



Djeembana story boards January 2021



Hi everyone

It is so great having all the children back playing and learning together. And now the parents are coming in too. The children have managed extremely well. Congratulations to each of you for how you have supported your children and us at the kinder.

Thank you for your understanding when I cancelled the session after my Aunty's passing and all your kind words and support. As it turned out we couldn't have gone anyway due to the storm. There was quite a bit of debris at kinder as well as in the camping grounds. Thanks Rodney for cutting the branch that fell in the carpark.

The program continues to mostly be run outside which has been a different way for us to teach – we will be interested to hear how the children manage in school after experiencing almost totally outdoor learning. We are telling the school about the learning environments that your children have been accessing over the past two terms so they have a good understanding of their previous experiences.

The children have still had access to table top experiences, quiet spaces, imaginative play, creative areas and physical areas. Our outdoor classroom on the deck was very well used until the storm carried the gazebo away!!! The program has been developed to cater for all the children's different learning styles ensuring there is variety and challenges.

As I have been writing the transition statements, I have been smiling to myself as I recall the growth of each child. It is an exciting time of the year as we observe a connected, competent, confident group of bubups.

Emily has been a major part of the teaching team these past six weeks. She has provided the children with a rich program in response to what she has observed and learnt from your children. See Emily's newsletter item below.

Emily will now be employed by the kindergarten on Tuesday's, we welcome her to the team. Ali will work with us Wednesdays and Fridays.



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Some of the learning your child has been involved in since the last newsletter is described below.

The carecrows were removed from the fence but I think the children feel the storm took them. This was quite disappointing we only hope the message of care went with them where ever they may be.

Sean was meant to join us last week but had to cancel at the last minute BUT he will be joining us on 3rd December – the children (and Sean) will be so excited.

Learning with nature has involved the children: observing the changes to the environment (flowering plants, seed pods) and the bird activity; managing themselves in wind and rain; exploring the rock pools even getting brave enough to pick up crabs; developing their story telling skills and sharing their achievements with their friends; and simply being together.

Last week six children developed a bush PMP course – they were so creative. The group rotated through six stations:

Jumping over branches;



Climbing through a large branch



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Throwing a banksia seed pod to try and knock a stick down



Balancing along a stick



Criss crossing along several sticks.



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The experimenting we did during remote learning has continued using lux flakes, shaving cream, corn flour, food coloring, dirt, sand and peroxide. The children have explored the substances both with mixing implements and with their hands. They have made predictions and used descriptive language.



Apollo (Chicken) is sitting on eggs. If she is patient enough there should be baby chickens either this week or next.



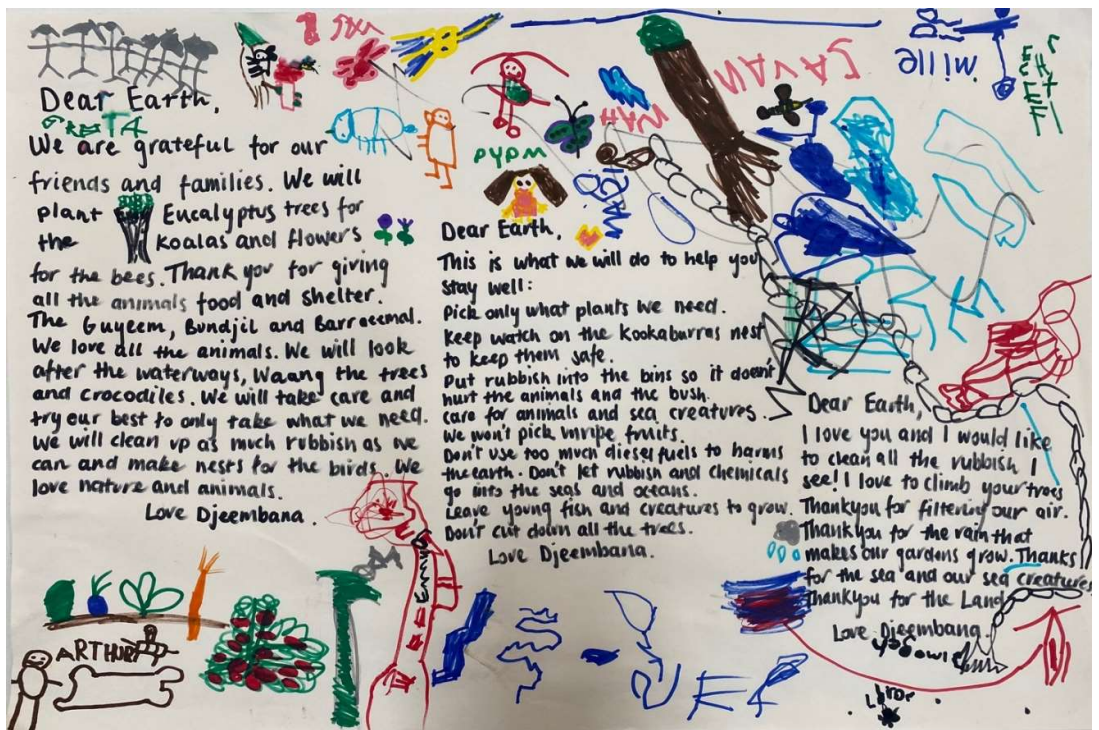
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"As grandpa talked, pictures were painted in Tessa's mind; She decided to write a letter to the Earth. Start by writing Dear Earth, then let your imagination flow, said Grandpa." Dear Earth, Isabel Otter and Clara Anganuzzi

