

Jumbunna Preschool

Term 4

Newsletter

2018



Jumbunna Community Preschool and Early Intervention Centre Inc and Mobile Services.

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Website: Jumbunna.com.au





Hello everyone,

Welcome to our end of year newsletter. This has been a very busy year for all of us at Jumbunna.

The NDIS is fully rolled out in NSW now. We are providing supports for children birth to 12 years. We will be going through Certification in 2019, against the Disability Practice Standards, under the new Quality and Safeguards Commission. As a Registered NDIS Provider we need to comply with this every three years, including an annual onsite visit.

We are continuing to manage change across all areas of Jumbunna including Government funding and regulations. This promotes challenges for Jumbunna however, as a team we will support each other through them.

Jumbunna Community Preschool received an Exceeding rating under the Early Childhood and Education and Care rating system. We had an exciting year creating our new philosophy, which we feel describes our 'WHY'. Why we are here for the children, families and community. We entered the Casino Beef Week Parade and received the first ever Brenda Armstrong float award. This was very exciting.



Dr Chris Ingall held five clinics at Jumbunna throughout the year, and has committed to continue this in 2019, Dr Ian Lennon visited Jumbunna each term, to discuss common children, for which we are extremely grateful. Community Health ran vision-hearing clinics at Jumbunna. AMS held some Dental checks for the children.

Jumbunna receives some government funding, however it does not cover our costs in full and we rely on the support of the community to allow us to continue to provide a high quality flexible service for children and families. We would like to thank everyone for their support over the year. We received a total of \$11,396.20 in donations, as well as donations of goods and services.





We would also like to thank the members of our dedicated Management Board for their many hours of voluntary work, leadership and support. We have made a targeted recruitment for members of the board, for their expertise and knowledge to support us through the changes ahead to have a strong parent voice, in the management of Jumbunna. Our AGM was held in September this year. Our members of the Board are:

Jason Lawlor: President
Steve Morrissey: Vice President
Sandra Binney: Secretary
Kim Morris: Treasurer
Ellie Throssel: Board Member
Tahnee Batson: Board Member
Noeline Olive: Board Member

I would like to thank the staff for their continued support and dedication to the children, families and wider community. Our team has grown and with that we have grown in diverse skills and knowledge that we can utilise to support the families. We have had Sally Gooley return from maternity leave in term 4 2018. Cheryl Simpkins will be retiring at the end of this year to do some more travelling. Cheryl has been with Jumbunna for many years, firstly as a parent and then a staff member. We will miss her and her creativity. We would like to wish her well and hope she keeps in touch, keeping us updated on where her adventures take her.

To those children who are off to big school in 2019, we would like to wish them all the best for the future. Please remember to let us know how you are going, we love to see photos of the children in their school uniforms.

The name Jumbunna is an Aboriginal word meaning “talk together”. The name reflects the philosophy of our centre. Children and adults by talking, playing and working together, learn to understand and hence accept each other.

I hope everyone has a lovely holiday break, stays safe, and we get to see you in 2019.

Regards
Karen McDermott
Director

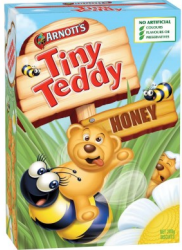


Parent Infant Group



Wow another year is coming to an end!

We have been busy in Parent Infant Group welcoming new families and staff including a new Speech Pathologist. We also farewelled several families during the year as their children transitioned into the Preschool program.



We have lots of fun in group! We follow a familiar routine that includes free play, a pre-language group, snack time and finish song.

We use lots of visual supports eg. pictures and key word signs in group to help with communication and our understanding of routines and expectations. We also use visuals to help request yummy teddy biscuits at snack time!



The children especially enjoy singing songs with the guitar and having a turn with a special toy. Group provides many opportunities for children to extend and practice their language, social and movement skills.

