# Bermagui Preschool Newsletter - 21st February 2025

#### 2025 Term Dates

Bermagui Preschool Annual General Meeting (see below): Friday 21st March, 9:15am

Governance Training: Monday 24th March, 3pm

End of Term 1: Friday 11th April

Autumn Vacation Care: Monday 14th April to Thursday 24th April Good Friday Public Holiday: Friday 18th April (Preschool CLOSED)

Easter Monday Public Holiday: Monday 21st April (Preschool CLOSED)

ANZAC Day Public Holiday: Friday 25th April (Preschool CLOSED)

Preschool Professional Development Day: Monday 28th April (Preschool CLOSED)

Start of Term 2: Tuesday 29th April

Winter Vacation Care: Monday 7th July to Friday 18th July

Preschool Professional Development Day: Monday 21st July (Preschool CLOSED)

Start of Term 3: Tuesday 22nd July

Spring Vacation Care: Monday 29th September to Friday 10th October Labour Day Public Holiday: Monday 6th October (Preschool CLOSED)

Preschool Professional Development Day: Monday 13th October (Preschool CLOSED)

Start of Term 4: Tuesday 14th October End of Term 4: Thursday 18th December

Preschool Annual Shut Down: Friday 19th December to Friday 2nd January 2026 (Preschool CLOSED)

Summer Vacation Care: Monday 5th January 2026 Please note these dates may be subject to change.

### What's On at Preschool...

Our program is continuing to focus on building friendships and settling into Preschool. We are also enjoying lots of outdoor learning in our Moodji Garden which is literally blooming now. We have been discussing healthy foods and loving the range of nude food (food without packaging) lunchboxes the children have been coming to preschool with.

Bungaree children are working on a flower garden project inspired by the sunflowers in the Moodji garden. We are also building relationships and remind Bungaree families to please email through a family photo to add to our family tree.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for our Preschool Program, feel free to mention these to our educators.

## HubHello App

Remember to download the HubHello App to access information regarding your child's progress and stay up to date with what's happening at Preschool. You can also check your emails (Educate Documents/HubHello and newsletters), the noticeboards at the front of Preschool and follow Bermagui Preschools Facebook page to stay in touch with Preschool news. Also, a reminder that the Preschool program is displayed in each room for further details on what your child/ren have been learning at Preschool.

The HubHello App looks like this...



#### Thank You Families

Thank you to all our beautiful families for coming to our Welcome to Preschool Pizza Party. It was a lovely turn out and we are all looking forward to another wonderful year at Bermagui Preschool!

# Wanted <sup>©</sup>

We are looking for donations of toys cars, matchbox cars or any other small, wheeled toys that are no longer needed by our families and community. If you have any that are lying around, we would love to use them at 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 in early March to do vision screening, however a consent form needs to be completed by parents. Forms have been handed to eligible 4- and 5-year-old children and will need to be returned by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

### Fruit Update

We are no longer using a fruit bowl in the Preschool rooms, so families no longer need to pack an extra piece of fruit for sharing. We have found that donated fruit from Woolworths, OzHarvest, Moodji Farm and our Preschool Cooking Program are providing enough additional food for our children. Thank you for being so supportive.

#### OzHarvest

OzHarvest is a national food rescue charity that uses volunteers to collect good food from supermarkets, growers, restaurants - any business that has excess good food that is in danger of going to landfill. On Mondays, OzHarvest delivers food to the front of our Preschool and leaves it on the front shelves for family to take home. Please feel free to take any of the food that you see on the shelf.

# Playability Newsletter

For families wanting to find out information about what Playability has to offer, for example local playgroups, toy library and support etc. <u>please click here for their latest newsletter</u>.

## Family Workshop Postponed (again)

Unfortunately, the Parenting Workshops that commenced last year have been further postponed due to staff shortages with the provider, Sapphire Neighbouring Services. We will let you know when new dates have been set. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## 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 Ringworm and can be accessed by <u>clicking this link</u>.

### **Evacuation Drills.**

In accordance with our preschool policies and legal requirements, last week we practiced our Emergency Evacuation Drill. It was wonderful to see the children and staff responding so calmly with the drill running smoothly. This was a great opportunity for us to discuss safety with the children. If you have any questions, please see staff

## 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 engage with many activities and are independently attempting to ensure their own sun safety. Children are 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 about being <u>SunSmart please click here</u>.

## 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 policies: 4.11 Snakes and 4.13 Illness. Copies of the existing policy are available on our website and the proposed Policies are available at Preschool for families to review and provide feedback. Written feedback can be placed in the box at Preschool or emailed to us. Please see staff for further information.

### Bermagui Preschool AGM

We are looking for people (parents, grandparents or community members) interested in joining the Preschool Board of Directors for 2025. Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025 @ 9:15am, in the Bilma Room at Preschool and will run for approximately 15 minutes. At our AGM our 7 Board members for 2025 will be elected. These Board members will represent our families at our Board meetings for 2025. Meetings are held approximately once a month on a Friday (at the Preschool and/or via Messenger Video), meetings usually run for about 45 mins to make decisions related to the "macro" management of the preschool, such as strategic planning, overall directions etc. The fabulous Catherine Chen will be available for governance training, for anyone interested in learning about or enhancing their Board Member/Committee skills on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm.

The AGM will include a brief presentation of reports, followed by all positions of the 2024 Board of Directors being declared vacant. Nominations will be called for the 7 positions for the 2025 Board of Directors. These positions are all equal, with no position having power or more responsibility over others, i.e. there will be no titles such as president, secretary or treasurer. Nominations will be read as received prior to the AGM. If you are unable to attend the meeting and wish to be considered for election, please see Narelle.

As Bermagui Preschool is a community-based Preschool we cannot operate without a voluntary Board of Directors, so we really need your support. A Board of Directors Induction Folder containing lots of information is available. If you are interested or know someone in the community who may be interested in becoming a board member, please see Narelle. Being a Board Member and a part of the Preschool is a very interesting and rewarding responsibility and a great way to be active in your child's early childhood education.