

The Winter Addition

Family newsletter

Welcome to all of our families to our winter addition Newsletter, my goodness Winter is certainly here brrr....

A big warm welcome to all of our new families, I trust you are settling well into our Mitchell street Community .

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce some of our new faces, we welcome Sarah to our Willow Way team, Sarah comes with a wealth of knowledge and passion for early childhood education.

Kristal is our new junior trainee and is spending time in Gumnut Grove room and is fast becoming a valued member of the team. On that note I would also like to share that Kristal is my youngest daughter, it is such an amazing feeling having my 2 daughters not only in the same building as me each day but them both showing the same passion and love that I have for the early childhood industry.



Shakara is also a new trainee who is demonstrating lots of enthusiasm for early childhood .

If you see our new faces around the building be sure to say hello.

We will shortly be saying goodbye to Jasmin from willow way who is about to embark on a beautiful journey of Motherhood, we wish her all the best.

Child Care Subsidy (CCS)

I thank you all for your patience with the new childcare package as we continue to iron out the lumps and bumps , please don't hesitate to see me if you require any additional information.

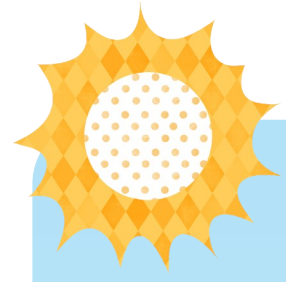
Star Photography– 6th-17th of August

Order forms have now started going home, these are due back by the 6th of August.

Mitchell Street Library

We would like to encourage all of our families to get involved in the Mitchell Street Library, we invite you all to sit with your children and pick out some beautiful books to take home and read together, we have loved seeing the enthusiasm for the Library so far and hope to continue to see it run so well amongst all of our families.

Kerry Lenoble– Centre manager

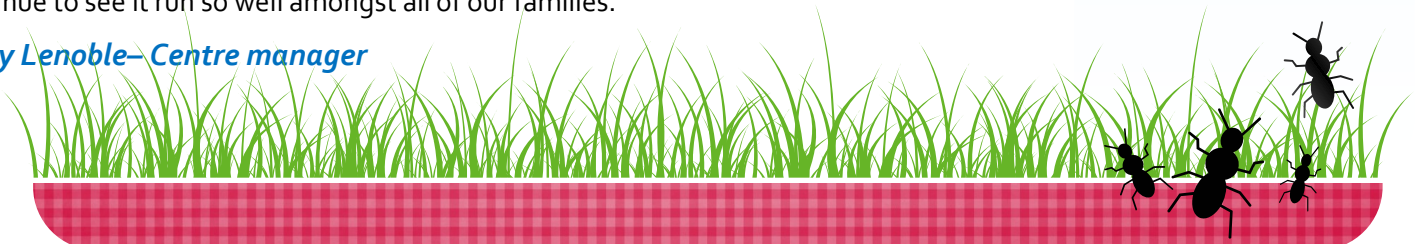


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Important Dates

DENTIST VISIT 25th & 27th July
National Tree day 27th Aug
Jeans for Genes day - 3rd Aug
Science week 13th-17th Aug
Book week 20th-24th Aug
Fathers Day BBQ– Aug 31st
AFL Public Holiday 28th Sep
Geelong Cup 24th Oct



Welcome to Country

We had a very exciting incursion come to Mitchell Street. Corrina came in to talk to the children about her culture. Corrina is part of the Wathaurong (Wadda-Warrung) community which consist of 25 clans (family groups) that forms part of the Kulin Nation of Aboriginal People.

Corrina started by doing a welcome to country ceremony for us. She then did a cultural presentation for the children which included showing us some traditional clothing they used to wear and how it was made. She showed the children the Aboriginal flag and discussed what the colours represent. She also sang some songs with the children in the Watha Wurrung language and also taught us how to sing heads shoulders knees and toes. It was so much fun, the children all stood up and joined in! The children also got to participate in a little song and dance where they got to use some clap sticks and boomerangs for music's, and do some fantastic dancing as some animals. And lastly Corrina shared with the children how to make paint using a ochre rock and water, followed by the children doing their own paintings. It was such a fantastic morning to be apart of and we are so thankful Corrina came to share with us this wonderful experience.