Have a lovely, safe Christmas

Debbie and Rhonda

My Time

My Time is a group that allows parents to take some time to chat to other parents about issues or difficulties or achievements they would like to share about their children or family.

Some topics we may discuss include transition to school, dealing with professionals, stress and how to cope, dealing with behaviour issues and many and varied topics depending on needs of family.

If you are interested in coming along, see staff at the office for more info.



Wendy Ferguson



Supported Playgroup

We run playgroups at Jumbunna 3 mornings a week in school terms. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9-11am.

We have had good numbers at playgroups this year—Monday has been steady, Tuesday started off quiet but has built up to a supportive group and Wednesdays are full at the moment, with up to 20 children attending with their parent, which makes for a very busy day.

The children and parents/carers have loved the art and craft and morning tea which is provided each week.

Playgroup is a great opportunity for children to learn to socialise with their peers as well as parents/carers to get out of the house and have a chat with other parents/carers.



Fun in the sun



Water play and water slide



Socialising at playgroup

Wishing everyone a wonderful break and look forward to seeing you all in 2019.

Wendy ,Kim, Josie and Jude.





Speech Therapy News—Jess

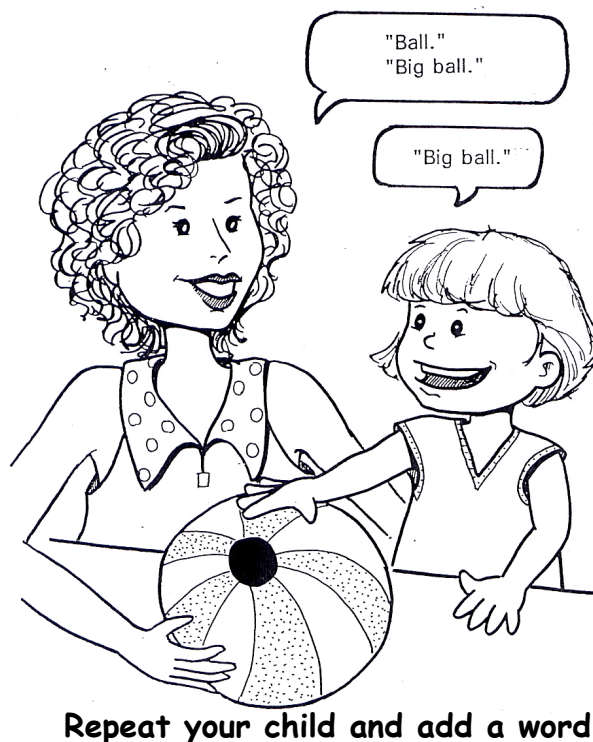
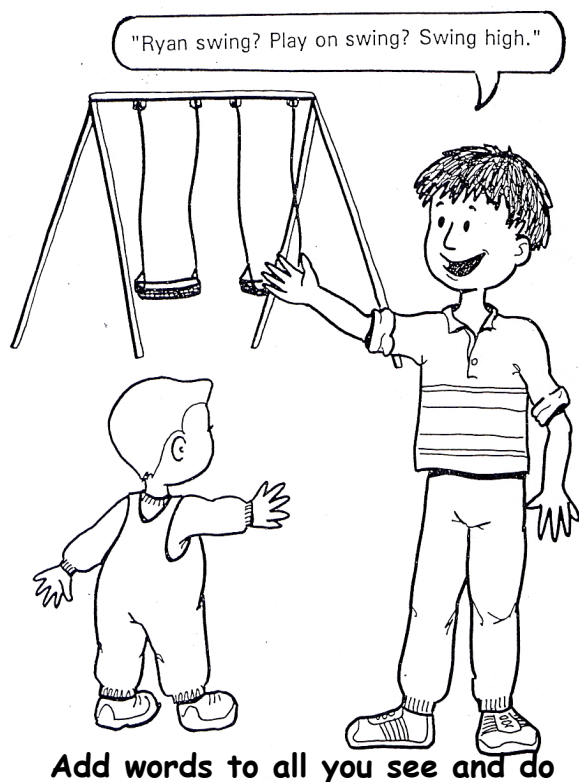
It has been a busy year for the Speech Pathologists at Jumbunna – there have now been two ‘Speechies’ for an entire year. I have enjoyed my first year at Jumbunna more than I expected, it really is a great community.

