

# Bermagui Preschool Newsletter – August 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## What's On at Preschool...

In the Bidhu Room we have extended our sustainability program with a focus on micro plastics. This has included the use of visual resources, group discussions with props and the collection of micro plastics at Preschool and in the broader community which will be used to create a collaborative artwork/mural. We have also learnt about the micro plastics eating wax moth, that scientists have been researching in a bid to reduce environmental micro plastic!!!

In the Bungaree Room we have been using the story Wombat Stew as a focus on extending listening, literacy, language and imaginative skills. Bananas from the Moodji Garden have been used to make Banana Bread as part of our cooking program. Here is the recipe for you to try at home...

### Banana Bread

- 100ml extra virgin olive oil
- 1 egg
- 50g natural yoghurt
- 2g ( $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp) salt
- 170g plain flour
- 4g (1 tsp) baking powder
- 4g (1 tsp) bicarbonate of soda
- 2-3 mashed bananas
- 110g castor sugar

1. Preheat the oven to 170C fan-forced (190C conventional). Grease a 25-centimetre loaf tin and line with baking paper.
2. Combine the oil, egg, yoghurt and salt in a bowl.
3. Add the flour, baking powder and bicarbonate of soda to a medium bowl and whisk.
4. Add the mashed banana and sugar to the bowl and mix.
5. Gradually add the oil mix until incorporated. Add the flour and mix.
6. Tip the mix into the prepared tin, top with the sliced banana and bake for 25 to 30 minutes until cooked - the cooked cake will be springy to the touch, and a skewer will come out clean.

## Paper Bags Wanted

If you have any paper grocery bags from your shopping, could you please donate them to Preschool for projects? A donation box will be left at the front of Preschool. Thank you

## StEPS Vision Screening

The StEPS (Statewide Eyesight Preschooler Screening) program is an initiative of NSW Health and offers all 4 year old children free vision screening. They will be at Preschool on Thursday 10th August to do vision screening, with consent forms completed by families earlier in the year. Please see staff if you have not received, completed or returned the screening consent forms for your 4/5 year old child.

## School Transition for 2024:

Children attending Cobargo Public School in 2024 will receive their enrolment information packs this week, with children intending to go to Bermagui Public School having received their packs earlier this term. Please see staff or contact the schools if you have not received this important information.

## Bravehearts:

We were devastated to hear that an educator who worked in Queensland, NSW and overseas has been charged with 1,623 child abuse offences against 91 children between 2007 and 2022. Our thoughts are with the children (some who are now young adults) who experienced the abuse, as well as their families and carers. We know a systemic response to this tragedy is required. As a voice for young children, we will continue to advocate and work with the relevant authorities, policy makers and the early childhood sector to build a culture of child safety within early childhood services and across our community and ensure that early childhood education is a safe and secure place where every child is valued, and their safety and well-being is always paramount.

At Bermagui Preschool, we will be running the Bravehearts *Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure* program, to support children to know the following:

1. We all have the right to feel safe.
2. It's ok to say "NO" if you feel unsafe or unsure.
3. Nothing is so yucky that you can't tell someone about it

For further information about this program visit [www.bravehearts.org.au/education](http://www.bravehearts.org.au/education)

## Policy Update

Services are legally required to ensure families are notified of any changes to policies which affect: the service's provision of education and care to any enrolled child or a family's ability to use the service; fees; or fee collection procedures, 14 days in advance. (Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011). Bermagui Preschool is currently reviewing the **1.10 Priority of Access Policy**. Copies of the existing policy are available on our website and the proposed Policies are available on request at Preschool for families to review and provide feedback via email [bermikids@hotmail.com](mailto:bermikids@hotmail.com). Please see Narelle for further information.

## Afternoon departures from preschool

We have been experiencing some challenging behaviours at the end of the day. To support calm departure from preschool we ask that parents keep older siblings with them while they collect their preschoolers. Please also note that the playground will be closed in the afternoons to minimise risk of injuries due to tiredness and unruly behaviour.

## Facebook

Remember to check out your Hubhello/ Educate emails and like us on the Bermagui Preschool Facebook page... Great ways to see what we've been up to at Preschool!!!



## Moodji Update from Dan Bakker/Wish list

Walawaani all,

In true barn-raising style, we invite anyone capable of holding a screwdriver to join us on either (or all) of the following dates to assemble an 8x4 meter polycarbonate greenhouse which will take centre stage at Moodji Farm. A key milestone and game-changer for Moodji, this sturdy structure will enable the project to boost propagation, expand its plant variety, extend seasonal growing by up to four months, provide shelter for all weather tasks, and enable our preschool GrubClubbers an intimate space for garden activities.

Wed, 9th Aug - 11am

Thurs, 10th Aug - 9:30am (as per our usual Moodjiteer day)

Fri, 11th Aug - 10am

Pumpkin soup, coffee & tea will be provided each day. Helpers also welcome to bring morning tea treats to share. Please bring a Phillips Head screwdriver if you have one. With considerable thanks to the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (Future Drought Fund), the federal government's Black Summer Bushfire Recovery grant, and the Bermagui Men's Shed.

Please RSVP to Dan for catering purposes

m] 0427 746980

e] [eatdirtpermaculture@gmail.com](mailto:eatdirtpermaculture@gmail.com)

Collectively Moodji also has a wish list, should anyone be able to assist:

- blackboards and whiteboards
- 4 wheelie bins (for storage and compost cannons)
- newspaper - lots of it
- BVSC waste vouchers
- steel pickets (all sizes)
- all manner of construction timbers & decking (anything from 1.2m)
- shade cloth
- all forms of hardware: screws, nails, bracket plates, hinges
- roofing tin (min 3meters)
- toilet rolls (for mass seedling propagation)
- pavers and bricks (in any condition)
- untreated hardwood sleepers
- 2" greenline polypipe (min.7meters... and lots of it)
- two aluminium screen doors
- tin bathtubs
- long rolls of 1m chicken wire
- up to 20 lengths of uniform structural bamboo (min 5meters)
- bales of weed/seed free silage (ie. not first cut)
- 12mm micro-irrigation materials
- vermin proof cupboards
- workshop shelving
- framing pine for various construction projects
- panels of weldmesh fencing