



# Jesmond Community Preschool

**Week 8, TERM 4 NEWSLETTER 2019**

## *Jesmond Community Preschool*

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**TERM 3**  
**Last day will  
be Friday 27  
September**

**TERM 4**  
**Commences  
Monday 14  
October**

**TERM 4**  
**Last day of  
2019  
Thursday 19  
December**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Sunday 13/10**  
**WALLSEND**  
**BUNNINGS BBQ**  
**FUNDRAISER**

**Wednesday 20/11**  
**CURIOUS CUBS**  
**VISIT – SIENCE**  
**FUN**

## **\* DIRECTORS REPORT \***

Wowee three weeks to go and it's the end of the term! I honestly don't even know where that time has gone!!

There has been lots happening around the preschool. Our biggest focus has been the inclusion of the creek into our daily program. We have never had so much positive feedback from our community and families. The children are absolutely loving it and are enjoying the simplicity being able to be children.

Our sandpit renovations were due to start at the end of this term however due to a change of plans for the builder it is now going to start in October. It will take 3-4 days (weather pending) to complete the entire sandpit and Bali hut area. What does this mean for preschool? Preschool will run as normal we will just have this area blocked off. The workmen will be here on site working hard. If at any time it becomes dangerous (which it shouldn't) we will re-adjust the needs of the children and may look at spending the full day at the creek. If you haven't seen the plan check it out on the last page!!

Next term also the weather will be warming up. Please be aware that it does get quite hot in the preschool and often we do not get a breeze. Our routine for the day will slightly change as we will start the morning off outside and will venture in once it gets warmer. With the weather like this we offer a lot of water play so please pack spare clothes for your child. Also it's vital to pack a wide brim hat. We only have limited numbers of spare hats but we have hats for sale! In addition it's important that children come to school with sunscreen on or apply it when they arrive. As we will be starting our mornings outside they will be exposed to the sun straight away.

Have you noticed our vegetable garden??? You should really check it out. We have a worm farm, beans growing and cauliflower nearly ready to be picked. The friends have been looking after them all term and the hard work is paying off. Feel free to pick any of the vegetables or fruits and take them home to enjoy! And don't forget if you are not collecting the Woolworths seeds we would LOVE THEM!!!

I just wanted to touch base with families to remind them that it is vital that you let staff know when you arrive at the preschool and sign your child in. It's the same when you are leaving of an afternoon. I know at times when our educators are setting up and they are outside it may be hard to see us but we are out there and its important that we know how many children we have at all times. We thank you for your understanding in this!

A huge thankyou to all our families for their ongoing support this term. It has been a challenging one with the parking and entry ways into the preschool however everything is back to normal!! Also thank you for understanding the reasoning behind our fee increase this term. Our goal is to always avoid an increase of fees wherever we can. Just remember if you are experiencing finically hardship please come and see me or Robyn. We are always here to help.

Haylee

**PLEASE READ:  
IMPORTANT  
MESSAGE**

**REMEMBER TO PACK!**

Please remember to pack a hat and spare set of clothes for your child in case a change of clothes is needed

**FootWear**

No SLIPPERS please!

**ARRIVING & LEAVING**

As well as signing in and out we ask that you let a teacher know you have arrived or are leaving – just saying a quick 'hi' or 'bye' would be great!

\*\*\*\*\*

**DAYS AVAILABLE**

We still have the following days available if you would like any additional days for your child or know of a family wanting to enroll:

**Koala Room**

**Monday & Friday  
(Thur: Term 4)**

**Kookaburra Room**

**Monday,  
Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WE ARE TAKING 2020  
ENROLMENTS NOW !!!!!**

**\*\*SPREAD THE WORD\*\***

Returning families please  
provide enrolment  
confirmation asap

\*\*\*\*\*

**HATS & SHIRTS**

**\*\*\*\*\* Available \*\*\*\*\***

Preschool Shirt \$15

\*long or short sleeve\*

Preschool Hats \$10

**\*\*\*\*\* NEW \*\*\*\*\***

**MORNING TEA /  
LUNCH BAGS  
\$10 each**

**\* EDUCATIONAL LEADERS REPORT \***

2019 is going by so fast. As a team we are getting organised and prepared for term 4. If your child is attending Primary School in 2020, its now the time to contact your local (in-zone) Primary School, to enrol your child. If you are not sure of the Primary School that your residential address is zoned for, talk to your child's teachers and they can help you.