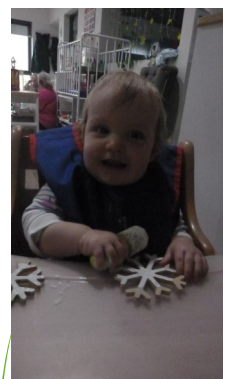
Reminders

Holiday's

please give at least 2 weeks notice of any holidays you would like to take, you have up to 4 weeks per year holidays to take at a discounted rate to your fee's. all holiday absences should be given notice in writing either by using the forms provided or via email.

Birthday cake's

forms are available from your child's room and at reception to order birthday cakes - 48 hours notice is required when ordering



GUMNUT GROVE

Team: Beck, Tania.H, Rachel and Mel

Gumnut grove newsletter

A big welcome to all f our new and existing families.

We would like to start off this newsletter by thanking you all for your feedback and support within the room, we appreciate being able to involve your ideas and routines into Gumnut Grove and encourage any future ideas or improvements to be bought to our attention!

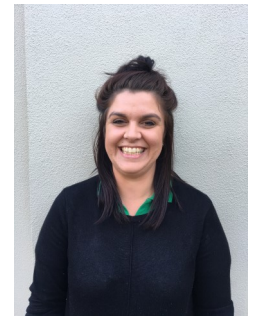
We would like to wish a big welcome to our new educator in the Gumnut Grove room Mel! We are so excited to have her as apart of our team.

Now that winter is officially here we have been so excited to involve the children in some winter themed art experiences, together the children have been creating group paintings, snow men and individual wooden snow flakes that are becoming apart of a winter display in the room. The children have really enjoyed getting messy with these art works.

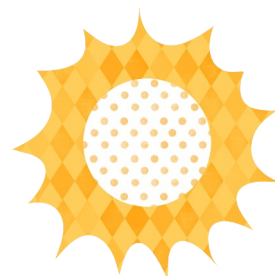
We are starting to introduce more sensory play experiences permanently to the room. The first activity we have introduced is playdough! The children have shown great enthusiasm and enjoyment of this activity, using their hands, rolling pins and cutters to mould and sculpt the playdough.

We have still been trying to utilise the outdoor play space as much as we can even with the weather getting oh so cold, if you would like to bring along beanies and jackets you are more than welcome to keep them here!

Thank you all for such an amazing winter so far!



KOALA COVE



Team: Courtney, Jayde, Hayley, Teneile

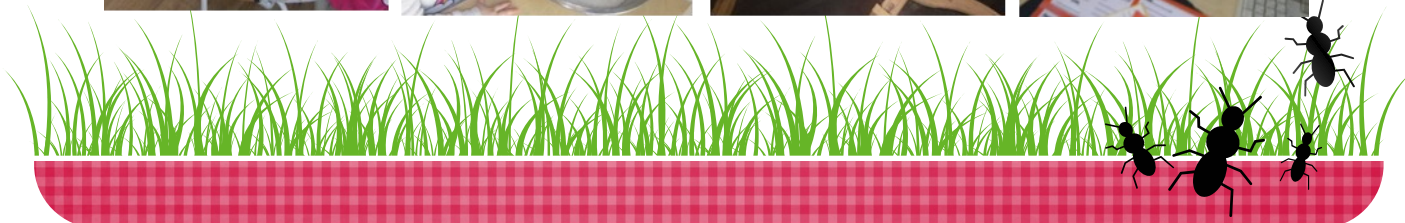
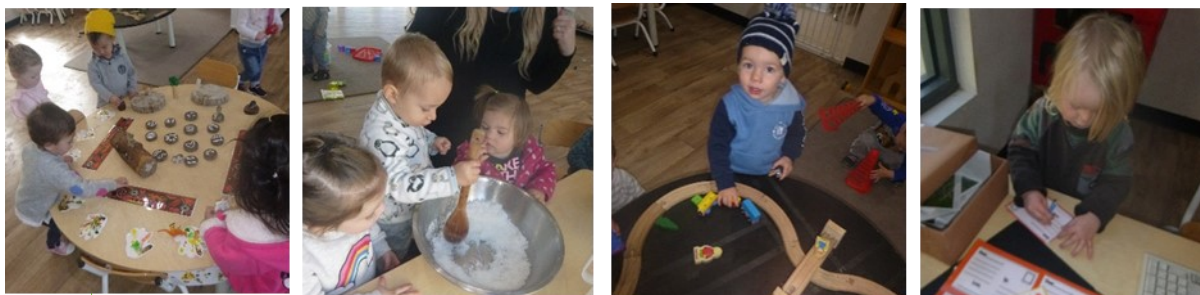
What a great way to start May with celebrating Mother's Day many art and craft activities took place within the room. Each child had the opportunity to make a Sugar Scrub as a special gift, this allowing them to explore mixing the two ingredients together and exploring the texture it created with their hands, this was a very fun and exciting activity for all. And of course, what a success our Mother's Day Afternoon Tea turned out to be, we had such a great time and we thank you all for coming.