I have had the opportunity to continue to develop my skills as a therapist through supervision, and I have also been able to attend several training courses this year. This has been in a wide variety of areas from paediatric feeding to preschool social skills!

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has brought a lot of change for us – the main being that we can now support children with NDIS plans with ongoing therapy as they go on to ‘big school’ as well as while they are at Jumbunna. We are still involved in the preschool through consultation with teachers and educators within the classrooms and Parent Infant Group. We aim to support the families involved with Jumbunna as much as we can.

Every day is different, and is challenging and rewarding in many ways, but we absolutely love helping little people to improve their ability to communicate in any way we can.

There are many things you can do to help encourage your child to talk. Here are some simple ideas:



Jessica Convery
Speech Pathologists

Speech Therapy in Preschool



Speech therapy should consist of more than flashcards and worksheets.

As your child enters preschool, play is a very important part of the therapy process. Play keeps the learning fun and your child motivated.

For all types of therapy, activities should work toward functional skills, which will also include academic based skills. The speech therapist will balance play-based activities with structured activities. Pretend play is important to help your child practise his or her skills in what will resemble real life activities. More structured activities will be included as needed.

Early board games are often included at this age because they help your child learn to take turns and other academic skills. Learning numbers, colours, shapes and letters may be addressed, but speech therapists will often focus more on vocabulary such as names of familiar objects, verbs and early concepts, including descriptive words, location words and opposites.

Speech therapy activities will also start to include opportunities to use their speech and language skills with peers and in social settings.

There are two types of therapy which may be used in a preschool setting: pull-out or push-in formats.

Pull-out Speech Therapy

Your child may be pulled out of the classroom to participate in a group or individual therapy. These activities will be very structured and this format can help if your child needs to work on particular goals, especially for children who need to work on their sounds.

Push-in Speech Therapy

This is where the speech therapist comes into your child's classroom to see how the child is using his or her communication skills in a more natural setting. This allows the therapist to work not only with your child but also work with the teachers to implement strategies into the child's daily routine. In a push-in setting, the speech therapist will also work with, and model language, for multiple children in the classroom which can take the focus off the children with communication delays. In a push-in format, the speech therapist can help your child with practising sounds, using particular vocabulary, following directions within the context of the daily classroom routine, or even using their language to socialise with peers, all without the children even realising they are working on it.

The speech therapist may help create a lesson plan to practise some of the goals your child has, from picking a particular book for the teacher to read, or a theme for the pretend play area of the classroom. This helps keep the learning focused on being friend-oriented and fun. In a push-in format, the speech therapist and the teacher work together to help your child receive the maximum amount of therapy in a functional way. This is also called a transdisciplinary approach, where skills are transferred from one team member to another, for longer term benefit to your child.

Pull-out therapy = ½ hour per week/fortnight

Push-in therapy = 6-12 hours per week

**Kylie Taylor
Speech Pathologist**



Occupational Therapy



It has been another year of growth and change for the Occupational Therapy component at Jumbunna in 2018. I continue to be our sole Occupational Therapist, but this year we have been supported by some fantastic students placed through the University Centre for Rural Health.

The students spent a lot of time in the preschool working alongside our early childhood teachers and floor staff, to assist children in developing their skills and capabilities. These students not only worked with those who have identified additional needs or disabilities, but with all the children in the preschool. Focus areas included gross motor development, self-regulation, school readiness skills and attention skills. The children really enjoyed the time they spent with the students, and this was a huge support and benefit to the whole team at Jumbunna. Unfortunately as we move into 2019 we will not at this stage be receiving future students.



