

# Bermagui Preschool Newsletter - 9 September 2026



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## 2026 Important Dates

**End of Term 3:** Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September

**Spring Vacation Care:** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

Please remember this is the last vacation care period for children who are transitioning to Primary School in 2027

**Labour Day Public Holiday:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October (Preschool **CLOSED**)

**Preschool Professional Development Day:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October (Preschool **CLOSED**)

**Start of Term 4:** Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October

**End of Term 4:** Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

**Preschool Professional Development Days:** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December (Preschool **CLOSED**)

**Preschool Annual Shut Down:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2027

**Summer Vacation Care:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2027, for children returning to Preschool in 2027

*Please note that these dates may be subject to change.*

## What's On at Preschool...

In the Bidhu Room we have been running a program and activities focusing on Responsibility, Respect and Trust, with the children using potential risky and sharp tools for cooking, etching, and carving projects. The Bidhu children also showed care and empathy as they worked together to create a lovely morning tea and beautiful artwork to celebrate and acknowledge their Preschool Teachers and Educators on National Early Childhood Educators' Day.

In the Bungaree Room, the children loved exploring the wonderful world of whales! They enjoyed learning about different whale species and discovering just how big they can be. Measuring ourselves and comparing our heights to a whale was a highlight, with the children fascinated to see how many of them would make up the length of one whale.

As the weather warms, our attention is now turning to the life cycle of lizards. The children have been excited to spot more lizards exploring our playground, creating lots of opportunities for curiosity, observation and conversations about how lizards grow and change.

As we recognise National Child Protection Week, we will also be exploring age-appropriate ideas around feeling safe, being kind and respecting others. These important conversations will be gently woven into our everyday experiences.

## 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!!!



## Happy Father's Day

We hope all our wonderful dads, grandfathers and father figures had an incredibly special Father's Day on Sunday. The children have poured so much love, thought, and creativity into their Father's Day gifts and cards. We hope these heartfelt creations brought lots of smiles; they were made with enormous pride and affection! This has also been a lovely opportunity for us to reflect on family diversity and all the diverse ways families are. A special thank you to all the wonderful father figures who play such an important role in our children's lives.

## Child Protection Week...Helping Children Know They Are Safe

This week we have been embracing **Child Protection Week** through meaningful, child-focused, and play-based experiences. At Bermagui Preschool, we believe conversations about safety should be positive, empowering, and woven naturally into children's everyday experiences. Rather than making children fearful, we are helping them develop knowledge, language and confidence to recognise what feels safe and to know who they can turn to when they need help. Through games, stories, role play, puppets, discussions and everyday conversations, the children have been exploring:

👤 **Safe people** — Who are the trusted adults we can talk to when we need help?

🏠 **Safe places** — Where do we feel safe, comfortable, and cared for?

👏 **Safe activities** — How do we make choices that keep ourselves and others safe?

💬 **Speaking up** — What can we do if something does not feel right?

💖 **Listening to our feelings** — How can our bodies and feelings help us recognise when something feels uncomfortable or unsafe?

The children have been encouraged to ask questions, share their ideas, and practice seeking help from trusted adults. These experiences are an important part of building confidence, agency, resilience, and a strong understanding of children's rights. Most importantly, we want every child to know: "You can always talk to a grown-up you trust, and we will listen."

## Sun Safe at Preschool

With spring arriving and the days becoming warmer, please remember to send your child to preschool dressed for sun-safe outdoor play. Please provide lightweight clothing that covers the shoulders provides good protection from the sun while allowing children to play comfortably. Please avoid singlet tops and clothing that leaves children's shoulders and backs exposed for extended outdoor play. Children are encouraged to dress themselves for toileting and to change their own clothes if wet. Please be mindful that pinafores/onesies, back zips, clips, and tight jeans with tricky buttons can be challenging for them to undo.

## A Little Reminder from Bermagui Preschool

Our preschool children are growing in confidence every day — learning to make choices, express their ideas, care for others, solve problems, manage big feelings and increasingly see themselves as capable and confident learners. Thank you to our families for continuing to work alongside us. The strong relationships between children, families, teachers/ educators, and our community are at the heart of everything we do. With warm wishes, **The Bermagui Preschool Team**.

## Vacation Care

A reminder to families that this spring vacation care will be the last one for children finishing preschool this year. We are confirming Spring Vacation Care bookings. The dates are Monday September 28<sup>th</sup> to Friday October 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be closed for the Labour Day Public Holiday on Monday October 5<sup>th</sup> and the first Monday back of Term 4 October 12<sup>th</sup> for a staff professional development day.

Our service will be operating with reduced staff and limited capacity during this time. To ensure we can continue to provide a safe, engaging and high-quality program for all children, we kindly ask families who have the flexibility or capacity to care for their child/ren at home during this period to please consider doing so. We understand not all families can make alternative arrangements, and we will do our best to accommodate those who require care.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. We truly appreciate your support in helping us deliver a safe and enjoyable vacation care experience.

## Working Bee and Maintenance Levy

A reminder to families that we are holding our working bee again this vacation care. It will be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October from 9am- 12pm. Please phone or email preschool if you are free on the day and willing to help, even for a smaller amount of time. We would also like to remind families that, from next year, the preschool will introduce an annual maintenance levy of \$100. Families who would prefer to have the levy waived, can do so by volunteering at one working bee during the year.