We did have a little rearrange of the room allowing more space for certain areas for all kinds of interactions and play. As it seemed a lot of interest was shown in trains, so we decided to create the train table to extend on in our construction area. This area is always a favourite with the children gathering in both small and large groups chatting away with each other.

Over the month of June, we have created our Koala Cove Post Office, the children are really enjoying exploring all the materials provided within this area. Drawing on letters which are then placed into an envelope and mailed off in the mail box. Some interesting and growing interactions are happening within this space amongst the children and educators.

We would like to wish a big warm Mitchell street welcome to our new Koala Cove educator Teneile. Teneile is very excited to be joining the Mitchell Street team and cannot wait to get to know all of our families.

We have been trying hard to find a way to appropriately and respectfully incorporated Aboriginal Culture into our daily program and we now think we have found the solution. We have created a small table in the centre of the room for our display of our interpretation using symbols, wood and Aboriginal colours.



WILLOW WAY

Team: Sarah, Jasmine, Beth, Elise, Susie and Kirstie

We would like to wish a big Mitchell Street welcome to Sarah who has joined the Willow Way family and will be taking over the team leader role as we get ready to wish goodbye and good luck to Jasmin as the time quickly approaches that she will be starting her Maternity leave.

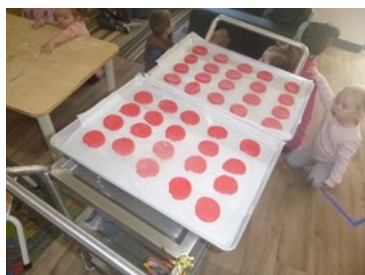
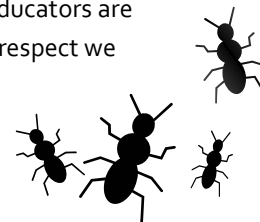
Our learning focus this month was all about feelings/emotions. Our educators used special flash cards during group time which we were able to look at and guess what each one meant. We had lots of conversations about what makes us happy, sad and angry. And also ways we can help each other feel better. Our educators are so impressed with us all with how quickly we have been learning and how much empathy and respect we are showing toward one another.

Both Suzie and Elise have been a magnificent addition to our team and they have fit in like they have always been with us. They are forming bonds with the children and the families and we cannot wait for the rest of the year.

As we are all getting much older in Willow Way, our educators decided that our room needed a re-vamp and activities were moved around and new ones brought in. Some activities challenged us to start with but of course our educators were right there to support and guide us all the time.

We have celebrated lots of birthdays and also lots of us are now toilet trained or toilet training. Well done J

We celebrated red nose day on Friday the 29th June, which we enjoyed baking some shortbread cookies, and painting faces on paper plates.



EMU EXPLORERS

Team: Brooke, Shinae, Caitlin and Sam

We are very excited to share with you how our Pre-Kinder program has been progressing over the past few months. Our planner themes for each week have been providing engaging and hands on activities for all involved. During May we looked at themes including 'The Environment', 'Mothers Day', 'Our Senses', 'Numbers' and 'Shapes'. Mothers Day week was one of the children's favourite weeks as the children got to work with the educators to make gifts for their Mothers, and help prepare for the Mothers Day afternoon tea held at the end of the week.