Both rooms have been swinging and climbing into our beautiful natural gift in our outside learning environment, Heaton Creek. From the professional development, guidance and support of Niki Buchan, the team at Jesmond Community Preschool developed the confidence and skills to provide all the children at Jesmond Community Preschool, the opportunity to have regular access to nature, enjoy the benefits of nature play in a natural setting, access their own risks and connect with the land. The children and educators have both developed their confidence, abilities and capabilities together in our natural learning environment. Together they challenge themselves and assess their own risks, just to see how far they can push themselves. This has been a magical journey to learn and grow together. Did you know that we document our learning at Heaton Creek, just like we document our learning in the Kookaburra and Koala room, using Learning Books? The Creek Learning Book, is situated along the walk way, outside the Preschool rooms, on a wooden table. It's in this Learning book, that you will find all the magical developments that have taken place together at the Creek. Both Kookaburra and Koala children are documented together in this Learning Book. There are lots of beautiful images and moments captured in this Learning Book and many more to come, please take the time next time you walk past to have a look. It will put a smile on your face, just like it does to ours.

Please feel free to look at the other ways we document your child's learning. In both the Kookaburra and Koala room, there is a unique Learning Book that is individualised to your child's room and their current interests and learning themes. Under the daily role in the rooms, you will find a black folder that is personalised with your child's name and image. This folder contains your child's individual learning cycle, their interests, their strengths, their abilities and their accomplishments. Your welcome to take this folder home and share with family members, just see your child's educators to sign their folder out and return it next time you come back. If you are curious as to what we are learning and having fun doing together during the day, have a look and read of our weekly planner on display near your child's room Learning Book and at the end of the day, have a look at the digital photo frame in your child's room. We love capturing visual representations of your child's day, because a child's laugh and smile is simply one of the most beautiful sights and sounds of the world.

You may notice in your child's portfolio, that educators have been focusing on extending your child's current interests, abilities and skills, by planning and implementing follow ups. Once your child's follow up experience has been implemented, the educators have been re-visiting your child's skill they are learning and critically reflecting on the learning that is taking place. Has it been achieved? Are they still developing the skill? What can we as educators do next time to support the child's learning? This is an important process, to complete the planning cycle for individual children. This also allows the educators to focus on the individual child, however due to implementing this change of focus, we have reduced the number of observations in your child's portfolio from five a term to three a term, including documenting the extension activity and providing a reflection on the learning taking place. The Early Years Learning Framework, our National Framework that guides Educators, planning cycle is a process of professional observation, planning and evaluation used by early childhood educators to assist in developing high quality early childhood education programmes for children. This cycle is often referred to as the five steps of the planning cycle. The five steps are:

**Observe** – the process of gathering information.

**Analyse** – questioning what learning and development is taking place to make meaning of what has been observed.

**Plan** – planning the next steps to continue supporting learning and development.

**Act/Do** – putting the plan into action.

**Reflect** – evaluating the effectiveness of the plan and experiences.

Have you noticed the change of focus in our observations? Do you like the way we observe your child or children? We always love to receive family input and feedback. In your Childs individual portfolio, you will see a family feedback form for you to complete, we would love to hear your thoughts.

*Clair Robinson*

Educational Leader



# TERM 3 SPOTLIGHT

## BENEFITS OF NATURE PLAY



### Where Children Can Be Children

We believe that all children have the right to a high quality childhood including regular access to nature and the right to play.

