the afternoons before afternoon tea

Bataluk



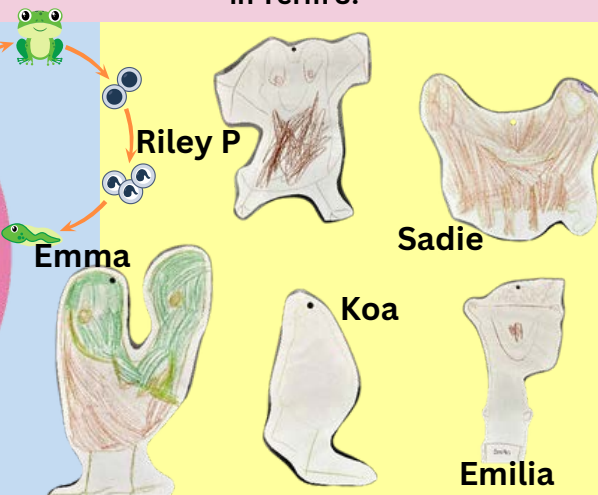
This month the children have been exploring yellow and it's many different shades. A concept born out of Ember and Emerald's idea to create a yellow nest for Wook Gook the owl. This led into many discussions and creations such as yellow food made from playdough, painting the tree branch which was collected from a trip to the wetlands and making collages from leaves that have turned from yellow to brown. Alana and Kiara noticed the different shades of yellow in Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers' and so we experimented with paint by mixing yellow with a little of another colour to see what would happen. The children delighted in the different outcomes and shared this with their peers. We have continued to broaden our sustainability routines by cutting up vegetable scraps and cardboard for the compost. Teachers and educators tap into the children's innate sense of curiosity by posing questions like, "How will the compost help the earth?", "How did the leaf turn brown?" and "What foods are yellow and how are yellow foods good for our bodies?"

The Tiddalek children have been very busy this month learning about the creation story of Tiddalick the Frog. We've explored this fascinating tale through Robert Roennfeldt's book and watched a captivating short animation from the Melbourne Museum website. The children have made a delightful connection between the name of our room and Tiddalick the Frog. They've also discovered new and unfamiliar animals in the story, sparking curiosity and excitement for further exploration next term.

In addition to our storytelling adventures, the children have been deeply engaged in investigating all things frogs, including their life cycle and habitats. This hands-on learning experience has been both educational and enjoyable for everyone involved.

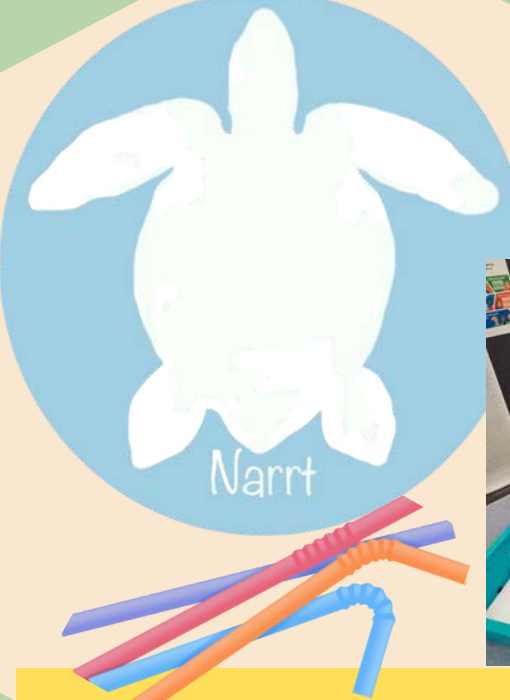
Our program has also seen an enormous interest in colours. The children have been learning about primary and secondary colours. Through experimenting with primary colours, they've discovered which combinations create the desired secondary colours. This has been a hit with the children, and you may have noticed the vibrant art display in our room showcasing their wonderful work.

We are now entering our end of Term 2 break. We wish all children and families a safe and enjoyable break. See you all in Term 3!



