

## February Newsletter 2024

Email: flyingfox@winghampreschool.com.au

Telephone: 0428 534884

Website: www.flyingfoxpreschool.com.au Flying Fox Mobile Preschool

The educators at Wingham and Flying Fox Preschool welcome back children and families from 2023 and extend their welcome to the new children and families for 2024. Wingham and Flying Fox Preschool's team of educators are looking forward to seeing happy, excited children entering our preschool for their first days this year. We plan to have another year of fun and many new learning experiences for your child. We also look forward to inviting family members to be involved in the many family and community activities planned for the year.

## Teachers Days of Work and Qualifications

The teaching team at Wingham and Flying Fox Preschool have gained a broad range of experience in Early Childhood Education. We are fortunate to have an enthusiastic committed and professional educator team. Team work is highly valued and all educators are passionate about the importance of Early Childhood Education.

**Donna Stirrup is the Nominated Supervisor/Manager for Wingham Preschool.** Donna has a Bachelor of Teaching - Early Childhood Education and she works Monday to Friday. Donna has 30 years experience in Preschool settings, with 22 years at Wingham Preschool.

Megan Bisley is the Administration Assistant and her days of work are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Megan has 24 years in the role of administration, with 14 years at Wingham Preschool.

Alison Hopkins teaches Monday to Friday in the Kurrajong room. Alison has a Bachelor of Education - Early Childhood Teaching. She has been teaching for 12 years, 11 years at Wingham Preschool.

Kylie Saville teaches on Monday to Friday on the Flying Fox Mobile Preschool. Kylie has a Bachelor of Teaching - Early Childhood Education. She has been teaching for 19 years, 6 years at Wingham Preschool.

Jemma Godfrey teaches on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and she will commence maternity leave in March. Jemma has a Bachelor of Teaching and she has been teaching for 14 years and is in her 7th year as a teacher. Jemma is in her third year at Wingham Preschool.

**Taleesha Black teaches on Monday to Friday in the Lilly Pilly room.** Taleesha will be gaining her Bachelor of Teaching in June 2024 and she has been teaching for 6 years. We welcome Taleesha to our team at Wingham Preschool.

Nicole Beckingham teaches Monday to Friday in the Lilly Pilly room. Nicole has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 18 years, with 14 years at Wingham Preschool.

**Donna Kidd (Dee) teaches on Wednesday and Fridays in the Jacaranda room and Monday and Thursday at playgroup.** Dee has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 15 years with 11 years at Wingham Preschool.

**Prue Vaile teaches on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the Lilly Pilly room.** Prue has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 19 years, with 13 years at Wingham Preschool.

**Jo Toy teaches on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday in the Kurrajong room and Monday and Thursday at playgroup.** Jo has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 13 years, with 5 years at Wingham Preschool.

Jo Neaves teaches on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the Jacaranda room. Jo has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 15 years, with 3 years at Wingham Preschool.

Laura Waters teaches Monday to Friday in the Jacaranda room. Laura has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 4 years, with 2 years at Wingham Preschool.

Laura Brown teaches Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the Kurrajong room. Laura has a Cert III in Children's Services and has been teaching for 9 years, with 2 years at Wingham Preschool.

**Erika Keen teaches Monday to Friday in the Jacaranda room.** Erika has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 5 years, she is in her first year at Wingham Preschool.

Jodie Nelson teaches Monday to Friday across all rooms. Jodie has a Diploma in Children's Services and she is in her 4th year at Wingham Preschool.

Sarah McEwan teaches on the Flying Fox Mobile Preschool. Sarah has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 3 years, with 2 years at Wingham Preschool.

Melinda Mitchell teaches on Thursday on the Mobile Preschool. Melinda has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 20 years, with most of her time at Wingham Preschool.

Rebecca Berry teaches on Monday on the Flying Fox Mobile Preschool and Tuesday & Thursday in the Kurrajong room. Bec has a Diploma in Children's Services and has been teaching for 7 years, with 4 years at Wingham Preschool.

Kristy Nowlan teaches on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in the Kurrajong room. Kristy has a Cert III in Children's Services and has been teaching for 2 years, with 1 year at Wingham Preschool.

Rebecca Cavanagh teaches on Friday on the Flying Fox Mobile Preschool. Rebecca has a Diploma in children's services.

Amanda Cooper teaches Monday to Friday across Flying Fox Mobile Preschool and Wingham Preschool. Amanda has a Diploma in children's services.

We value positive parent and educator relationships and partnerships. The educators and I aim to meet your child's needs, to follow their interests, to challenge them and to document their progress and development. We also aim to work with you to best meet the individual needs of your child.

We aim to provide you with information about your child's day at Preschool, their progress and development, through daily conversations on arrival and departure. If you have any concerns or questions during your time at Flying Fox Preschool, please meet with educators to organise a time to discuss your ideas and concerns. Arrival and departure times are a great time for us to share news of your child's day, progress and achievements.

Arrival and Departure times are a valuable time to share information, but are also a busy time. Educators are greeting and talking to family members and supervising the children and assisting them when necessary. It may be easier for us to talk to you in the afternoon, after the other children and families have departed or you can organise another time when the educators can discuss questions more conveniently and effectively.

During these early days it may be stressful for you to separate from your child if they are upset. We understand how difficult this is for you and we suggest that you telephone the Preschool to ask how your child is progressing. It is easier for us, because we see your child settle and play happily with the other children, enjoying their time at Preschool. But for you, those tears remain a memory for the rest of the day. We will be honest about how your child is settling at preschool. Your child's happiness is our primary goal.

Be positive and tell your child they are going to have a fun and happy day. Your positive approach to departure is an important first step to a settle, happy and confident child.

## Preschool Fees

The State Government is covering the cost of children's fees for two days each week in 2024. Everyone will be issued with two fee accounts each term, outlining the cost of fees, the cost covered by the government and any costs for a third day.

The first fee account will be issued in week one for the first five weeks of term. This fee account is due to be paid by the fourth week of term. This account includes the one off membership fee. The second fee account will be issued in week six, for the remaining five or six weeks of term. This account is due by week eight of term.

If you wish to begin payments now, you will receive a receipt after the administration assistant, Megan, has processed the payment (i.e. after Tuesday or Friday).

For term one 2024, if you are paying for a third day, your first fee payment will need to be made by the 24th February 2024. All fee accounts will need to be finalized by the 17th March 2024. Please talk to Donna or Megan if you have any questions. If you are applying for fee subsidy, the forms for application and a copy of your health care card, are due by Friday 9th February. If you have not been issued with a form, please ask a teacher for a subsidy form and return ASAP. If you do not apply for subsidy before the due date, we will assume you are not eligible for subsidy and you will be charged full fees for the term.

If parents wish to pay their fees by direct deposit, please note that the Preschool bank details are printed on the bottom of all invoices and statements for your information.

## A Nut Aware Preschool

Flying Fox Preschool has strategies in place to eliminate high risks for children with anaphylaxis. Nuts can be brought to preschool. Educators supervise children at all times including meal times. All educators have current First Aid training including anaphylaxis and asthma training. Please see related policies via the QR code link in the sign in area of the Preschool.

