
Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Welcome to Term 2, 2019!

The Preschool teachers this term are Nicole, Bianca, Kellie and Kathleen. They will be assisted by Stef, Kerrie and Lizz. Throughout the week, they will be assisted by Jackie, Maria Jofre, Paige, Nicky and Jason. Please read our 'All About Me' posters on the wall as you walk in the main entrance to find out more about our preschool team.

The Preschool session formally begins at 9.00am, but we do have a Morning Muster at 8.55am which allows time for an incidental chat before the beginning of the session. Please remember that if you require a longer discussion, we are happy to receive an email or you can make an appointment to discuss your child's progress and/or needs.

Library Day is Tuesday for Wamburrang and Guginya. Bunduluk will borrow on a Thursday, and Friday will be Dnnawan's library day. Children are encouraged to borrow two books of their choosing to share with you at home. Please remember that children will need to bring their bag and return their books each week if they would like to borrow. Small groups of children will visit the library with an educator and discuss the location of books on the shelves and how to find the books.

This term children will be introduced to the WITS strategies for dealing with social problems at preschool. WITS stands for *Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it Out and Seek Help*. We will spend time discussing how and when it's appropriate to use each of these strategies. We will emphasise that physical violence is never okay and in this instance children must seek help immediately. Do you know how to "use your WITS?"

At Southern Cross Early Childhood School we love to explore our outdoor learning environment. Unless it's raining we spend a great deal of time outdoors each day. As the weather becomes cooler we encourage children to wear beanies, a warm jumper and/or coat. Feel free to pack a pair of gumboots along with a spare change of clothes. Sun hats must still be worn until the 1st June. **Please label all items clearly with your child's name.**

We encourage healthy meals and snacks for our three breaks: Munch 'n' Crunch (fruit, vegetables, cheese), lunch and afternoon tea and your child will need a drink bottle filled with water each day.

Please ensure you provide adequate amounts of food for your children as they are very busy throughout the day. We are an anaphylaxis-friendly school, so please do not pack nutty muesli bars or sandwiches (this includes Nutella and peanut butter).

Please label all food containers and clothes clearly with your child's name

This term preschool will continue to use the SEESAW application instead of fortnightly email reflections. Seesaw is a digital portfolio that gives you real-time glimpses into your child's school day. Seesaw helps you stay in the loop and gives you an opportunity to support your child's learning at home. Seesaw posts may be personalised to your child, or reflect learning that the whole group participated in.

We are looking forward to a sharing a great second term with you and your children.

Nicole (Wamburrang and Dnnawan), Bianca & Kathleen (Guginya) and Kellie (Bunduluk)

Term Two Overview

Events for your calendar

Week 2

- Reptiles Inc Incursion – Tuesday 7th May **Wamburrang and Guginya**
- Reptile Inc incursion – Thursday 9th May **Dnnawan and Bunduluk**

Week 4

- Book fair – Monday 20th to Friday 24th May
- National Simultaneous Storytime – Wednesday 22nd May (11am – 11:15am)

Week 5

- Reconciliation Day – Monday 27th May (public holiday)
- Whole school gathering – Wednesday 29th May (9.15am – 10am)

Week 6

- Linking families to learning; Protective behaviours parent session – Wednesday 5th June (9.15am – 10.15am)

Week 7

- Community breakfast – Wednesday 12th June (8am – 8.55am)

Week 8

- Open classrooms – Monday 17th June (9am – 10am) **Wamburrang and Guginya**
- Open classrooms – Friday 21st June (9am – 10am) **Dnnawan and Bunduluk**

Week 9

- Constable Kenny Koala incursion – Monday 24th June (1.30pm – 2.00pm) **Wamburrang and Guginya**
- Constable Kenny Koala incursion – Thursday 27th June (1.30pm – 2.00pm) **Dnnawan and Bunduluk**

Week 10

- Semester 1 reports go home – Tuesday 25th June - **Wamburrang and Guginya**
- Semester 1 reports go home – Thursday 27th June - **Dnnawan and Bunduluk**
- Family Educator Meetings – Monday 1st July – Friday 5th July

The Preschool Curriculum is guided by the Early Years Learning Framework

Teaching and Learning Outcomes from the Early Years Learning Framework

This term we are working towards:

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

- Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

- Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment
- Children develop an understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

- Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

- Children develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

- Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes
- Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning using a range of media
- Children use information communication technologies to access information, investigate ideas and represent their thinking

Experiences

We will be participating in a range of activities related to these outcomes, such as;

Outcome 1

- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) activities – kindness, bucket filling (exploring ways we fill each other's buckets)
- Who do you care for? How do we care for each other at school? How do you know you are being cared for?
- Protective behaviours weekly lessons

Outcome 2

- Being sustainable – caring for the garden beds, Paper making
- Constable Kenny Koala
- Reptiles Inc Incursion

Outcome 3

- Mindfulness experiences and SEL
- Emotional check ins
- Sharing aspects of culture

Outcome 4

- Wonderings "I wonder..."
- Investigating I am statements – I am a researcher and I am a communicator
- Meaningful inquiry-based experiences

Outcome 5

- Patterns, numbers, counting. Let's count numeracy bags
- Take home toys - Diaries
- Letter and sounds investigation

Protective behaviours

The Protective Behaviours Program enables children to develop skills to avoid or deal with difficult and unsafe situations. It builds problem solving skills, develops assertiveness and encourages resilience in children. Each week Preschool will focus on a specific topic. Please refer to your educator's fortnightly program and the schools newsletter for weekly topics.

Mindfulness

The preschool children will be participating in Mindfulness activities each day after we come in from outside play. Children will take part in mindful listening, seeing, smelling, tasting and movement. Some of the experiences we will be involved in are 'Calming Countdowns', relaxing to music, mindful boxes, mystery scents and mindful movement.

Technology

The children will have opportunities to participate in a weekly iPad exploration time during the year. They will be able to develop their skills in negotiating a variety of apps focusing on areas such as maths, literacy and art, with support from educators. They will also be involved in group experiences using the Smartboard, such as Yoga, music and storytelling activities.

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Music with Katharine

This term in music the children will be participating in a number of song based movement activities. These activities will highlight the comparatives in the music such as fast and slow, high and low, loud and soft. The movements will support the children's experience of the beat eg. Swaying arms, stamping feet, skipping and galloping.

We will continue to focus on the children's singing and encourage all children to sing the words of songs clearly and tunefully. Our main aim is to instil a love of music and singing.