



**Flying Fox**  
Mobile Pre-School

# September Newsletter 2023

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f Flying Fox Mobile Preschool



## Picture products Reminder

Your child's unique artwork is transformed into durable, high-quality melamine Pictureplates that will last a lifetime. (Plate on display at front entry of preschool).

Fill out the order form from your child's newsletter pocket, collect art paper and return it to preschool with your payment by the 18th of September.



## National Child Protection Week September the 3rd to 9th.



This year National Child Protection Week will continue to champion the message **'Every child in every community needs a fair go'**. This message captures the essence of National Child Protection Week which aims to promote a safe and supported life for every child, now and into the future.

The Community Jigsaw that has been used during National Child Protection Week is based on research by Dr Sharon Bessell, Australian National University from the [Children Communities and Social Capital Report](#).



**NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK**  
3 - 9 September 2023

During the research, a 9-year-old girl pointed out that **"A community is like a puzzle, you need to have all the bits to make it work."** This gave the researchers the idea to use the jigsaw as a way to graphically represent the elements that children identify as central to a positive community. When all the pieces are in place, a community is strong and supportive of children. The more pieces that are removed, the less supportive the community is for children. In some cases, so many pieces are missing that the jigsaw falls apart. At this point, communities have become dysfunctional places from children's perspective.

The Community Jigsaw can also be an important tool for policymakers and practitioners. The key question is "how do we ensure as many pieces as possible are in place?". We need to ask how policies, services and interventions can reinforce pieces of the Community Jigsaw that are already in place and add those that are missing.



## Crazy Hair or Crazy sock day— Monday 18th, Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd of September.



Crazy Hair or Crazy Sock days will be held the last week of term 3, in September. You can go crazy with loony locks and silly socks. Be bright and colourful and help raise awareness for the Kids Cancer Project. Families are welcome to donate a gold coin donation for 'Kids Cancer Project'.



**We thank Early Connections for providing this information for our service to share with you.**



## MILESTONES – 3 to 4 years

### ATTENTION AND LISTENING

- By 3 a child can shift to a different task if attention is fully obtained.
- Listens to others in 1:1 or small groups when conversation interests them
- Is able to follow direction if not intently focused on the activity.
- Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall.

### UNDERSTANDING – RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE

- By 3 years of age a child should be beginning to understand instructions with 3 key words e.g., give the big ball to teddy.
- Understanding increasing number of describing words.
- Beginning to understand negatives e.g., 'can't'.
- Understands 'why?' questions.

### COMMUNICATING – EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE

- Is learning new words frequently and rapidly,
- Continually asking questions, including 'Why?', 'When?' and 'How?'
- Beginning to tell stories
- Using some questions words e.g., 'what' and 'where'.

### SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

- Can initiate conversations.
- Joins in with rhymes and stories.
- Understands turn taking and sharing.
- Can describe main settings, events and principal characters.
- Talks freely about home and community.
- Shows a sense of humour.
- Makes sounds with their own voice gesture, eye contact and facial expression to make contact with people

### SPEECH SOUNDS

- By 4 years a child should use 'f', 's' and 'sh'.
- Blends are still simplified e.g., spider to pider or swing to wing.
- At 4 years of age children are understood 90-100% of the time.

### PLAY

- Dramatic make-believe play and dress-ups.
- Enjoys playing on the floor with toy trains, dolls, blocks, cars etc alone or with other children.

**Term 3 ends— Friday 22nd September**  
**Term 4 starts— Monday 9th October**

## NAIDOC celebration at Saltwater

Last Thursday the children and educators from Wingham Preschool and Flying Fox Mobile Preschool travelled by bus journey to Saltwater Reserve for the combined preschool NAIDOC event.

**We thank Taree and District Preschool for this report on our NAIDOC celebration.**

The theme for this year was; "For our Elders" It was wonderful to have many of our local Elders join us for the Celebration.

We started the day with a Welcome to Country from Uncle Russ, followed by dancing from Taree High and Old Bar Public School. After the dancing the children moved towards stations completing an array of activities that were carefully curated for their understanding and awareness of the Aboriginal Culture.

For this event to occur we offer our gratitude to the following amazing organisations who assisted, set up stations and joined us for a day of fun providing the children the opportunity to understand that they belong to a diverse community.

Thankyou Biripi Aboriginal Corporated Medical Centre for our amazing bags, Bunnings Taree Bunnings Forster who cooked and provided our BBQ lunch, Danielle from MidCoast Libraries, who read story after story, Sarah from The Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation who provided all the children a book and library bag, thankyou to Officeworks who donated the fabric textas for the children to draw on their library bag, It was great to have the Mayor and Councilors from MidCoast Council , we thank the council for their support as well as the Staff of Saltwater National Park. Many of our local Aboriginal Community attended with Uncle Rus singing "Heads and Shoulders' in Gathang with the children, while Aunty Kim taught us weaving, Angie and Hannah helped us make clay pendants, as well as the unbelievable Lyn and Connected Beginnings for their amazing set up with face paints, tattoos, banner craft, games, as well as helping with lots of equipment. Thankyou to Kylie and Emily from 54 Reasons who cared for a station and joined us for the day. We can't thank Taree Universities Campus enough for providing treats and food for our Elders. Uncle Will and Aunty Isabella for their support in organising our event and continual support of our local preschools. Huge shoutout to 2t1p 103.3 Ngarralinyi Radio Station for joining us and keeping the tunes running all day, created a fantastic atmosphere.

The day brings together 6 local term based Community Preschools together, forming a collaboration with Girrawong Preschool, Old Bar Community Preschool, Wingham Preschool, Flying Fox Mobile Preschool and Bulahdelah Preschool, bringing over 250 preschoolers together on Country.





## MILESTONES – 4 to 5 years

### ATTENTION AND LISTENING

- Follows the meaning of others' conversations.

### UNDERSTANDING – RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE

- Able to follow three-part instructions well.
- Understands 'How?' questions.
- Understands time and concepts of past, present and future.
- Understands categories, such as 'food' and 'animals'.
- Knows more than 4 colours as well as shape words.

### COMMUNICATING – EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE

- Tells long stories and talks about past and future events.
- Asks about the meaning of words.
- Uses concepts such as 'first', 'then' and 'last'.
- Uses language to compare, such as 'bigger', 'heavier' and 'strongest'.
- Language is generally grammatically correct.

### SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

- Increasing understanding of the feelings and wishes of others (theory of mind skills).
- May engage in bargaining and compromise.
- Understands the need to argue with words rather than physical means.

### SPEECH SOUNDS

- Speech is completely understandable.
- Some may have continued difficulties with 'l', 'r' and 'th' sounds.

### PLAY

- Dramatic and imaginary play, such as creating scenes using miniature toys and figurines.
- Enjoys stories about strong and powerful characters.
- Plans and builds constructively inside and outside.
- Chooses own friends and plays collaboratively with other children, including in groups.
- Understands the need for rules and fair play.