Hi Everyone,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2015!! This is our second year of the “Same First Day” initiative—whereby there is now only one intake for preschool or school each year. Children turning 4 before the 1st May can commence preschool in the January of that year—children turning 4 on the 1st of May or later must wait until the following January to commence preschool. This creates our new pattern—which is a very busy start to the year for preschool and a quiet start to the year for childcare.

This year we have a currently have a preschool enrolment of 39 children.

We are blessed to have the use of the fantastic natural area out the back which we call our “backyard”. Negotiations are still occurring with the Yankalilla School—but we hope to have an outcome soon so that planning can commence for some shelter, services and a long term vision for the area. Our childcare program has had a quiet start to the year after loosing 30+ children to preschool. Lower numbers in childcare enables educators to enjoy a quieter pace and enjoy quality sustained interactions with the children in their care. The front yard is an amazing environment our childcare program and it is looking fantastic thanks to Sue who has been looking after the garden. The children have been involved by keeping the garden watered and tasting its produce—including plums and apples from our miniature fruit trees!!

Our improvement goals for 2015 have been established and include: curriculum planning, evaluation and leadership, reflection opportunities, literacy and numeracy, sustainability initiatives, backyard re-development, more incursions and individual learning plans for all pre-schoolers.

WE have a fantastic team of educators who with the support of our Governing Council will work together to achieve positive outcomes in all these focus areas.

Also if you have any ideas to contribute to our improvement agenda—please let us know by: speaking to a member of our governing council, sending an email or jotting down a note and posting it in the fees box.

It’s only by working together that we can achieve the highest quality outcomes for the children and families attending our centre.

Here’s to another great year in 2015!!

Cathy
Easter Family Night— A Easter Family night is being planned for Wednesday 1st April from 6pm—7:30pm. All families are invited to attend. There will be a free sausage sizzle tea, the drawing if the Easter raffle and a visit by Easter Bunny!! Put the date in your calendar now!!!

Fee Increase— The centre budget was accepted for 2015. Unfortunately the new budget required an increase in childcare fees. Childcare fees will increase by $5.00 per day. The fee increase became effective as of 9/3/15.

Early Childhood Teacher—The centre is currently advertising for an Early Childhood Teacher to provide curriculum leadership for our current team of highly experienced childcare educators. Current applications close on Friday 20th March.

Muesli Bars— The nutrition note has been revised to allow muesli bars that are supplied in packaging that meet the current nutrition criteria—ie less than 15g of sugar per 100g and less than 10g fat per 100g. There is a new muesli bar on the market that meets this criteria— Freedom Foods Crunchola chewy apricot, coconut and Chai bar. Muesli bars supplied with no packaging or with packaging that does not meet the nutrition criteria are still not permitted.

Bike Helmets— From the Term 2, children riding two wheeler bikes at YCCC will be required to wear helmets. The helmets will be provided by the centre.

Preschool Times—In response to parent feedback and a recent survey of preschool parents—a new starting and finishing time for preschool will be trialled for Term 2. Preschool times for Term 2 will be 8:55am start and 2:55pm finish.

Spiders in the “backyard”— The centre has a current contract with “Rentokil” for pest and vermin control. This agreement now covers the “backyard” shed (where kindy children store their bags during the day). Rentokil performs their pest prevention service every quarter. Their last visit was on 28/2/15 and included the “backyard” shed.

Policy Updates: - The following policies were reviewed and updated. Water Safety policy, Enrolment and Orientation policy, Hazard Management policy, Inclement weather policy, Work Health Safety and injury management policy, Injury incident and investigation policy and Infection control policy and Fee policy. The policies in bold are available to view on our website www.yankalillacc.sa.edu.au. Hard copies of the other updated policies are available from reception on request.

Annual Report— The Yankalilla Community Children’s Centre Annual Report was presented and approved by Governing Council. A copy is available to view on our website: www.yankalillacc.sa.edu.au or hardcopies are available from reception on request.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE

All babies, children and young people under 18 years are welcome to attend the School Dental Service. Dental care is FREE for most children.

SA Dental Service participates in the Child Dental Benefits Schedule. A small fee may apply for children who are not eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule.

All dental care provided is FREE for preschool children.

To locate your local School Dental Clinic, or for more information about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule, please visit www.student.dental.sa.gov.au

Bedwetting

A DVD based program, "Bedwetting Cured" has been developed by Dr Mark Condon and Physiotherapist Margaret O'Donovan. It outlines a successful program for parents to implement at home with their children. For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website:

www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au
Or phone 1300135796
12 noon to 6pm

Bike Day

On Tuesday 24th February 35 children brought their bikes to kindy and with the help of 5 parents and 4 educators we all walked our bikes to the bike track at the Lions Park. A great time with minimal blood loss was had by all!!

Check out our website at www.yankalillacc.sa.edu.au

Parent feedback always welcome. Please post your ideas in the fee box in reception.