We recognise each child as an individual, we value their personalities, learning styles and interests and beliefs, as competent and capable individuals, they have the right to develop skills and knowledge at their own pace with the support of skilled adults.

Jesmond Community Preschool, has had the pleasure of being guided and supported by Niki Buchan, to professionally grow in our natural environment of Heaton Cree. Niki has enable us with capabilities and confidence, to be able to provide all the children of Jesmond Community Preschool with access to nature play. Niki is originally from South Africa with a biomedical background and a 'calling' to work with children - she has 4 children of her own! She has always loved being outdoors in nature and this is evident in her work with children and with adults over the last 35 years. She founded her own Family Day Care, was Head of a Pre-school and the owner and manager of 3 centres for children from birth to 6 years in South Africa. These all had a focus on children's ability to learn naturally in a very natural environment.

Niki and her family moved to Scotland where she lived and worked for 15 years, first as Head of an Independent School Nursery, then as Head of the first outdoor Forest/Nature Kindergartens in the UK which she helped to set up. She works as an Early Childhood Consultant internationally. In 2011 she was offered a position in Australia where she is currently a childcare services manager, early childhood consultant and has been instrumental in supporting the growing nature/bush school movement.

Have a read of an extract from a wonderful interview with Niki, outlining the benefits and importance of nature play.



The full interview is attached for you to read or go to:

<https://www.firstdiscoverers.co.uk/benefits-outdoor-learning-niki-buchan/>

## NATURE PLAY

TEACHES KIDS TO

CLIMB HIGHER — THINK CREATIVELY  
FIND THEIR OWN RHYTHM — EXPLORE  
IMAGINE — RELY ON THEIR SENSES  
ASSESS RISK — TEST THEIR BOUNDARIES  
USE THEIR OUTSIDE VOICE — OBSERVE  
NURTURE LIFE — RESOLVE CONFLICT  
CULTIVATE A SENSE OF PLACE & SELF  
IMPROVISE SOLUTIONS — FEEL FREE  
RECOGNIZE BEAUTY — COLLABORATE  
BE RESILIENT — REGULATE STRESS  
LEARN THROUGH PLAY — WONDER WHY  
GET MESSY — DEVELOP THEIR STRENGTH  
BUILD IMMUNITY — GAIN PERSPECTIVE  
FEEL CONNECTED TO THE WILD

### How important is having access to adequate outdoor facilities and equipment to a childcare setting?

My professional opinion is that it is vital that children have regular access to the outdoors. All the current research points to the benefits of children having access to the outdoors and in particular to having access to nature. A factor to consider is the amount of time children now spend indoors and on devices when with their families. Combined with the length of time many children today spend in childcare settings, providing a suitable outdoor space has become one of the most important factors to consider when offering childcare. As an advocate for children I consider it my duty to promote natural outdoor play.





### OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - 9.00am-3.30pm

Wednesday - 9.00am-3.30pm

Thursday - 9.00am-3.30pm

Friday - Closed

If the office is unattended please see staff to leave a message or send an email to Robyn  
admin@jesmondcommunitypreschool.com.au

### \*\* END OF YEAR REMINDERS \*\*

No withdrawals will be accepted after **Week 4**, as per our policy so if you are planning on leaving early you need to fill in a withdrawal form **by Friday 8 November 2019**

Families leaving this year will have their bonds refunded back to their statements to cover the last 2 weeks of the year in Week 6. All bond adjustments for returning families will be done in Week 6 also.