My role has changed again this year too. July saw our role as an NDIS ECEI partner draw to a close, and I am no longer working in the planning role. This means that as we receive new referrals and clients who need support to access the NDIS we are now referring them to NDIS for this section of their journey.

I have moved back to solely therapeutic and capacity building support. Working with children, their carers and families to support their development. Whilst a large number of these clients have identified additional needs and disabilities it is important to remember that an Occupational Therapist can support any child who is having difficulties with their development and skill development. I have enjoyed working with a wide and varied caseload this year, building connections with many local schools, preschools and childcare centres.





As a therapist I bring knowledge to these sessions, but parents and children bring not only themselves but their knowledge and skills as well. I see my role not as professional who directs what needs to be done, but as a partner who works alongside the family to identify areas of need and development together. Without family and child engagement, it is impossible to see change and growth in a client. I look forward to getting to know our new families and building deeper relationships with our existing families as we move into 2019 and beyond.



If you have any questions, or want to know more about Occupational Therapy or my role please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Tegan Quinnell
Occupational Therapist



For more information or to find an occupational therapist in your area visit www.otaus.com.au



Jumbunna Intensive Parenting Program



The Jumbunna Intensive Parenting Program is funded by the Department of Social Services. This year the JIPP Program has worked with parents and children in the whole Richmond Valley Council area, including Casino, Kyogle, Tabulam, and Tenterfield.

This year we ran a variety of Parenting Programs and the participants have found them friendly, approachable and very beneficial. Thank you to Karen, Kath, Wendy and Raylene for their enthusiastic presentations.

The "Triple P" Positive Parenting Program is always popular, as it is so clear, sensible and do-able. We have run programs at Jumbunna, at Tenterfield for High School students, and at Ba-Lunda for Goori fathers. We also ran a Circle of Security program, which focuses on secure attachment, and a Bringing Up Great Kids program which focuses on child brain development and taking care of the carer. (That's YOU).

Parents always feel better about what they are doing, and what else might help them with the full time job of bringing up small humans, after attending one of our programs, so don't be shy, come along and enjoy some ME time. (We have cake....)

On Wednesdays we have run a JIPP Supported Playgroup, at Jumbunna, which is always well attended and enjoyed. Thank you to Kim and Wendy for doing such a great job of making it fun and interesting. Playgroup is free to participants and includes a healthy morning tea and chance to chat with other parents, while your little one makes paper plate dinosaurs! Fun!!

The JIPP Program also works with children in small groups or individually to help them learn social skills and emotional regulation strategies. The PALS (Playing and Learning to Socialize) Program has been enjoyed by groups in the Echidna and Kangaroo classrooms. (4 year olds) This helps prepare them for transition to big school. The PALS strategies work for big people too, so try to take three deep breaths, sit somewhere quietly and ask for help if you need it. A cup of tea is probably allowed too. Just the ritual of making it will help calm you.





The Bonalbo, Stratheden and Sugartown Mobile Preschools have also enjoyed the PALS puppets and stories. Thank you to Sylvia, Wendy, Kim, Annika, Shannon and Denise for their caring and fun lessons.

The Exploring Feelings Program has been enjoyed by preschool and big school children in Kyogle and Casino this year. It is a very helpful way of focusing on emotions and practising ways to manage them. This program can easily be tweaked to suit your child, if needed.

We can also support families who are having difficulties with transition to big school, and we have worked with families and teachers this year to develop positive plans to help children cope with change. It is always helpful to praise and reward the behaviour you want to see.

Our Occupational Therapist, Tegan Quinnell, is part of the JIPP team and she has been available to assist parents, and vulnerable children within the LGA. She supports families who attend the Parents & Infant Group at Jumbunna with early intervention assessment and advice.

With such a great team working to support families, we have helped over 200 families this year. We are always looking for ways to improve, so welcome your ideas and suggestions. Can't wait for next year!