Tiddalek

Narrt



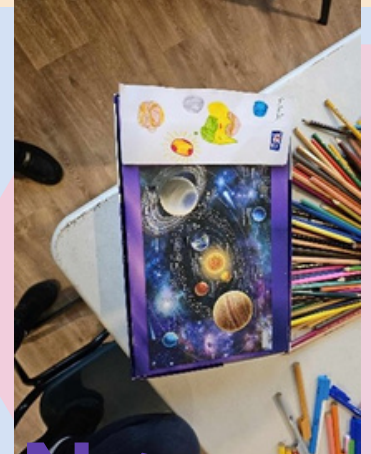
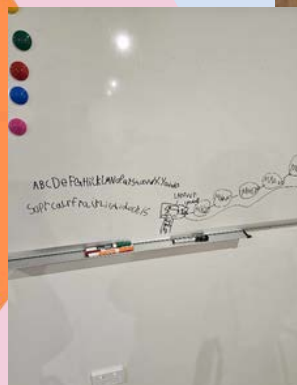
During the month we have been investigating different forms of art. We used ink and did ink blowing. We have also been working on the discovery of our bodies and have obtained X-rays and MRI's and have purchased a stethoscope. The children have shown great interest in this activity. We have also pulled out extensive items from our art cupboard to encourage the children to explore their creative side.

A note to parents going forward, for Vacation Care, we now require 5 business days' notice for any cancellation of bookings for any out of town /bus trips. We require 24 hours' notice for the cancellation of any other bookings.

This month we worked on our "Where do I belong?" project. We have been using resources from our room and we found a world map with our Australian flag pictured, we have also talked about what planet we live on. The children made a pamphlet/flyer to take home with them to show their family where Earth belongs in the solar system.

We have been using the whiteboard to play word games. We took inspiration from the famous Walt Disney film Mary Poppins and tried to spell out 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious.' Used to describe something that is fabulous, fantastic or extraordinarily good or wonderful. One child drew a picture of his fathers work car towing multiple trailers with words in each trailer.

We are continuing to enjoy and develop the children's reading skills and sight words daily, with some happily embracing the challenges to their existing skills, undertaking harder tasks as the year progresses. This not only helps the children develop their reading skills, but also helps parents who may feel pressured to squeeze in reading time after work.



Ngurran



PHONICS BASKET

Set up a fun phonics activity for pre-schoolers and school aged children with this sorting objects into baskets game!



Use three or four baskets and label them with one letter each. Find small toys, items, and pictures that begin with the letter on each of the baskets, and have your children sort the items into each basket. This game will help children with letters as well as determine beginning sounds.

<https://theimaginationtree.com/phonics-activity-sorting-baskets/>



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?



Places To Visit

South East NOW 2024

An art exhibition showing of a group of Koorie artists with a connection to Gunai Kurnai country.

1 June - 27 July 2024

Special Opening event 5.30pm Friday 21 June. All welcome. FREE

East Gippsland Art Gallery

2 Nicholson Street

Bairnsdale Victoria 3875

A maze'n Things

An exciting world of illusions, puzzles, mazes and mini golf.

Open 10am to 5pm

7 Days a week

(Last admission 3pm)

1805 Phillip Island Road, Cowes, 3922, Australia

<https://www.amazenthings.com.au/>



NATIONAL

Pyjama Day Week

Join us and wear your
PJs to support foster kids
with **BIG** dreams

Join the Pyjama Foundation to help raise awareness and offer learning skills and educational resources to children in foster care. Volunteer mentors known as "pyjama angels" spend time with the children reading, playing educational games and engaging in fun activities.

WHAT:

Wear your favourite PJs to Day Care or Kinder and help raise funds for children in foster care

WHEN:

Monday 29th of July to Friday 2nd August

DONATE:

Please bring a gold coin donation. The donation jar can be found in the foyer of each building

nationalpyjamaday.com



How Your Donation Helps

NATIONAL
Pyjama Day

Dreams are no good if they remain just dreams. Help The Pyjama Foundation support more children by empowering them with learning, life skills and confidence to achieve their dreams. Here's how your donations can make a difference:



\$1500

Provides a child in care with their very own Pyjama Angel mentor, who will visit each week, igniting a love for learning.



\$105

Helps The Pyjama Foundation to provide two training kits for two Pyjama Angel mentors (a vital kit they need to become a volunteer).



\$58

Secures new educational resources for children in care including: learning activities, games, puzzles and more.



\$32

Enables The Pyjama Foundation to provide brand new books for children in care.

