17th June 2015

Yarm Gwanga Preschool and Early Education Centre

Mr Bamboozle's Visit

A few weeks ago the children in the Kindy and Preschool rooms were visited by the travelling magician, Mr Bamboozle.

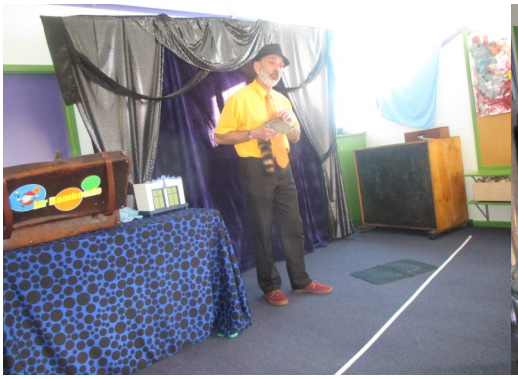
It was wonderful to see the children (and parents) enjoying the show and laughing along with Mr Bamboozle and his toy pet Robbie the Raccoon throughout the show.

The children loved getting involved and being the special helpers in helping Mr Bamboozle find his lost friends.

All the children were engaged in the performance which went for a full hour, and kept talking about it for days after.









Vaccination Requirements

Since 1 January 2014, a child cannot be enrolled in an early childhood education and care service unless the parent/guardian had provided an approved certificate that shows that the child:

- Is fully vaccinated for their age; or
- Has a medical reason not to be vaccinated; or
- Is on a recognized catch-up schedule if their child has fallen behind with their vaccinations; or
- Has a parent/guardian who has a conscientious objection to vaccination.

These records must be retained as part of each child's enrolment record by the service.

We have just updated our register and found that many of our records are not up to date. Families will be contacted in the coming weeks if we require further records.

Reminders:

Signing in and out

It is very important that you sign in and out every day that your child attends. Without being signed in, your child may be marked absent. Once you have more than 42 absences within one financial year calender, you will lose your child care benefit.

Staff:

- *On Wednesday 27th May, Kay, Himu, Sarah, Rachel and Emma attended a workshop in Tamworth on Inclusion.*
- *Sarah will be away for July as she is travelling overseas. Emma will be working for her.*
- *Rachel will be working at Vacation Care from 29th June-10th July. Marg will be doing preschool support.*
- *Yvette will be away from 6-10th July. Lois will be in the babies room.*

Babies Room



We have been having an exciting time in the babies room recently with quite a few children standing up and walking which is wonderful to see the children progressing with their new skills.

We would like to welcome Alice and Hugh and their families to Yarm. They both have been settling in well, building positive relationships with their new carers and peers.



Recently we have provided painting and drawing experiences for the children. The older babies are very keen to experiment with making their own marks on the paper.

The obstacle course outside has been very popular in providing the children with challenging but safe opportunities to extend their gross motor skills.





If your child has any special stories/books that they enjoy reading and listening to at home, we would love to hear about them so we can include them in our program.

Yvette and Simone.





Toddlers Room

The Gumnut Toddlers have been having a wonderful time during the month of May with many exciting activities and experiences that are providing opportunities and support for the children to engage in meaningful learning relationships with both their peers and educators.

Beach, sand & Sea Creatures



The children were able to observe natural objects from a coastal environment adding to their knowledge of what they may have seen in books or on TV. Others use their memory to recall objects they have seen in other environments.

Indoor Cubby House

The children have been busy bees, playing in the indoor cubby house.

This has been a wonderful area where the children can play and interact with each other

Community and family tree

Thank you to the families for bringing in their photos from home, it has been wonderful to talk to the children about their family members and what they have been doing. Children learn about themselves and construct their own identity within the context of their families and communities. This includes their relationship with people, places and things and the actions and responses of others.

Transport

The children have shown a great interest in transport over he last few weeks. We have been reading books, doing puzzles and even made our own bus!



Kindy Room

Another month has passed and we are almost half way through the year, unbelievable!



We have new equipment for outside play. The 'wheelie gigs' have been a big hit. There is always someone tearing past pushing one. A great gross motor developer. We have also replaced the swings, another favourite. Now we have to work on making them move on our own, just like the pre-schoolers. "Push your legs out and bring them back in", using our muscles to keep the momentum going.

We have borrowed the 'tap, tap" set from the preschool room. This has been a popular activity to encourage hand eye coordination and fine motor skills. The 'tap tap' set is made up of little wooden hammers, nails and pieces of wood that are 'tapped' into cork board. The children have also enjoyed learning about magnets, using them to clean up the nails when they have been spilt.



We had Mr Bamboozle come and perform for us a fortnight ago. It was so lovely to see the children's delighted faces and hear their hearty laughs. Mr Bamboozle was a bit of a 'dad' doing corny jokes and tricks. It was all good fun.

Kira has been manically labelling the hooks near the lockers, preparing them for winter coats and beanies. We ask that parents to please hang their child's belongings on their hook of a morning. We are encouraging the children to collect their own jackets and beanies. Giving them ownership of their possessions and helping improve their self-help skills.

Finally we would like to remind parents to provide a minimum of 4 nappies each day (for those children that are not yet toilet trained). Alternatively you are more than welcome to bring in full packets of nappies to leave here and we will let you know when they are running low. For children that are toilet trained or are in the process, please ensure that there are lots of spare clothes in your child's bag.

Kind regards,

Kindy staff

Preschool Room

The pre school children and educators have been very busy during the last couple of weeks. The children have been enjoying plenty of construction activities including blocks and lego. These resources lead into many intentional teaching moments for mathematics and literacy. The children are learning about patterns, sequencing and repetition.

We are also assisting Dr Brenda Wolodko from Education with a research proposal on Maths in the Early Learning environment. Permission forms for families have been available to sign. If you would like to be a part of this research please talk to the pre school team.

Next week the pre school team will begin a Phonological Awareness program for the children going to school next year. This program will assist children in early reading and language skills. Attached is a letter to families outlining the program. Please feel free to ask any questions you like.

At the end of May we will be finishing news and introducing a variety of group games in the pre school room. This will focus on turn taking, respect for others and peer relationships. The children have loved bringing in news items for discussion and we feel now is a good time to move onto other interests.

Writing skills have been a focus for the children and we are now seeing many of our children writing their names clearly and confidently.

Please take the time to enjoy all of the artwork in our beautiful environment.

Kerri, Jerri-Lee, Kylie & Bernie



The benefits of messy play

Red paint in the hair? Blue paint on the jeans? Sand in the shoes? Vegemite and butter on a favourite shirt? White socks that look brown? Sleeves a bit damp?



YOUR CHILD PROBABLY……

Worked with a friend
Solved a problem
Created a masterpiece
Negotiated a different skill
Learned a new skill
Had a great time
Developed new language skills

Young children really learn when they are actively involved in play… not when someone is talking at them. There is a difference between “messy” and “lack of care” Your educator made sure your child was fed, warm, offered new skills and planned messy fun things to do because that’s how young children learn best!

Messy Play is designed with children's natural curiosity in mind. It encourages a positive approach to new experiences. There is no "right" way for children to do messy play. This builds self-confidence and self-esteem. Through messy play, children can develop concentration, problem-solving and planning. Working with others fosters self-respect and respect for others. It also presents opportunities for making relationships. Messy play can offer an outlet for feelings, experiences and thoughts.

