

# Bermagui Preschool Newsletter - 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024



## 2024/2025 Important Dates | Please Note Closure Dates

**End of Term 4:** Thu 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024

**Staff Development & Cleaning:** Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2024 (Preschool CLOSED)

**Annual Christmas Shutdown:** Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2024 to Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2025 (Preschool CLOSED)

**Summer Vacation Care Program:** Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 to Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025

**Australia Day Public Holiday:** Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 (Preschool CLOSED)

**Staff Development Day (First Aid Training):** Tue 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 (Preschool CLOSED)

**Preschool Orientation Day:** Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 (Families invited for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr appointments)

**Staff Development Days:** Thu 31<sup>st</sup> Jan, Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Feb & Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2025 (Preschool CLOSED)

**Start of Term 1 - 2025:** Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025

Please note these dates may be subject to change

## Start of Term 1 2025

Please note that Preschool will be closed from January 27<sup>th</sup> (Australia Day Public Holiday) until and including Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February for staff professional development and to prepare for the new year. This aligns with the Department of Education, by providing all staff professional development days so that we can continue to provide high quality education and care for your children.

## Preschool News

We have finished the year so far with a wonderful Graduation party for our children that are heading to school next year. Over the last week of term, we will be continuing celebrations with all the children having fun with beach days, splash parties and a picnic in the playground. Please see information below about the party day.

Thank you to all our families for their support throughout the year. Everything from contributing ideas to the preschool program, supplying us with household recyclables for craft and involvement as Board Members etc. has helped to make the preschool run smoothly. It has been wonderful to watch your children grow and learn so much from their experiences at preschool. For those children leaving us for primary school next year, we wish you every success. For those children returning to preschool next year, we look forward to an exciting 2025. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday.

## End Of Year Party Days

To finish the year with lots of fun the following activities have been planned. Please remember to pack your child a change of clothes that are suitable for the weather and appropriate shoes when out on excursions.

**Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Beach and Nature Day (please wear shoes for walking)

**Tue 17<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Splash Party at Preschool. Children are welcome to bring their swimmers and towels. We will have sprinklers, a slip and slide, creek bed play and lots of fun water activities and games (please bring a bag for wet things)

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Picnic and play in the Bermagui All Abilities Playground (please drop children directly at the park with their packed bags, pick up will be from preschool as usual)

**Thu 19<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Party as Preschool 😊



## Preschool Spare Clothes

We are running low on spare shorts/pants at preschool. If anyone has some old clothes to donate in sizes 2,3 & 4, that would be greatly appreciated. Also, a reminder to families to please pack at least one change of clothes for their child that is appropriate for the weather.

## Health Update

To support the health and wellbeing of our children and the community we will be sharing information in each newsletter on illnesses/infections that are contagious and known to spread quickly. Our Health fact sheet for this newsletter is about [Gastroenteritis and can be accessed by clicking this link](#). Please note we have not had any confirmed cases at Bermagui Preschool recently.

## Thank You 😊

- To the Ponsford family for their kind donation towards our face painter at the graduation party
- Sarah Cooper's sushi and Kristy Callaghan's Cracked Pepper catering at the graduation party
- To all our wonderful Preschool children for making our job as teachers and educators so amazing!!!  
We love you all xx

## Re-Enrolment and Orientation Day 2025

We are looking forward to having an exciting and fun filled 2025 together at Bermagui Preschool. If you are returning or enrolling at Bermagui Preschool in 2025, we would like to invite you to attend a re-enrolment and orientation session at the Bermagui Preschool on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. During this time all enrolment details will be checked and updated, and you will have a chance to talk to the Preschool staff about your child's program for 2025 and share information to help your child settle into Preschool. Please note short 30-minute visits for each family will be staggered throughout this day, with our regular Preschool and Long Day Care Programs resuming on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

On your child's first day at Preschool, please bring the following:

- A bag big enough for a lunch box, drink bottle, spare clothing and artwork.
- A spare set of clothing.
- A lunch box that your child can easily open, containing nutritious morning tea and lunch and a separate piece of fruit for our fruit basket.
- Please remember we are a Nut Free Preschool. Nude Food (food without wrappers) is also preferred.
- A drink bottle containing water.

Please ensure all property including shoes are clearly marked with your child's name. Every care is taken but no liability can be accepted for lost or damaged property.

Please inform the preschool staff if you will be unavoidably early, or late, or not attending, so we can accommodate your needs or offer places to others who require an extra day. Attendance outside your regular booked hours will incur additional fees.

If you are no longer intending to enrol your child next year, please let Kirsty know as there are other children who are waiting for a place.