We had an incursion in May where Corrina came in to talk to the children about her culture. To prepare for this visit the children helped us decorate our Aboriginal corner with some Aboriginal inspired artwork. Corrina is part of the Wathaurong (Wadda-Warrung) community. Corrina did a few things with the children including: A welcome to country ceremony; a cultural presentation; discussed the Aboriginal flag; sang some songs in the Watha Wurrung language as well as some dancing with instruments; and showed the children how to make paint using a ochre rock and water, followed by the children doing their own paintings. It was such a fantastic morning to be apart of and we are so thankful Corrina came to share with us this wonderful experience. This was another great opportunity for the children to explore diversity, culture, heritage, background and tradition and presents opportunities for choices and new understandings.

Every morning we have a group time where the children are involved in reading an Aboriginal book from our collection. These books are another great opportunity for the children to explore diversity, culture, heritage, background and tradition and presents opportunities for choices and new understandings. We have continued our focus board, which involves a different letter, number, colour, shape and a feeling/emotion. The children have been participating well during this time and enjoy having discussions on the topics, especially over the weeks feeling/emotion.

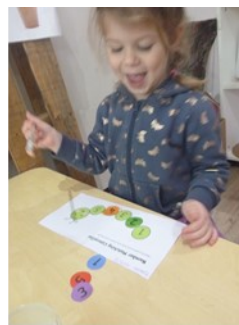
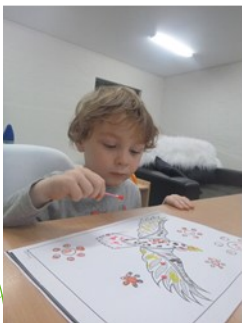
We have also been enjoying sports day, which we do on alternating days each week. This is a time for us to do a whole group activity together and have some fun together. We do activities outside such as running races, ball skills, games etc., as well as inside activities such as yoga, which has been popular this month. We've also been watching the herb garden grow in our yard that the Kangaroo Kinders planted during environment week. Its been great to see the children's interest in this and has allowed for many conversations to be had around looking after our plants and the life cycle of plants.

Currently for the first week of June we are doing 'Winter'. We have taken down our Autumn display and are working hard to create some fun winter art and crafts to put up for our Winter display. We

Medicare and dental information

This website has some helpful information outlining the CDBS with Medicare for any parents that were not aware or would like some information

http://www.kidspot.com.au/health/family-health/real-life/i-will-have-no-choice-but-to-neglect-my-kids-teeth?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=post&utm_campaign=editorial



Useful information

Starting blocks— *how to support your child while in care*

<http://www.startingblocks.gov.au/at-child-care/supporting-your-child/>

New childcare subsidy-

From 2 July 2018, Australia will have a New Child Care Package. Under the new package, the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) will replace the existing Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate. CCS will be the main way the Government assists families with their child care fees.

CCS Information-

<https://www.education.gov.au/new-child-care-package-families-2-july-2018>

CCS online estimator-

<https://www.education.gov.au/sites/education/files/chcare/est/index.html>

Information session:

date to be announced

KANGAROO KINDERS

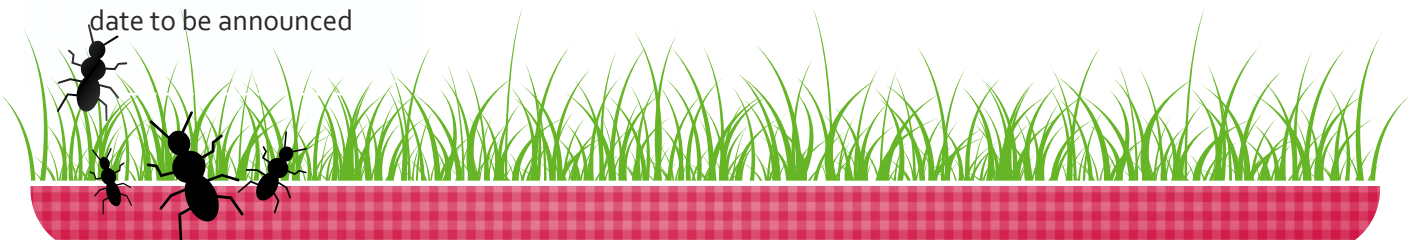
Team: Brooke, Mel, Candice, Beth and Julie

The past couple of months have been very busy for the Kangaroo Kinders room. At the start of May, children were involved in making their own herb/vegetable garden, which they are enjoying watching grow and looking after.

