

Balnarring Preschool

& Infant Welfare Association



Learning and Living with nature

Djeembana story boards January 2021



### Djeembana News June

Here we are at the end of term two, hard to believe it is now June!

Firstly congratulations to Laura, Jake, Maisie and Gus on the birth of Douglas.

Thankfully the kindergarten continued to operate during the latest restrictions which allowed the children continuity in their learning. We really appreciated families keeping their children home when they had colds or felt unwell.

We also appreciated everyone supporting the covid procedures we put in place. Next week masks will not be required when outdoors. If parents enter the building they will be required to use the QR code (located in the doors) and wear a face mask,

I am so pleased with how every child is progressing and growing. Our days are filled with so much fun and learning. There has been lots of learning happening this past month. Here is a brief summary of that learning.

*Beach and bush days* –The bird activity over the past weeks has been fascinating. As we observed the birds that visited us, we wondered about their behaviors.

- A kookaburra sat still on a branch as we looked at its beak and feathers and wondered what it was doing. Then we moved to another space and the kookaburra followed us. Once again the question was why? See the children's drawings of a kookaburra in the kinder books. copies of children's drawings),
- A sea gull had food in its beak and was pursued by a pacific gull. The air chase continued for about 15 minutes. We learnt the smaller bird could weave and turn quickly, the bigger bird couldn't keep up and made dashes across the seagulls path. In the end the pacific gull gave up. Nature demonstrated that the strongest and biggest doesn't always get the prize!



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• Waang, with the hooked beak, also spends most Fridays following us. Last week we heard a waang calling in the distance, the waang we were observing answered and next thing we knew there were two waangs visiting us.

Waang song written by Karen about the waang with the hooked beak

I am waang as koo-yand (black) as can be, I look after the warneet and sea. When you see me flying by, can you see my big blue eye? Don't leave dhanguth (food) lying around, I will search for it on the ground. When you see the beak with a hook, come a wyebo (little) closer and take a look I can be heard from far away, waa waa is what I say



We have been exploring different nature areas – C reserve, B Reserve, and various spaces along the beach. Each space offers different possibilities, discoveries and challenges. The children learn new ways to interact in the spaces and revisit the play they developed the last time they were there.









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After we saw an antechinus at the beach the children learnt about mammals and marsupials. This led to the children being involved in small group experiences that required them to classify the animal cards. Then the children thought and learnt, about the habitats creatures live in.

Story telling continues to be popular both at the beach/bush and the

centre. Uncle Max told me 'There are many ways to tell a story' which the children are learning.

The children have listened to each other stories using items they found in nature. They have been introduced to the story telling tree – this tree is in B

Reserve, is over 250 years old, and it tells the stories! Imagine what that tree has seen?

Progressive story telling has occurred using the 'Spin a yarn' tiles that contain Aboriginal symbols.

Children have also used the tiles to create individual stories as they learn about the sequence of a story.

Another way we have told a story is creating the props and acting out the Hungry caterpillar (see the story photos in the red kinder folder) The children applied their creative skills and then worked as a group to tell the story.

Children develop their social skills and emotional regulation at varying rates. Being able to 'read'



non-verbal language and recognise emotional states is part of learning how to play and get along with others. Discussions are occurring around what things make us happy, sad, angry, surprised, scared, and worried. We will then move onto ways to manage these feelings and emotions.



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Next term we will introduce the children to a puppet named Grooving gorgeous Gus who will assist us to explore managing emotions. Through this learning we have also explored how to create shapes with ourbodies building confidence to have their own individual ideas. The children are creating their shapes in response to music and songs such as Ridingon a pony (see kinder book).

Social skills that we have been supporting include: the importance of using kind words with everyone including their main friends; allowing all children to be involved in play creating a sense of belonging for everyone; and exploring different personalities by connecting with a variety of children. On Tuesdays the group has been split providing the children with opportunities to see the social possibilities beyond their usual friendships



Cooking on the fire is becoming a popular Wednesday event. The children are learning how to be safe around the fire and developing their skills in preparing food. So far, we have cooked toast, Johnny cakes and jaffles. If you have a camp fire recipe

please let us know.





Term two of PMP has

presented the children with a variety of tasks each designed to build coordination, and gross motor control. The children have bounced, caught, jumped over/off/in, balanced, hopped, and explored mat stunts. Each week builds on the skill learnt the week before. Every child has demonstrated increased confidence and gross motor control.



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The Reconciliation poster has some amazing strong statements from families, thankyou for your contributions to the poster. The response will be used for evidence in an award we have been short listed for.

| And y  | our family     | ation mean t<br>?                            | o you            |         | -    |
|--------|----------------|--|------------------|---------|------|
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| ND Wha | at actions a   | re you undert                                | aking?           |         |      |
| to     | be in activiti | boul it is<br>polved "<br>es you p<br>\$ Hel | n the<br>provide | Kinder  | oref |
| 1-     | Hunter         | The  | 5                |         |      |

What does reconciliation mean to you

And your family?

acknowledging and understanding that that Aborizand people as the first people of the land and respecting this.

AND What actions are you undertaking?

SMONNing kindness to ourselves, frierols and family and learning to understand for peoples stories wh

| v | hat does reconciliation mean to you  |
|---|--|
|   | And your family?   |
|   | Acknowledging the past.<br>Understanding and Accepting.<br>Equal opportunity.<br>AND What actions are you undertaking? |
|   | Embracing differences.<br>Learning the History   |
|   | countery are motory  |



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Roomerangs have been popular. The children were required to cut along a line and then add symbols before mastering how to throw the roomerang so it came back to them (Idea came from a Tribalinks session I attended)

### **Coming events:**

VIP nights rescheduled Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> August 6-7:30

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June – N'Arwee't Carolyn Briggs will be working with children on the Time of Chaos story. The children will be creating the images for this book. Further details will be provided next term.

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Mud day, families to return at 10:30

- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June last day of term two. Please join us at 1pm for lunch in 'C' Reserve (park at the yacht club) We will have sausages in bread. Please supply your own food if you don't want a sausage. Pick up will be 'C' reserve.
- Term three Friday arrangements are changing. Drop off will now be at the beach at the end Mason Smith Road at 9am. Pick up will be at the usual beach space. If it is raining we will continu to meet at the rotunda. This has been decided to decrease the risk of an accident with the horses or the horse floats. Apologies for any inconvenience. If other family members bring your child please let them know of this change.
- Progress reports term three will begin on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July. Times will be displayed for you to choose from when you return after the break. If you can't find a time to suit please let me know and other arrangements can be made.

Thankyou for all the support you have given the team and your child this term. Karen



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