



May Newsletter 2020

Flying Fox Mobile Pre-School

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We welcome everyone back to the 'New Normal' since the COVID19 restrictions.

It is great to see the children return to preschool. The children are very happy to see their friends and there has been great enthusiasm in the activities planned. We thank all the families who sent photographs of their children completing their '**Work from Home**' packs posted to children's home address. There was lots of positive feedback gained from families who enjoyed the opportunity to complete these preschool activities. These photos have been added to your child's portfolio.

Congratulations to our newly elected Board of Directors for Wingham District Preschool & The Flying Fox Mobile Preschool.

We are pleased to announce the names of the Board of Directors/Management Committee for 2020.

The Board of Directors is made up of the following people:

Erin Saunders— Chairperson Taryn Grech—Treasurer
Dannielle Wiseman Toyah Craig

Fortunately we were able to hold our AGM online as it was scheduled during the COVID 19 restrictions. There are still three positions to fill on the board of directors including a secretary position.

We thank you for joining the Board of Directors at Wingham District Preschool Kindergarten, who in partnership with Educators, will form the 2020 management team. Our board will continue to ensure that the preschool meets regulations, licensing requirements and meets the children's, parents and community's needs. Wingham Preschool is required to have a **Board of Directors to enable operation of both the preschool and mobile preschool**. Some of these requirements include:

- meet the **legal requirements** of operating a company
- meet regulatory requirements of the **Education and Care Services National Regulations**
- meet funding agreements with the **Department of Education and Communities** etc.

We would like to thank the 2019 Board of Directors for all their work, time and energy over the past year and in particular the outgoing board members whose children are no longer at preschool but are now attending school. We thank **Melissa Grady** who over two years has taken the role as a board member and chairperson/president and a member of the renovation sub committee. We thank **Annabelle Marchant** who was on the board for two years and took the role as secretary. We thank **Crystal Humphries** for her commitment on the board for 5 years and who has now moved to start another journey in life at Cairns. We thank **Lee Oberg** for her support on the board last year in 2019 and a member on the renovation sub committee. Melissa has lead a professional board team through a journey where there has been growth and development of the preschool service. The 2019 board has been a part of:

- preparing and supporting the implementation of the upgrade of the preschool entry/office/locker/ multipurpose room that was completed in July 2019
- supporting the agreement with Playgroup NSW to fund Wingham Start Strong Playgroup that was held in the Jacaranda room in term 1 and is now virtual playgroup until Playgroup NSW removes COVID 19 restrictions
- Leading the board team to meet regulation and governance requirements and organizing a number of great educator training events.

We thank the outgoing board members for their support and commitment throughout 2019 and their contribution towards the operation of our high quality Early Education Centre.

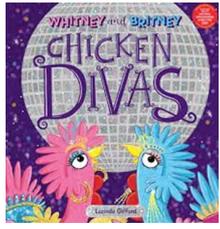
The Board of Directors in partnership with educators, will continue to apply for additional funding to complete phase A of a two part project at 1A Price street, the house next door to the preschool. Phase A includes providing a storage facility, cleaning area, an office for the mobile preschool, a playgroup room/multipurpose room for board meetings / parent education and carpark. As the mobile has 90% of the funds for this project, the renovations will commence in 2021. We look forward to working with the 2020 board of directors and the continued provision of a supportive, not for profit, community based education service.

Welcome to our new Flying Fox friends!

Jace, Allannah, Olana and Khole have been very excited to start their preschool journey with us and we can't wait to show them how much fun we have!

Simultaneous reading time

On Wednesday the 27th of May Flying Fox Preschool joined Lansdowne Public School for National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) which is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every



year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. The story this year was 'Chicken Divas'. Now in its 20th successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the EYLF. By facilitating NSS we aim to:

- promote the value of reading, literacy and the value and fun of books,
- promote an Australian writer and publisher,
- promote story time activities in public libraries and communities around the country and provide opportunities to involve parents, grandparents, the media and others to participate in and enjoy the occasion.

Photos from Venues



Cooperbrook...

Collecting dirt, sand and leaves to make a worm farm. We discussed what the worms like to eat and how good they are for our gardens!

Investigating the school's gardens to see what was growing. We tasted the parsley, found tomatoes and lots of different herbs.

Lansdowne...

Practising our bike riding skills, learning to navigate the bikes and use our leg muscles to pedal

Exploring mathematics and engineering concepts through building large creations. Identifying which pieces are needed, how we want it to look and how to make it stable



Elands...

Making bird feeders from recycled materials. Discussing what type of birds we might see eating the seed

Joining the Elands Public School for some Reconciliation Week activities, learning some Gathung words and doing some painting



Mt George...

Doing some gardening after learning about sustainable living. We planted lots of different vegetable seeds and can't wait to see them grow.

Creating a bug area after we found a worm in the garden!

The children and educators recently practised the Emergency Evacuation Procedure/Fire Drill and Lockdown Procedure. Children will practise moving safely inside or outside with teachers after hearing the whistle blow, and:

- 1) meeting near the designated safety area in the event of an Emergency Evacuation Procedure, or
- 2) indoors on the group time mat in the event of a Lockdown Procedure.

You may hear your child talking about a fire or emergency at preschool, please understand that the educators discussed the possibility of a fire at preschool and explain that "we are pretending there is a fire or emergency" for the evacuation drill or lockdown practice. The practice of how to act in the event of an emergency is required to keep everyone safe in the event of an emergency. The evacuation/lockdown plan and procedure, is located just inside each classroom door and near the sign in and out areas. Educators ask you to become familiar with the plan and procedure in case of an emergency. The evacuation and lockdown

Last day of preschool for term 2— Friday 3rd July
First day of preschool for term 3 — Tuesday 21st July