The kinder children had their excursion to the Geelong Library, which was very engaging and entertaining for all involved. We were met by a lady called Lee, who did a story time session with the children. Children have also been involved in many art experiences lately, including a sea creature mural, tie-dying, rock painting and winter artwork.

Following on from our daily routine of 'Welcome to Country' we were lucky enough to have Corrina, a Wathaurong Aboriginal lady come and do a traditional welcome with the children. Corrina spoke about her family, and showed the children animal skins, and a didgeridoo amongst other items.

For the coming weeks, children will be learning about Aboriginal cultures, music and different science experiments.



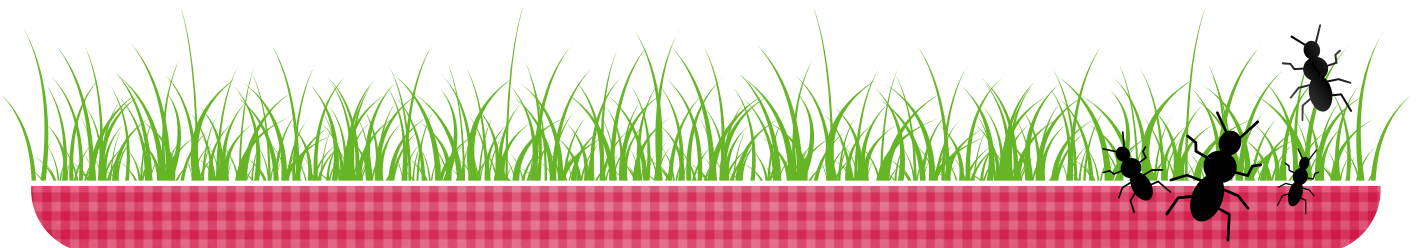


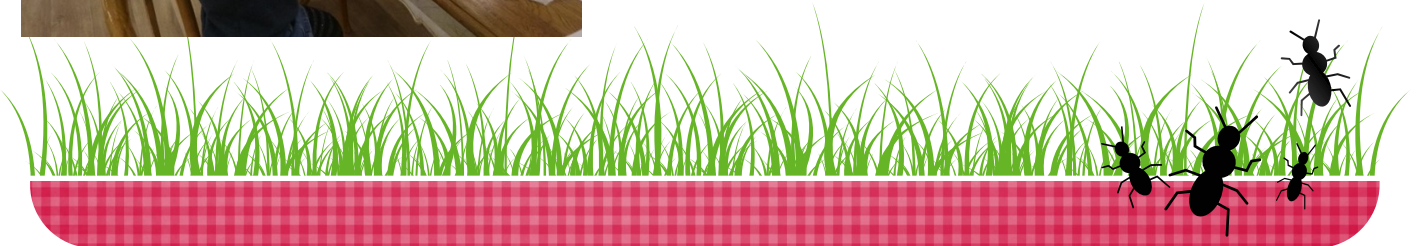
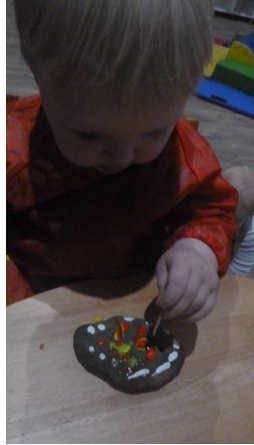
BECAUSE OF HER, WE CAN!

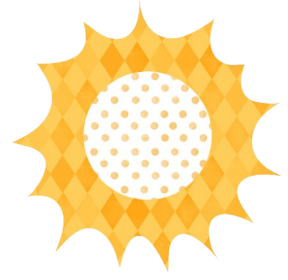
During July here at Mitchell street we celebrated NAIDOC week throughout the centre. Each room created their own NAIDOC week themed art works and experiences with the children, these included rock paintings in Gumnut Grove, bark painting in Koala cove, decorating and making boomerangs and digeridoos in willow way, creating a tidalik the frog story in emu explorers and creating a "what do you know about aboriginal people?"

