

Bermagui Preschool Newsletter – 17th August 2023



2023/2024 Important Dates:

Spring Vacation Care Program: Mon 25th Sep to Fri 6th Oct

Labour Day Public Holiday (Preschool CLOSED): Mon 2nd Oct

Start of Term 4: Mon 9th Oct

End of Term 4: Wed 13th Dec

Staff Development & CHRISTMAS CLOSURE: Thu 14th Dec to Mon 1st Jan 2024

Summer Vacation Care Program: Tue 2nd Jan 2024 to Thu 25th Jan 2024

Australia Day Public Holiday (Preschool CLOSED): Fri 26th Jan 2024

Staff Development Day (Preschool CLOSED): Mon 29th Jan 2024

Preschool Orientation Day: Tue 30th Jan 2024

(Children and families invited for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour orientation & re-enrolment session)

Start of Term 1 – 2024: Wed 31st Jan 2024

Please note these dates may be subject to change.

Dressup As Your Favourite Book Character to Celebrate Book Week:

We're Invited to the Children's Book Week Celebration at Bermagui Library 📖🎉

🏠 Location: Bermagui Library

📅 Date: Tuesday 22 August

🕒 Time: 10:30 am

Book Week is a fantastic opportunity to engage children in fun and interactive activities that promote a love for books and reading. Willow will be reading some of the stories from the shortlisted titles, creating a fun craft and enjoying the Library space with the aim of fostering the love for reading. Don't forget to dress up as your favourite book character! Don't worry if you don't have dress-ups at home...we have plenty at Preschool!!!! 📖👧

A Reminder to Return Toys

We know from time to time, Preschool toys and resources may make their way home with children. If you happen to find any Preschool toys or resources at home (particularly toy cars, monster trucks, Schleich fairies, dinosaurs etc) a return would be greatly appreciated. Thank you 😊

Early Childhood Educators' Day

Early Childhood Educators' Day recognises and celebrates the work of Australia's educators in early learning services in their important role of supporting children's wellbeing, learning and development in the early years. It's a chance to say thank you to Australia's early childhood educators for their wonderful contribution to the wellbeing and healthy development of the young children in their care.

This year Early Childhood Educators' Day will take place on Wednesday 6th September. Feel free to say thank you to our educators and let them know they are appreciated by you and your child/ren.

Resources for Families

We're sharing resources made especially for families to increase their knowledge on the early childhood education and care sector.

- [Little Yarns](#) is a podcast series from ABC kids that families can listen to with children to explore the diverse languages and unique cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Nations.
- Triple P Online's [Positive Parenting Program](#) provides strategies, skills and knowledge for parents and carers to handle each new age, stage and situation with confidence.

School Transition 2024

For children transitioning to Bermagui Public School in 2024, all enrolment information and forms need to be returned to Bermagui Public School immediately. Below is information regarding the school transition visits. For children enrolled and attending Bermagui Preschool on these days, Symmons Bus company will be taking the children to and from Preschool with Preschool educators. Children not transitioning to Bermagui Public School in 2023 will remain at Preschool with educators for a special day. For those children not attending Bermagui Preschool on these days but who are intending on enrolling at Bermagui Public School in 2024, families can take their children to and from Bermagui Public School independently. Please note, children can only attend these transition visits if their enrolment information and forms have been received by Bermagui Public School.

If you have any questions or need support with your child transitioning to a school other than Bermagui Public School, please contact the school you intend to enrol your child at directly or see Preschool staff.



GANANDHIMILA-NJ - WE LEARN

1 August 2023

2024 Kindergarten Transition – Orientation Program

Dear Families

Welcome to Bermagui Public School. We have enjoyed meeting some of the children throughout the term during our visits to the preschools. It has also been lovely to connect with some families for the first time.

We are looking forward to getting to know your children during the Orientation Program in Term 4 to ensure a positive and strong start for everyone in 2024.

Please find the details of our Orientation Program that will commence next term, on the back of this page.

If you have any questions about orientation and/or need assistance to complete the enrolment forms, please contact Mrs Roche (K-2 Assistant Principal) via the front office on 64934271.

All students attending the Orientation Program must have a completed enrolment form, which has been reviewed by the school prior to Thursday, 19 October.

Information regarding Best Start and further information around Kindergarten 2024, will be communicated after the Orientation Program.

We are looking forward to being part of your child's educational journey here at Bermagui Public School and connecting with the children at the orientation days.