Josie King, JIPP Co ordinator.





What Jumbunna Is:

Jumbunna is the district's Early Intervention Centre for children with disabilities, delays in their development or who are at risk of a delay due to environmental or biological factors, aged from birth to school age. The aims of the centre are to educate and integrate these children into their community and to support their families.

Each year we provide an early intervention service for about 130 children. Our service area is extensive, covering the Casino, Kyogle and part of Richmond River and Tenterfield Local Government Areas.

Services include assessments, a range of programs including Parent-Infant Groups, home visits, outreach, Preschool (includes children without special needs), toy, book & video library, transport, counselling, support groups, workshops, resources and information.



2018 Winners of the Inaugural Brenda Armstrong Beef Week Float Award





Reverse Intergration Preschool

The preschool consists of 4 classrooms; Echidna, Kangaroo, Koala and Turtle rooms; and caters for up to 59 children Monday to Thursday and 38 children on a Friday. All of the rooms have been very busy this year, learning through play.

Term 2

The Echidna, Kangaroo and Turtle rooms participated in Science Group on a Monday afternoon. The children were very interested in the experiments and learnt through a making, hands on approach. The group is an introduction to the STEM program



which is in kindergarten. They really liked wearing their lab coats and goggles.

Educator Sandra led and prepared the activities for us. Thankyou Sandra.

Term 3



Our NAIDOC week celebrations were deadly! Uncle Shane came to Jumbunna and taught us some Goori Language.

He taught us to sing, 'Bowed and Walaguns, Gingils and

Jinnungs'(Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes). Uncle Charlie played the didgeridoo. We had to guess what animal made the sound.



Reverse Intergration Preschool



Term 4

15/11/18 the Casino Fire Brigade visited Jumbunna. The children explored the fire engine and sprayed the hose.



Echidna room

The Echidna room has focused on working together as a class group. One of the skills we started off learning early in the year was how to share and turn take with others.

We programmed activities which motivated the children to wait for their turn. One of those activities was making slime.



Another favourite turn taking activity is the Snail's Pace Race.

Kangaroo Room

The Kangaroo room have practised being 'mindful', doing yoga and concentrating on their breathing. After educator Sandra's holiday the children showed an interest in learning about places around the world on the globe.

A focus has been on investigating and exploring natural materials e.g. wood, stones, seed pods, mossy rocks.



Reverse Intergration Preschool



Turtle room

The turtle room children participate in turn taking group. They follow visuals to assist them in learning to wait, share resources with their peers, tune in and take notice of what their peers are doing. These skills are all important foundations in learning to interact with others.

Koala room

The younger children in the Koala room engage in dramatic play activities in the home corner. The children have been interested in imitating their educators and role play taking group. Painting and playdough have been popular activities which the children choose to participate in.



We have had many fabulous visitors throughout the year, who continue to consider us in their yearly plans. We would like to thank them all for their continued support of Jumbunna.

‘Living Safely with dogs’

The mounted police horses who live in Sydney, came during Beef Week

Casino Fire Brigade brought the fire engine

Rosanna Frahn came to talk to the Echidna Room about haemophilia

Henny Penny hatchlings

Brett Campbell (musician)

A special mention to Sylvia Cooling (deputy regional library manager) from the Richmond River Valley Council library who has visited us on a twice weekly basis throughout the year sharing books and special ‘friends’ (assorted props). The children and staff have enjoyed her visits and the opportunity to interact with her ‘friends’.

We wish all our children who are transitioning to school the best for the exciting opportunities in the future. To our children who will be returning to Jumbunna next year, we look forward to seeing you again for many more learning moments.

On behalf of the RIPS team I would like to wish you all a very, merry Christmas and a safe, happy holiday full of fabulous memories.



Raylene Cowie

Team Leader



JUMBUNNA GRADUATES

We wish the children who are graduating all the best for 'big' school. For those who are returning we look forward to a bigger and even better 2019!