Our celebrations also inspired some beautiful cooking experiences throughout the rooms.

Here are some photos from all of the rooms at Mitchell street displaying how they recognised and celebrated NAIDOC week.







A word from our chef....Cale

As winter is defiantly here we have been enjoying some hearty winter meals, it has been so great hearing such wonderful feedback from the educators and families about how much the children are enjoy the different meals. I thought I would share a recipe with you all that is much loved healthy snack and a great lunch box treat!

Vegetable Sausage Rolls

INGREDIENTS

- 2 large peeled potatoes
- 1 sweet potato peeled
- 1 brown onion
- 1 celery stalk
- 1 tsp minced garlic
- ¼ cup frozen pea
- ¼ frozen corn
- Salt + pepper
- 1 egg + 50ml milk- for the Egg wash
- 1 grated carrot
- 4 sheets of puff pastry

METHOD

1. boil potatoes and sweet potato and then mash
2. sauté celery, onion and garlic before adding peas, corn and carrot
3. combine the mashed potato and sweet potato with the celery, onion, garlic, peas, corn and carrot
4. lay out the puff pastry and add the mixture to the bottom edge of the sheet and then roll
- repeat this with each sheet of pastry
5. brush the top with egg wash
6. bake at 175 degree's until pastry is golden

NOTE

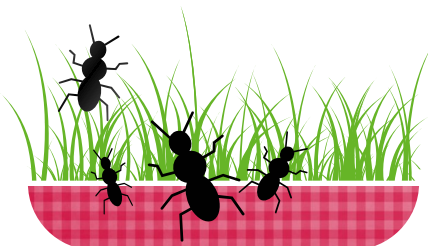
ADD POPPY SEEDS OR SEASAME SEEDS TO THE TOP BEFORE BAKING FOR EXTRA FLAVOUR

Warm regards,

Cale

30th July– 3rd August Menu

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST	WHEATBIX AND TOAST	WHEATBIX AND TOAST	WHEATBIX AND TOAST	WHEATBIX AND TOAST	WHEATBIX AND TOAST
MORNING TEA	FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT WITH MILK	FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT WITH MILK	FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT WITH MILK	FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT WITH MILK	FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT WITH MILK
INGREDIENTS					
LUNCH	BEEF STEW WITH BREAD	STICKY PORK BALLS WITH RICE	VEGETABLE SAUSAGE ROLLS	CHICKEN VINDALOO WITH HERB POYATO	BRAISED EMU (LAMB)
INGREDIENTS	BEEF MINCE, BREAD, STOCK, VEGETABLES	PORK MICE, SOY, HONEY, RICE	POTATO, PUFF PASTRY, VEGETABLES	CHICKEN, YOGHURT, SPICES, GARLIC	VEGETABLES, TOMATO PASTE, WORCESTER-SHIRE, GRAVY, LAMB MINCE
AFTER LUNCH	APPLES TO CLEAN TEETH	APPLES TO CLEAN TEETH	APPLES TO CLEAN TEETH	APPLES TO CLEAN TEETH	APPLES TO CLEAN TEETH
AFTERNOON TEA	BERRY YOGHURT WITH MUSELI	APPLE AND ZUCCHINI MUFFINS	PEAR CAKE	CHEESE AND BACON SCROLLS	NAAN BREAD AND DIP
INGREDIENTS	YOGHURT, BERRIES, OATES, DRIED FRUIT	APPLE, ZUCCHINI, EGGS, FLOUR	PEAR, EGGS, SUGAR, FLOUR, SOY MILK	CHEESE, BACON, FLOUR, WATER	YOGHURT, SALT, SUGAR, GARLIC, FLOUR, SOY MILK
LATE SNACK	DAILY SELECTION	DAILY SELECTION	DAILY SELECTION	DAILY SELECTION	DAILY SELECTION



Mitchell Street
Early Learning Centre