Families will be emailed details about your child's allocated time for this day, as well as confirmation of their allocated days for 2025 soon. If you have any questions, please email [bermikids@hotmail.com](mailto:bermikids@hotmail.com).

We hope you enjoy your holidays, and we look forward to seeing you all at the Orientation and Enrolment Day on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024** or beforehand if you're attending our summer vacation care.

## Families' Evaluation Survey

We are going digital with our survey this year, would you mind taking 2 minutes to complete it? Please [click this link](#) to access the survey. Your feedback is very much valued and appreciated. It would be great if you can submit your response by Dec 18, 2024. Thank you!

## What's On in The Community



**SUMMER** School Holidays at the Library

Summer is here and our libraries are running a full program of great holiday activities, including our Golden Ticket reading challenge, Christmas crafts, and other fun children's events.

**Christmas Crafts**  
DIY Christmas Cards - drop in day  
Bega Library  
Sat 14 Dec, 10.00am - 12.30pm  
Bermagui Library  
Sat 7 Dec, 10.00am - 12.30pm

**School Age Kids**  
Lego Creational Challenge  
Eden Library - Thu 9 Jan, 10.30am  
Herb Garden & Lemonade  
Bermagui Library - Thu 9 Jan, 10.30am  
Spies R Us "Treasure Hunt"  
Tura Marrang Library - Tue 14 Jan, 10.30am  
Story Stones Workshop  
Eden Library - Wed 15 Jan, 10.30am  
Tye Dye Workshop for Kids  
Bega Library - Tue 21 Jan, 10.30am

**Summer Reading Club, The Golden Ticket**  
Find a golden ticket and win.  
This summer there will be 16 golden tickets hidden amongst our adult, youth, and children's collections. Borrow a book with a golden ticket and you win a prize, tickets could be in any book so the more you read the more chances you have to win. Hint the tickets are not visible, so peering into lots of books won't work.  
All Bega Valley Shire libraries  
2 Jan-14 Feb

**Younger Kids**  
Rhymes, Rhythms, and Puppets with Leigh and Sandy Gordon  
Bermagui Library - Mon 13 Jan 10.30am  
STEM Watercourse  
Tura Marrang Library - Fri 24 Jan, 10.00am

Pick up a brochure at your local library or visit [library.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://library.begavalley.nsw.gov.au).  
Phone the library on 6499 2127

bega valley shire council library

## Oxfam Unwrapped Gifts

Christmas is an exciting time of the year. But the lead up to Christmas can also be stressful and tiring. Our yearlong efforts to do right by the issues we care about can go out the window in the chaos of planning Christmas, buying gifts for family and friends, and sorting out the logistics of the day and the holidays to follow.

At Bermagui Preschool we have used this time of year to restore the original intentions of the season, and together celebrate a greener, more ethical world. We have been reflecting on the importance of sharing and caring and looked at ways to make each aspect of the season meaningful and beneficial to the people and environment around us. This year our Preschoolers created beautiful handmade presents and cards for their families that can be kept and treasured forever. We used recycled materials to wrap these presents and make sustainable decorations for our Christmas tree.

We shared stories from around the world and had discussions about how different families celebrate in different ways at this time of the year. We also raised money to purchase Oxfam Unwrapped Gifts. Loose change was placed in our money box to help us to raise money for this special project. We will then look at the Oxfam Unwrapped Gifts and choose gifts for children and communities that need our help... maybe a buffalo for a village, breakfast for vulnerable children, a fresh water tap or egg producing ducks! This project will help us to learn about caring for other people, the joy of helping and giving to others and help us to understand how other children live.

# END OF YEAR SONGS

Here are some Celebration songs that we are learning at Preschool that you might like to enjoy with your child at home.

## **We Wish You a Merry Christmas**

We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year  
Good tidings we bring  
To you and your friends  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year

## **Jingle Bells**

Dashing through the snow  
In a one horse open sleigh  
Over the fields we go  
Laughing all the way  
Bells on bob tails ring  
Making spirits bright  
What fun it is to laugh and sing  
A sleighing song tonight  
Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells,  
Jingle all the way  
Oh what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open sleigh

## **Walaawani**

Walaawani, Walaawani, Oh.  
Walaawani, Walaawani, Oh.  
Walaawani, Walaawani, Walaawani, Walaawani.  
Walaawani, Walaawani, Oh.

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

The Earth is warm beneath my feet  
The Sun shines bright above  
And here "We" stand on Djiringanj Land  
All things the things we love!  
Here is the Earth, here is the sea, here is the sky  
Here are my friends and here is me.  
We pay our respects to the Djiringanj People  
On whose land we gather to work and play and learn.