It's a great opportunity to be involved, meet other families, and help keep our preschool environment welcoming and enjoyable for all our children. Thank you again for your continued support in helping keep our preschool a wonderful place for our children.

## School Transition is Underway

Our school transition program is continuing with lots of exciting opportunities for children to become familiar with their future school environments. Our Bidhu children will be visiting Bermagui Public School on Friday 11 September to take part in the wonderful Kaleidoscope Event. Visits such as these provide valuable opportunities to become familiar with the school grounds, meet teachers, and experience the school environment in a relaxed and enjoyable way.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs. Roach and Mrs. Verco from Bermagui Public School to visit us here at Preschool. These connections are an important part of creating a smooth and confident transition for children.

Please refer to the transition information in your transition packs for the full schedule of school visits and transition opportunities.

For those children who will be transitioning to other schools in 2027, please come and speak with us if you would like support. We are happy to work with families to help make the transition as positive, familiar, and successful as possible for each child.

## Supporting Children with Separation and Morning Drop Offs

Starting preschool, returning after a break or just arriving each morning can sometimes bring big feelings for children on arrival. Even children who have previously separated confidently may experience periods of anxiety when routines or circumstances change. Separation anxiety is a normal part of childhood development, and children benefit enormously when adults respond with empathy, confidence and consistency. Some things that can help include:

- *Acknowledge their feelings:* Try saying, "I know it feels hard to say goodbye today. You are feeling sad because you want to stay with Mum/Dad." Naming feelings helps children feel understood.
- *Be confident and reassuring:* Children often take their emotional cues from us. A calm, confident goodbye communicates, "You are safe. I trust that you can do this. I trust the Preschool teachers."
- *Keep goodbyes short and predictable:* A consistent goodbye ritual can help children know exactly what to expect — a hug, a special phrase and then confidently leave.
- *Create a connection between home and preschool:* A small family photo, familiar phrase or special goodbye routine can help children maintain a sense of connection.
- *Focus on resilience rather than avoiding the feeling:* It can be tempting to delay separation because a child is upset. Instead, we can gently support children to experience the feeling, know that it will pass and discover that they can manage it.
- *Celebrate their courage:* Rather than focusing only on whether they cried, celebrate their effort: "You were feeling worried, but you came inside and found your friends. You were very brave."
- And remember — being upset at goodbye does not mean a child is unhappy at preschool. Children can experience strong emotions during separation and then quickly become engaged, connected, and joyful once their parent or carer has left. At Bermagui Preschool, we work closely with families to support children through these moments with warmth, patience, empathy, and confidence. Please always come and talk with us if your child finds separation difficult. We are here to help.

## Child Care Subsidy

Services Australia has started CCS balancing for the 2025-26 financial year. You must confirm your family income so Services Australia can balance your CCS. You can do this by:

- lodging your tax return (and your partner's) with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), or
- telling Services Australia, you do not need to lodge a tax return (even if you've already told the ATO).

Once Services Australia has balanced your CCS, they will send you the results. Find out more about CCS balancing on the [Services Australia website](#).

## 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 child safety related policies, recruitment and employment policies, 5.04 Excursions and 4.13 Illness. 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 [admin@bermaguipreschool.com.au](mailto:admin@bermaguipreschool.com.au).

## Community Events

### Spring Teddy Bears' Picnic Fundraiser

**Hosted by:** Oz Harvest Sapphire Coast North Chapter  
& Cobargo Commons Community Gardens

**Date:** Sunday 13th September

**Time:** From 1:30 pm

**Where:** Cobargo Community Gardens Food Hub Cottage (Cobargo street opposite Tennis courts)

Pack a picnic rug, afternoon nibbles, and drinks, and join us for a fun, family-friendly afternoon in the gardens. Pikelets with Oz Harvest "Oh! Jam "and other delicious toppings Assorted homemade cakes and slices, \$5.00 per plate Fun games, activities, and a treasure hunt! Oz Harvest merchandise available (eftpos available)- all proceeds go to support Oz harvest & Cobargo Community Garden Bring your family, your friends, and **don't forget your teddy bear!**

## Bermagui Public School Kaleidoscope

The Bermagui Public school is holding two special events on Friday 11th September and Saturday 12th September.

JOIN US FOR TWO SPECIAL EVENTS: OUR KALEIDOSCOPE ART SHOW ON FRIDAY NIGHT & 150TH CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY – FUN AND FESTIVITIES AWAIT!

**Bermagui Public School** presents  
**"KALEIDOSCOPE"**  
an interactive art event

**KALEIDOSCOPE 2026**

We welcome families and community members to Kaleidoscope, our school's art show. You can enjoy student dance performances, explore an art gallery, experience interactive art with your children, and discover art displayed around our school. Please join us to celebrate and appreciate the creative talents of our students!

**FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER**  
**5-7PM**

**150 YEARS CELEBRATION**

**SATURDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2026**  
**10AM – 2PM**

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF OUR SCHOOL—FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE WARMLY INVITED TO SHARE IN THIS SPECIAL CELEBRATION!

Activities listed on the right poster include: BBQ, PICNIC, HISTORICAL MUSEUM, ART SHOW, MEMORABILIA, FOOD VANS, MARKET STALLS, LIVE MUSIC, and GAMES.