Kindest regards,

Brendan Constable

Principal

2024 Kindergarten Transition – Orientation Program

The orientation sessions below will all take place at Bermagui Public School

Term 3, Week 9 Tuesday 12.09.23 12.30 - 2pm	All Kindergarten 2024 students Concert – Matinee Performance Preschools are invited to visit the school between 12.30-2pm to watch the Bermagui Public School Concert
Term 4, Week 2 Thursday 19.10.23 10:00 – 11:00am	All Kindergarten 2024 students <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Songs in Dhurga (one of our local Aboriginal languages)- Tour of the school- Art
Term 4, Week 2 Thursday 19.10.23 5:30-7:00pm	Parent/Carer Information Session
Term 4, Week 3 Thursday 26.10.23 10:00-11:00am	All Kindergarten 2024 students <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Getting to know your school 'Year 5 buddy'- Outdoor games (run by Year 6 students)
Term 4, Week 4 Thursday 2.11.23 10:00 – 11:00am	All Kindergarten 2023 students <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Getting to know your school 'Year 5 buddy'- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
Term 4, Week 5 Thursday 9.11.23 10:00 – 11:00am	All Kindergarten 2024 students <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Teddy Bears Picnic with current Kindergarten students

Please note that Bermagui Public School teachers will also be visiting the preschools on Wednesdays during orientation weeks to connect with the children.

*Happy Father's Day to all our fabulous Dads and Father Figures
for Sunday 3rd September*



Learning to "Write" in Preschool Years

We have had several families asking about teaching our Preschoolers how to write letters, numbers and their names. Before children become interested in handwriting, they will always be interested in 'play' and will gravitate towards play dough, threading beads, interconnecting building blocks and balancing on logs, before a worksheet or a writing station. These types of activities are fundamental in developing fine motor skills in children which without would mean they would not develop the skills required for early, emergent writing and then later full writing skills.

Children require progressive development in their hands to enable them to grasp and hold things and eventually develop their writing skills. Just like any muscles we must support them, strengthen them and 'work out' to get them stronger this is just the same for the muscles in children's bodies.



For Preschool aged children, this should not be sitting children down at tables with worksheets, colouring books and pencils but instead be using fun, imaginative age appropriate activities to develop these much-needed muscles. It is also important to note that children need to develop upper body and core strength in addition to fine motor, who would have thought a balancing circuit or dancing with ribbons would actually be supporting and developing the muscles and skills needed for writing? Well they do!!

Our children have a variety of resources and activities to develop their gross and fine motor skills alongside mark-making and postural control (children being able to maintain their own balance in sitting without using their hands). Children should not be expected to develop letter formation, pre-writing shapes or early writing skills if they have not yet developed the correct grasp and do not have good postural position.

In order to prepare children for school and get those muscles strong and ready we thought we would share with you some simple ways for you to be able to set up these activities at home. For further information please see our Preschool Teachers and Educators

Activities for Postural Control

(children being able to maintain their own balance in sitting without using their hands):

- Obstacle courses that require balancing, crawling and climbing
- Playground and garden equipment - swings, climbing frames, balancing beams
- Playing games like Twister or something similar where you have to balance with one arm, stand on one leg
- Catch games with balls and beanbags but sitting, squatting, kneeling, standing on one leg
- Jumping on the trampoline
- Dancing, swimming or gymnastics

Grasp and fine motor skill development:

- Building with interconnecting blocks
- Pegboards
- Threading and lacing
- Using tweezers and tongs to pick up small objects
- Weaving
- Play dough
- Thread pasta on to string to make a necklace
- Collect small items from around the house and move them from one dish to another with large tweezers or small kitchen tongs

Activities to develop using hands and eyes together:

- Copying patterns using building blocks, buttons, pegboards
- Copying basic shapes and patterns using play dough, drawing in sand, shaving foam, using pipe cleaners
- Mazes
- Tracing activities

Activities to develop the tripod grasp:

- Place clothes pegs around a container or piece of material
- Using tweezers and tongs to pick up small objects
- Threading beads
- Picking up cards from the floor
- Using pipettes to squeeze out just one drop of water at a time or even use with paint and create a piece of art at the same time
- Putting coins in a money box or container with a slit
- Popping bubble wrap

School Aged Before and After School Care at Bermagui Public School



OPEN DATE: 31.07.2023

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

SESSION TIMES
Monday to Friday

Before School Care
7:00am to 9:00am

After School Care
3:15pm to 6:00pm

Vacation Care
7:00am - 6:00pm

CONTACT DETAILS
To enrol and make a booking please visit our website aspire-oshc.com.au
Have a question? or request a parent handbook, please contact our Operations Manager **Christine**:
✉ christine@aspire-oshc.com.au
☎ 0428 341 308

ASPIRE OSHC provide high quality care and education to school aged children at Bermagui Public School. We aim to provide a fun and creative age appropriate program based on the "My Time, Our Place" National Framework for school aged children.

ASPIRE OSHC provide Before and After school care programs and Vacation Care. These programs develop and nurture children's minds.

ASPIRE OSHC promotes a healthy lifestyle through various activities for children to discover, learn and play. We create healthy habits by providing nutritional foods and a variety of opportunities to participate in active play.



ASPIRE OSHC