The RIPS team wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday.

Raylene Cowie

Early Childhood Teacher/Team Leader for RIPS



Abigail



Abraham



Adam



JUMBUNNA GRADUATES



Addison



Aleah



Alexander



Ally



Avril

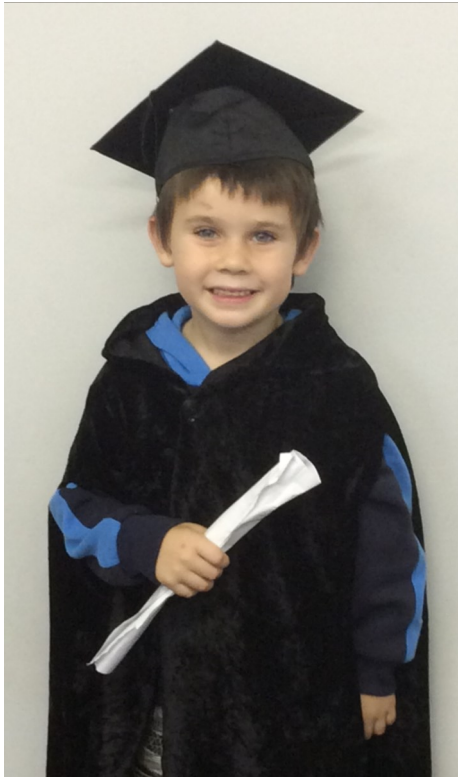


Bowen

JUMBUNNA GRADUATES



Cadence



Caysen



Charli



Charli



Dimitri



Dolly

JUMBUNNA GRADUATES



Elroy



Ethan



Evie



Isaac



Izaiyah



Jason

JUMBUNNA GRADUATES



Jett



Joel



Jordan



Josephine



Kylan



Lillia

JUMBUNNA GRADUATES



Ly'miah



Markeeah



Matilda



Nash



Oliver



Shaun

JUMBUNNA GRADUATES



Thomas



Tyler



Tyson



William

Please note: We can only publish images with permission from parents/ Carers when enrolled

Goori News



Our NAIDOC week celebrations were deadly! Uncle Shane came to Jumbunna and taught us some Goori Language.

He taught us to sing, 'Bowed and Walaguns, Gingils and Jinnungs' (Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes). Uncle Charlie played the didgeridoo. We had to guess what animal made the sound.



Jumbunna Mobile - Bonalbo



We have had a wonderful year out at Bonalbo.

We made some great changes to the preschool to allow the children more time, space and opportunities for the children to explore and learn from their natural environment. These include:



Nature art



Exploring Sound



Planting in our garden.



Exploring Light



We also spent lots of time linking with our community through excursions and visits from community members. Some of the highlights have included:

Visits from some pets



Continue over page.



Picnic at Lismore City Hall



Peppa Pig Concert



Easter Hat parade at the local school

Visiting Bonalbo Central school library during book week.



We visited the Nursing Home regularly to spend time with the residents!

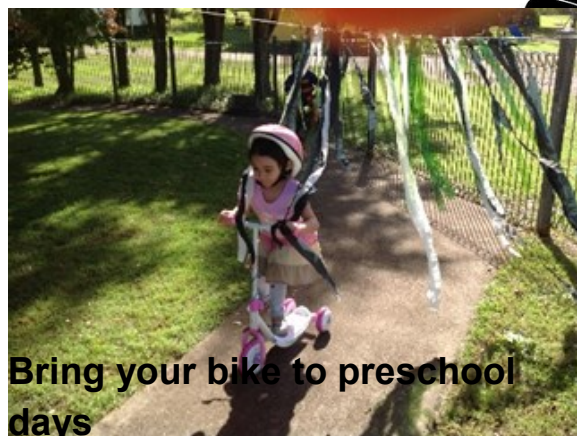




Some of our favourite play experiences have been:



Exploring light & shadows



Bring your bike to preschool days



Restaurant Play



Water Play



Cooking up some healthy food.

