

Educational, Caring, Family Focused

**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO SUPPORT
GARDEN AND MOWING ROSTER**

Thank you, to Kryisia and Peter Roberts for caring for our preschool garden and chickens over the weekend.

The garden is a vital part of our learning environment. The garden maintenance is an ongoing commitment to valuing the importance of young children learning, and education & care.

Thank you to our volunteers for the 2019 Mowing Roster.

Term 3 2019

Wk3: 10th/11th August – Emma and Michael Lees

Wk4: 17th/18th August – Josh and Melissa Shaw

Wk5: 24th/25th August- Emily and Jeremy Pengilley

Wk6: 31st/1st September - Shannon Reid

Wk7: 7th/8th September - Daniel and Tanya Peterson

Wk8: 14th/15th September - Dean and Kylie Slade

Wk9: 21st/22nd September - Luke and Rina Whitten

Wk10: 28th/29th September – Heath Forsstrom



Thank you for being an active part of our preschool community. To all the families who have volunteered for our lawn mowing roster.

Your time is honestly appreciated.

Thank you to all families who were able to support the recent Quirindi Friends of Children with Special Needs biannual fundraising event 'A Touch of Christmas' held at the end of last term. Each school will greatly receive a donation of \$2,900 from the event. We sincerely appreciate the local community and families continued support for our local educational communities.

All local schools are taking enrolments for 2020.

In NSW the legal age for children to have started school is 6 years. The entry age is turning 5 before the 31st July in the year commencing school. *One of the most common questions asked by both parents and educators is 'How can we tell if a child is ready for school?' The readiness question is a difficult one. If the child is thought 'ready' then everything is OK, if the child is thought 'not ready' then there is assumed that there is shortcoming. We can ask 'how can a child be ready for something they haven't experienced?' In some cases, there will be no choice due to transition to school due to the child's age.*

Foundation Points to Consider:

- The family needs to make the decision
- Try to look at your child's readiness in all areas of development.
- Remember that children develop at different rates and that your child's 'stage' is important as the age.
- Children are not legally required to go to school until they are 6 years old. Starting school when your child is 5 1/2 years old could be better for the child in the long term than having to repeat when they are older because they aren't ready. Please note that recent research does not support repeating children.
- Consider the age range of the children who they will be in class with your child. The range may be as vast as 18month (4 1/2 to 6 years old). There is a big difference in abilities at this age.

If you are considering sending your children to school in 2020, please take the time to visit the schools and collect an enrolment pack.

Other points to consider in answering the question; **Is my child ready for school?** Depends on a lot more than the child. You are welcome to have a discussion with your child’s educators to help with decision to equitable educational opportunities.

When considering school readiness, you should also consider social and emotional readiness. The evidence indicates that: *‘What, how, and how much children learn in school will depend in a large part on the social and emotional competence they have developed as a preschooler. A socially and emotionally healthy, school-ready child has many, though not all, of the following characteristics: the child is confident, friendly, has good peer relationships, tackles and persists at challenging tasks, has good language development, can communicate well, listens to instructions, and is attentive.’*-(Peth-Pierce, 2001)

As parents or guardians, we may also need to ask ourselves the following questions for example:

- Do you want your child to start school?
- Does your child want to start school?
- What do other people in your network say about the child starting school and on what knowledge are they basing their advice?
- Will it make a positive difference to the family as well as the child if they start school?
- Do you have a sense that your child will be comfortable in the school community?
- The family needs to make the decision

In summary, relationships have a great deal to do with children’s readiness for school. A wide range of relationships has been connected with positive adjustment to school. Family relationships remain important as children draw upon these to develop relationships outside the family. The support of and guidance provided by families cannot be overlooked in any discussion in supporting successful transitions to school.

2020 Expression of Interest forms will be forwarded this week, if you child is returning to preschool in 2020 please complete form and return ASAP. Thank you.

Exploring our community	
Event	Date
Washpools Towarri National Park	Wednesday 7th August – Please returned permission slip
Washpools Towarri National Park	Tuesday 13th August – Please returned permission slip
Eloura	Wednesday 14th August
Bushwalk	Monday 19th August
Botanical Gardens Tamworth Tour with Len Waters - walk, language, stories re native and medicinal plants.	Friday 23rd August - permission slip to be forwarded
Marsupial Park Tour and Playground with Len Waters - walk, language, stories and learning about the native animals.	Thursday 29th August - permission slip to be forwarded
September Bushwalks to be confirmed pending the weather.	
Quirindi Show	Saturday 14th and 15th September
Murrurundi by Train (Country Link) return by bus	Friday 20th September
Eloura	Monday 23rd September

Vision Screening – Friday 16th August

Please return permission form by Friday 9th August. If your child does not attend on Friday’s, you are still able to access the Vision Screening. Please talk to Shaz or Alison to make appointment on the Friday of the vision screening.

Thank you to all families who are gradually changing or have changed how their children’s lunches are packed. Thank you for considering reusable containers and recyclable wrappings. **Thank you** for reducing soft plastics and rubbish.