

NEWSLETTER Term 2 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see the wide range of learning experiences the children have been engaging in throughout the first part of the year to support their learning, communication and play development. Staff and children have also participated in a few awareness celebrations, which have been enjoyed by all.

World Hearing Day March 3rd <https://www.deafnessforum.org.au/events/world-hearing-day/>



As a part of the Department of Education's Hearing Awareness Week campaign, our very own Natara Mitchell was interviewed. It is always exciting when our staff from Yeerongpilly ECDP are celebrated for the amazing work they do.

Her interview was posted to Teach Queensland on Facebook and LinkedIn, and the Department of Education will share her interview on their website.



Have a read here:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/yrR3bQ3QyeLw3jne/?mibextid=WC7FNc>

Make March Purple for Epilepsy

On Friday 22nd March, we invited staff and children to wear purple in recognition of Purple Day, a global initiative dedicated to raising epilepsy awareness. Purple decorations and activities were found around Yeerongpilly ECDP, the children played with purple playdough, and the staff came together to enjoy a purple themed afternoon tea. Lizzie (one of our Educational Interpreters) registered Yeerongpilly ECDP with Epilepsy Action Australia. <https://www.epilepsy.org.au>.



Community Connections:

A special thank you to Martin, the President of Oxley Men's Shed.

Bridget (one of our Educational Assistants) last year connected with Oxley Men's Shed, resulting in



the wonderful refurbishment of our slippery slide. Martin reached out to Bridget earlier this year and has visited Yeerongpilly ECDP twice to make generous donations of wooden toys he has made himself. The wooden toys are made from various recycled wood products such as pallets or old wooden furniture, and Martin enjoys sharing stories of the background behind each wooden toy he has created. Martin has expressed he enjoys thinking of how toys can be used to invoke imagination and encourage play. The toys are currently kept in the parent room and the dinosaur puzzles and blocks are currently being loved by the children in the classrooms.

The Oxley Men's shed support and connect with the community and run programs to support men, including writing groups and art groups.



Parent Handbook

Our parent/carers handbook is available on our Yeerongpilly ECDP website. You are able to access this at any time to check on information relating to our programs. If you would like a hardcopy please request a copy from the office.

<https://yeerongpillyecdpc.eq.edu.au/supportandresources/formsanddocuments/documents/parent%20handbook%202023.pdf>

Family Auslan Classes

Family Auslan classes offer a flexible format to practice and develop your signing skills. Please feel free to join one or both classes when you can. Regular attendance is recommended to support the development of Auslan skills. In term 2, Cleo will be teaching our Family Auslan classes at the times below:

- Thursdays 1:30pm to 2pm (Staffroom)
- Fridays 9:00am to 9:30am (Staffroom)

Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Outreach

Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Outreach week/days for term 2 are Monday 27th, Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th of May.

During this week teachers will be provided with time to offer outreach to children aged 3 to 5 years attending a child care centre or kindergarten. Our aim is for your child's teacher to visit their students aged 3 to 5 years in their mainstream setting at least once a year, in addition to the support provided throughout the year.

On these days there will be NO individual sessions, however playgroups and the two-day group program continue as normal.

Front Gate

The new front gate at the driveway of Yeerongpilly ECDP is now operational. The gate will be open for all group program times and individual session times. If you arrive and the gate happens to be closed, please call Yeerongpilly ECDP office or your child's Teacher, and we will make sure the gate opens for you.

Voluntary Financial Contribution

Yeerongpilly ECDP is a State Government facility resourced to provide a core educational service with no cost to families. To enhance our programs parents may choose to make a voluntary financial contribution towards the costs of arts and crafts supplies, cooking materials and playgroup morning teas.

A suggested guideline for the contribution is \$10 per term for families accessing individual sessions and playgroup, and \$20 per term for families accessing the group program.

Envelopes for payment are available from the office or your child's teacher.

School Transport Assistance Program for Students with Disabilities.

Under this scheme, all students who attend an ECDP are eligible for a Conveyance Allowance paid directly to the parent/carer to assist with the travel costs between home and school. The allowance is calculated based on the distance to your nearest specialised ECDP (this may not be Yeerongpilly ECDP). The Conveyance Allowance is paid twice a year in June and December, directly into the parent's nominated bank account.

If your child regularly attends the centre weekly, including individual sessions and playgroup, or group program, and you would like an application submitted for 2024 please contact the office.

Yeerongpilly ECDP Private Facebook Group - How to join?

Enter 'YECDP Facebook Group' into the search bar of your device. You can request to join and will be asked to answer a few basic questions to screen requests for approval. Please ensure you answer all 4 questions, including agreeing to the group rules. If you have any problems joining please see Melissa or your child's teacher.



Important Upcoming Dates

Thursday April 25 th	ANZAC day Public Holiday - ECDP is closed
Thursday May 2 nd	Transition to Prep Parent/Carer Information Session and Parent Panel
Monday May 6 th	QLD Labour Day Public Holiday - ECDP is closed
Tuesday May 21 st	Playgroup Hearing Australia visit
Wednesday May 22 nd and Thursday May 23 rd	National Simultaneous Story Time - Bowerbird Blues
Monday 27 th , Tuesday 28 th & Wednesday 29 th May	Outreach Days - NO Individual Sessions
Tuesday May 28 th	Playgroup - Parent information session "Developing the vestibular system through play".
Thursday June 6 th	World Environment Day
Friday June 7 th	Hearing Australia Visit
Thursday June 20 th	NAIDOC week celebrations
Friday June 21 st	Under 8s day excursion up at Yeronga SS
Friday June 21 st	Last day of Term 2
Monday July 8 th	First day of Term 3

Hearing Australia Visits

Unfortunately Hearing Australia will be unable to visit on Friday 3rd May. An additional visit will be scheduled for later in the year for our Friday group program.

Thank you

All the staff at Yeerongpilly ECDP