I would like to say a big thank you to all our wonderful children, families, community and staff for a great year!

We are very fortunate at Bonalbo Preschool to be surrounded by such a supportive community, and the children have responded to this with great growth in all their developmental domains!

From all your friends at Jumbunna Mobile, Bonalbo Preschool we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Annika Gray

Early Childhood Teacher, Co-ordinator



BONALBO GRADUATES



Olivia



Aerlina



Kye



Elise

BONALBO GRADUATES



Alyssia



Louis



Santa is reading the
Naughty and Nice List!

Jumbunna Mobile - Stratheden



Stratheden Mobile

2018 almost done!!!

We have had a busy and productive year at Stratheden with lots of progress in the children's development. It has been a joy to watch the children grow and challenge themselves in extending their skills. Through play they can learn and extend on the skills they already have.

We have changed to our summer program where we play outside early in the morning to avoid the heat and the children have been enjoying this especially water based activities and the sandpit.

We have 15 children attending preschool at the moment and have an extra staff member Linda Armstrong to help out until the end of this year.

Some pics from 2019.



Lots of fun in yoga each week



Children learn math concepts and socialisation while building roads in the dirt.



Jumbunna Mobile - Stratheden



Cooking time. We learn math concepts , turn taking and motor skills while we have fun cooking.



Lots of adventures were had as we explored our environment. Learning about the world we live in locally and beyond.



We have 4 children who will be heading off to big school in 2019.

We will miss them but wish them happiness in their new endeavours.

We look forward to seeing our other friends back in 2019 at preschool and wish everyone a happy Christmas and new year.

Wendy Kim Sharyn and Linda



Stratheden Graduates



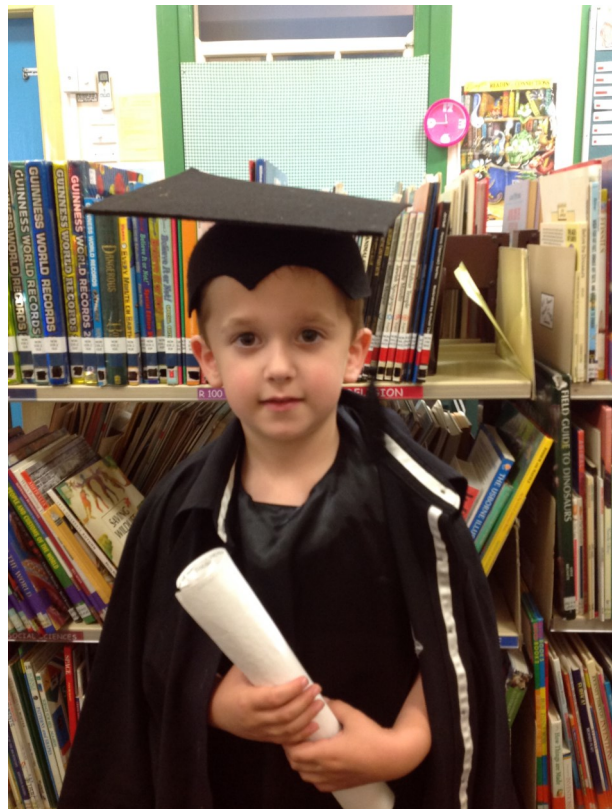
Jacqui



Addison



Larni



Drew



Jumbunna Mobile - Sugartown

We seem to say it every year but “Where did the months go?”

The children at Sugartowns have grown both in height and knowledge and it has been a wonderful journey to accompany them on. Our numbers have swelled to 17 children on both days and the ages from 2 years 6 months to our children heading off to school means that we have lots of opportunity for our children to scaffold their own learning.

Our outside environment was popular and our little garden produced lettuce and beetroot which we made into sandwiches and some produce went home.



