

Bermagui Preschool Newsletter - October 9th 2023



2023/2024 Important Dates:

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.

Preschool Update

This year is flying by, and we are all looking forward to Term 4 at Bermagui Preschool. We are still awaiting an outcome of our funding variation for our capital works program. We hope that works will commence later in the year with the new spaces ready for 2024. Our preschool playground project is also progressing with Tim and the team from Proscape commencing work on our improved bike track, mud kitchen, dry creek bed and much needed shade trees. The children and teachers are looking forward to lots of fun and learning in this re-invigorated space when it re-opens soon. School transition visits for Bermagui, Cobargo and Tilba Public School will run throughout this term for those children off to school in 2024. Please contact your local school if you need further information about these important visits.

Preschool Staff Update

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our Bungaree Educator Tia, who is leaving us this week. We thank her for her dedication and compassion when working with our young children and will miss her deeply. Maddie, a qualified and experience Early Childhood Educator, will be joining our team after recently moving to the area. Our current Preschool Staff Roster is as follows:

| | Bidhu Room | Bungaree Room | Lunches and Support | Admin/ Office |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Monday | Relle, Manda & Tilly | Bec, Alicia & Naomi | Maddie | Kirsty |
| Tuesday | Relle, Manda & Tilly | Bec, Alicia & Niamh | Ange | N/A |
| Wednesday | Relle, Manda & Kerry | Bec, Lindsay & Niamh | Ange | Kirsty |
| Thursday | Kerry, Tilly & Naomi | Bec, Lindsay & Niamh | | Relle |
| Friday | Kerry, Tilly & Naomi | Ange, Niamh & Sarah | | Kirsty & Relle |

PJ Day

Thank you to all children, families, and staff for showing your support for a wonderful cause and donating money on PJ Day/week and wearing your pyjamas to preschool. We were able to raise \$30 for the Pyjama Foundation to support children in foster care. For more information, please visit thepyjamafoundation.com

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!!!

Safety Over Summer

A big thank you to everyone for their patience and support during the recent local fire events. Our thoughts are with those who have been impacted by the fires. In consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service and Department of Education, our preschool is reviewing and updating our Emergency and Bushfire Response Policies. We recommend that families also stay up to date with bushfire and grassfire activity by using the Hazards Near Me app (set a watch zone for your school area), and by monitoring local media. You can also review fire activity and alert levels on the RFS website. The Fire Danger Rating does not mean there will be a bushfire, but rather weather conditions that could pose a high risk for a bushfire event. The measure is proactive to ensure staff, students and the community remain safe. We recommend that all our families follow the advice of the NSW Rural Fire Service and ensure that your family knows what to do if there is a fire. It can take as little as five minutes to make your plan. Discuss it with your family so you know what you will do in the event of a fire.

www.myfireplan.com.au

We understand that managing the bushfire season maybe be a stressful time for staff and families alike. We are working together NSW RFS and NSW Department of Education to support our preschool children, families, staff and the broader community to help us maintain safe and normal service operations as much as possible. Please note that unpredictability may continue, with possible changes on short notice. We advise families to be prepared for these changes. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding and please be kind to our staff who are doing their best to keep your child, other families, our staff, and the broader community safe.

Sun Safety

A reminder to all families to ensure your child wears sun safe clothing to preschool, clothing that covers as much skin as possible. Choose lightweight, loose-fitting clothing that won't make your child too hot). At preschool the children engaged with many activities and are independently attempting to ensure their own sun safety. They were strategically taught how to apply their own sunscreen and wear their own preschool hat, things they can continue to do at home or while out and about over summer. For further information visit <https://www.sunsmart.com.au/.../be-sunsmart-play-sunsmart...>

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 Policy **2.02 Staff Employment**, **4.16 Emergency Procedures (Evacuation and Lockdown)** and **4.33 Bushfire Emergency Plan Policies**. Copies of the existing policy are available on our website and the proposed Policy is available at Preschool for families to review and provide feedback. Written feedback can be emailed to us.

Thankyou

Thank you to the following people who helped our preschool:

- Alicia and Paul west for donating a beautiful shade tree for our playground.
- For all our children, families and staff who supported PJ Day/ Week. We raised \$30 to support children in foster care.
- For all our families for keeping their children at home when they are unwell and supporting our health and hygiene practices to keep our children, staff, and broader community healthy and well.