Throughout my time on placement learning from the Djeembana Bubups I have found myself in many a conversation about the natural world surrounding us, animals and their habitats and taking care of Country. These conversations have led to provocations and explorations with the children that are bound in curiosity, I have learnt and experienced more than I thought was possible from Karen and the Bubups. Last week we read "Dear Earth" by Isabel Otter and Clara Anganuzzi. The story follows Tessa's imaginative letter to the Earth as she explores the deep depths of the ocean and flies among the Bundjil that are soaring up in the sky. In small groups Djeembana then wrote their own letter to the Earth. I am taken aback by the Bubups eloquent, connected and nurturing messages to our Dear Earth, to the Land and Country we live and learn upon.

"Dear Earth,
we are
grateful for
our friends
and families."
"We will take
care and try
to only take
what we
need."
"We will keep
watch of the
Kookaburras
nest to keep
them safe."
"I love to
climb your
trees, thank
you for
filtering our
air."



I am extremely grateful for my time with Djeembana.
Thank you,
Emily



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We were all very courageous as we ventured out onto the banks of the creek, not sure if we would get stuck! Then we had to scramble up a small hill to get back to the track. WE MADE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



The Narragunnawali Awards ceremony is to be held on Wednesday, we hope you can join us from your home. Being a finalist is a testament to the commitment of the preschool community not just this year but in previous years. Every family who has been part of the preschool has contributed to the commitment of reconciliation – thank you. Winning, while great, is not all that comes from being a finalist. The teachers have participated in a workshop with the other finalists and attended the

National Reconciliation Convention. Day one of the convention reminded me of how little I actually know and how much learning, unlearning and relearning I still have to do. On Wednesday I will be part of a panel with the other early years finalist sharing the work we are doing at Balnarring. Congratulations to all the teaching team, committee of management and families for all the support and inspiration you provide that keeps Balnarring Preschool continue to grow, learn and be a leader in this field .

Photographer will be coming on Tuesday 7th Dec. I realise many of you will have orientation day at school, but **please** bring your child afterwards so we can at least get a group photo

Quinn update

As you know Quinn didn't want to be a seeing eye dog. She is now living between Hampton and Inverloch with another dog called Quinna, so Quinn's name is now Marley! She is having lots of fun



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In the coming weeks the children will be involved in creating gifts for their families and preparing for the end of year celebrations – not sure what they will look like yet. We have an action-packed final weeks of term planned. We hope that you can participate in some of the excitement.

As this may be the final large newsletter I would like to thank the people who have been on the committee this year – it has been a difficult time to manage a preschool often remotely. The preschool is grateful for all the committee members bring to the service, their dedication and commitment to continuing to grow and support a service of excellence - THANKYOU.

That is all for now

Karen on behalf of Djeembana teaching team

Coming events:

- PMP dates Wednesday 17th Nov, 24th Nov, 1st Dec and 8th Dec. Parents are invited to assist
- 17th November 8:30 – 11:30 due to Narragunnawali awards and workshop
- 17th November 2pm Narragunnawali awards
- 19th November Willum Warriar and Hastings Foreshore session 9-3pm
- 23rd November – Lynton will be sharing stories as he creates detailed art pieces. The children will be drawing along with him.
- **Progress reports to discuss statements and your child's kinder year. Will meet behind the kinder. Thursday 25th and Monday 29th. I will place a sheet with possible times for you to fill in. If you can't find a suitable time please let me know**
- 26th November – we will have a few teachers observing the nature program
- 30th November – session 9:30-3:30
- 3rd Dec Sean working with the children
- 7th Dec – photographer and orientation day for most schools. Session 10:30-3:30 note change
- 8th December session 8:30-3:30
- 10th December – family camp night. We invite you to camp over night with your family. 5pm onwards. More details to follow
- 14th Dec- last day of kinder. Session 9:00 – 3:00. Surprise for the children. Parents will be involved some how? – details to follow



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