All fees until Thur 29 Dec have to be paid **Week 7, by Friday 29 November** to allow our account to be finalised. You will receive a final statement Week 6

### ANNUAL FEES

The annual enrolment fee and association levy will be charged to families returning next year in January 2020

### \*\*\* FEES \*\*\*

If you are unable to pay your fees for any reason please discuss with Robyn immediately  
Statements will be emailed to families each week on a Tuesday

### Payments:

Card: Eftpos in office

Direct Deposit:

Greater Bank

Account Name: Jesmond Community  
Preschool Association

BSB: 637 - 000

Account Number: 722 312 198

Reference: Child's first name

# EVENTS

## Mark Your Calendar



**CURIOUS CUBS** EXPERIMENT WITH FUN!

**Wednesday 20 November**

**9.30 till 12.15**

**TERM 4 INCURSION: LIGHT, COLOUR & RAINBOWS**

Curious Cubs is back!!!!

Come and make bubbling rainbows, investigate refraction and understand pigment and light colour mixing.

**Sunday 13 October**

**8.30 till 4.00**

**WALLSEND BUNNINGS BBQ**

You heard right! We are having a Bunnings BBQ at Wallsend  
Put it in your diary now! Let all your families and friends know!! We want to see you all there buying a sausage sandwich or 3!!

\*\*\*\*\* HELP NEEDED \*\*\*\*\*

**FUNDRAISING!**  
**We Need Your help!**

HOW CAN I HELP?  
WE NEED PEOPLE ON THE BBQ AND SERVING! Over 15 years only  
PICK A TIME AND WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE BUNNINGS FORM IN EACH ROOM  
!!EVERYONE WELCOME TO HELP OUT!!

\*\*\*\*\* PLATE ART \*\*\*\*\*

Perfect gift for birthdays, christmas 🍷 or A keepsake.

Only \$12 and we can charge it to your account!



Who doesn't love a scrunchie!!!

We are selling them for an absolute bargain!

2 scrunchies for \$5!  
With all proceeds going towards our new playground!



**CADBURY CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER**

Thank you to everyone that helped out we have raised \$1,000 but still have some more chocolates to sell!! If you can help by taking more to sell please let us know!!! **HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!**



**HOW CAN I HELP?  
WE ARE TAKING DONATIONS OF DRINKS, PAPER TOWEL, SAUCE, ETC NOW !!!!**





## WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN

Thank you for all your support – we collected a lot of earn and learn stickers and have placed a large order for equipment!! We will see the new resources come in during Term 4.

thank  
YOU

## PARKING AND ENTRY TO PRESCHOOL

Our walk way is OPEN again!!!!

Thank you for your patience!

There will be ongoing work at the high school and our parking should be increased once the high school hall is removed. So please continue to be patient as these works continue.

**\*\* PARENTS CAN NOT PARK IN SCHOOL  
DROP OFF ZONE NEAR HALL  
OR STAFF CAR PARK\*\***



## WOOLWORTHS DISCOVERY GARDEN

\*\*\*\*\* COMING SOON \*\*\*\*\*

If your not collecting we WILL be  
Starts soon

Help Our Garden Grow!

How does your garden grow? With strawberries and lettuces all in a row!

Look how clever we are. We have been working hard with Helen our gardener to start to produce fresh produce for not only our friends to cook and eat with at preschool but also to share with our families.



When we teach the children about how we can grow our own fresh fruit and vegetables it teaches them to live from the land and how to be sustainable. In today's society we need to educate the children about positive sustainable practices. We have incorporated a worm farm where our scraps go into it at the end of the week and from here we have explored how we can use the worm see to help of plants blossom!



Please feel free to help yourself to the lettuce and as soon as we have more produce we will be sharing this too! Watch this space!



We want to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to be able to engage in developing a sense of meaning to texts, visuals and creativity. How have we decided to support this outcome (EYLF 5) by providing library bags for each of our friends (which we made ourselves) so that they can chose a book from our library and take how and share with their loved ones.

Life is busy sometimes but to take 5 minutes out of your day to read a story with your child or even getting an older sibling to do it will create an opportunity for them to build a stronger relationship with others and also to gain a deeper love for stories.

So please feel free to start bringing in your child's library bag because who doesn't love borrowing books!!!