Jodi, Wendy and Cath shared their cooking skills and we made many delicious items for our afternoon snacks. Cooking not only means we get to eat lovely food but the learning opportunities to experiment with quantity, size, number, making healthy choices for our bodies, turn taking, hypothesising and not to mention likes and dislikes. The list is endless.



Drawing the outline of the children's bodies started from tracing around hands and then led to dressing the bodies and even sourcing the right colours and accessories. The children made many comparisons about their commonalities and differences – eye colour, hair colour etc .





Some of the children attended the “Beef Week” celebrations in Casino and joined the children from Jumbunna on the “float”, in the parade (We won best float) Extensive conversations about cows, after the beef capital visit saw us practice our “Milking skills” using gloves filled with water. Not sure many of us perfected this but it was fun and laughter was definitely heard.



We are always looking for ways to engage and conjure the ideas of our children. After making rivers in the sandpit, but finding it disappointing that the water kept disappearing the children experimented with paper, cardboard and some tubing. They decided to bring in “rocks” The children took home small buckets and brought back varied coloured and shaped specimens. More conversations and we then decided to enlist some help. Billy kindly offered to make our “River” more permanent. We watched while he did the hard work. Thank you, Billy. The project isn’t finished but it looks great so far and more ideas are developing and being tried.



Each year we sadly say goodbye to children and families that are ready to move onto the next stage of education. This year we have Jessica ,Brooklyn, Lawrelai, Jett and Ned leaving us. Some have been with us for many years and some we have

recently gotten to know. We wish you all the best next year at Big School. Please come back and visit as we would love to hear your news and see you again. It is a pleasure to work with the children and families at Sugartowns and we look forward to another

adventurous year when we return on the 29th January 2019



From your Team

Sylvia, Cath, Jodi and Wendy



SUGARTOWN GRADUATES



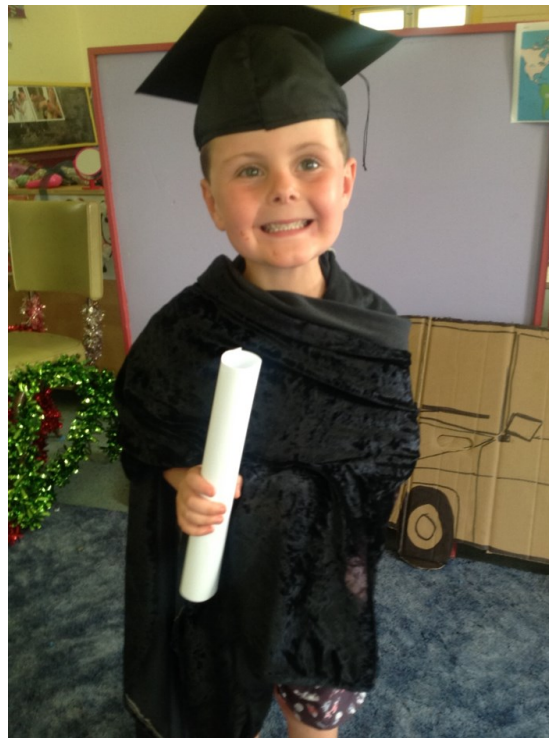
Ned



Lawrelai



Jett



Brooklyn



Fundraising News



Easter Raffle - \$708

Janet Harrison - \$1000.00

Quota Club Casino - \$1000.00

Casino Golf Club - ongoing, \$ 1697.60

Casino RSM Grant - \$7000.00

Casino Beef Week - \$200.00

Evans Head Woodburn RSL - \$600.00

Jumbunna has Deductible Gift Recipient endorsement – all donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

Jumbunna is funded by:

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- *Community Services: Children's Services Program; Families NSW*
- *Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) Department of Human Services NSW*
- *Department of Education and Communities – Special Children's Project*
 - *Mobile Services*
 - *Intervention Support Program)*
- *Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet - IAS program*
- *Department of Social Services*

