



Term 1 Issue 1 **Newsletter** February 2023

Ninna Marni everyone (that's Kurna for "How are you going"),

Welcome to all of our new families and welcome back to our families returning after the summer break. We look forward to getting to know you and your children, and working with you over the coming year to support your child's learning and development.

We trust that the orientation/transition process has been a positive one for you and your child. If you have any questions or feedback please speak to an educator in your child's room.

This first issue of the newsletter contains important information about the Centre, an invitation to attend our Annual General Meeting, an article about dressing your child for play & learning, and some links to parent resources on the Starting Blocks website.

Future issues will focus more on children's learning what is happening in the children's rooms, and the Centre.

Staffing Update
[Yitpi Tarnanthi Room](#)
Morgyn is reducing her hours as she continues her University studies. She is currently working every morning until 9:30.
Nandita is now working 4 days per week.

[Karra Room](#)
 We said **Goodbye to Faiza** on February 3rd after 2 years with our team. Faiza completed her University studies at the end of 2022 and has decided to further her career as a Primary School teacher. We wish her every success! (Recruitment processes are underway to find a replacement).
Deb has moved from the Yitpi Tarnanthi to the Karra Room for 2 days a week. This will also support children transitioning from the Yitpi Tarnanthi room.

[Kangkulya Room \(Preschool\)](#)
 We welcome **Sweta** to the team on Mondays & Tuesdays.

The Preschool will be using the Yitpi Room as an extra Studio space to extend children's thinking and involvement in project work. Every preschool child will have the opportunity to participate in this space over time.

Please talk to Joan, Leah or Elli for further information

Important Dates

4 Feb	Dad's Playgroup 9:30-11
13 Feb	Anniversary of National Apology Day
22 Feb	Management Committee 6-8
1 March	Annual General Meeting 6:30-8
4 March	Dad's Playgroup 9:30-11
17 March	Kindy Closure day (child care is open)
21 March	Harmony Day

POLICIES CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW:

If you would like to contribute to the review of our policies, you can read them on our [website](#) or you can request a copy from the office.

- **Clothing Policy**

Saturday Playgroups for Dads

Including step-fathers, grandfathers &
uncles



This is an opportunity for children under 5 years of age and their dads to have fun playing, exploring, singing, learning and laughing together.

Dad's Playgroup is held at C.a.F.E. Enfield Children's Centre on the **1st Saturday of every month** from 9:30-11:00

2023 Dates

4th February	5th August
4th March	2nd September
1st April	7th October
6th May	4th November
3rd June	2nd December
1st July	



For more information please contact Lee
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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Our Children's Centre (child care & preschool) is managed by a committee of parents and staff. Being a part of the Committee provides a way for you to participate in the management of the Centre and to have a strong voice in what happens.

Meetings are held once a month from 6-8pm.

A Nomination form to join the Committee is attached to the newsletter.

Please speak to someone in the office if you would like more information.

Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday 1st March

Time: 6:30-8pm

(limited child care available)

Fee Payments

You will receive your account every Monday via email. As we are a not-for-profit centre it is important that you pay your fees regularly and on time.

There are 3 ways you can pay:

- **cash** via the locked fee box in the foyer
- **bank transfer** (details on your account)
- **credit card** at the office

CAR PARKING

Please use the car park at the end of Pateela St for dropping off and picking up children.

The Pateela St car park has 3 x 15 minutes parking spaces close to the building to assist with drop-off and pick-up.

We would also like to remind people that the Disabled car park is **only for people who have a Disability Parking Permit** (which must be displayed when parking).



StartingBlocks.gov.au is a useful hub of information and resources on children's early education and care.

There are many [Tips for Parents resources](#) on the website. Here are some examples:

- [How can you help your child settle into an education and care service?](#) Starting early childhood education and care is often a child's first experience outside of their family environment. It can be an emotional time for everyone involved. This fact sheet offers tips on how families support their children during the settling in period.
- [Illness in early learning services](#) - It can be difficult for families to know when their child is sick enough to need to stay at home.
- [The importance of play in children's learning and development](#) – this factsheet explains why learning through play is one of the most important ways children learn and develop.
- [Supporting children during transitions](#) - Tips to help families support their child if they are transitioning to a new group, room or service.
- [Transition to school](#) – Starting school is a major event in the lives of children and their families. Preparing children for this change sets them up for future successful learning and development, particularly if children have not had experience in an early education and care service. This fact sheet offers parents and carers tips on how to support children in their transition to school.

Information is also available in Hindi, Arabic, Chinese and other languages.

Community Lending Library

Have you noticed the baskets of books under the verandah or outside preschool?

We have a Community Lending Library supported by the Children's Centre and Raising Literacy Australia.

Sharing books with your child is an excellent way to support their language and communication development. It also helps build a close relationship between you and your child. Early language exposure, particularly interactive talk, is one of the strongest predictors of brain development (Raising Literacy Australia Website Jan 2022).

You can borrow a book for as long as your child would like. Children often learn through repetition. If your child is asking you to read the same book over and over, that is them telling you there is still more to learn and enjoy about that book.

We will clean the books after each use so please return to the "Returns" basket.

For more information about reading books with children click [here](#)



What children wear to education and care

<https://www.startingblocks.gov.au/other-resources/factsheets/dressing-your-child-for-education-and-care/>

The clothes children wear can affect the development of their independence and self-help skills. For example:

- Trousers/shorts that fit comfortably and have an elastic waist are easier for young children to pull down and up.
- Tops with large necks, cardigans, slip-on shoes or shoes with Velcro fasteners are easier for children who are learning to or want to dress themselves.
- Bigger buttons are also easier for children to manage than small buttons or press studs.

Please make sure that you:

- **label all clothing with your child's name**
- **provide spare clothes** in case your child has an accident (especially during the time when your child is learning to use the toilet) or if there is a change in the weather
- **supply a sun hat**
- encourage your child to dress appropriately for the weather and to wear a hat at all times while playing in the sun

These are a few factors that you may wish to consider when choosing what your child wears to education and care.

Temperature

It is important that children are not over or under dressed, and that clothing suits the temperature of the day. The smaller children are, the more easily they can become chilled or overheated. Natural fabrics such as cotton are generally cooler than acrylic fabrics. It is a good idea to send spare clothes for unexpected changes of weather, especially during changes of season, when the weather can be unpredictable.

Footwear

Children need to wear safe, comfortable shoes that fit well. Shoes should provide support as well as protection for your child's feet. Shoes that give little protection and support or that have raised heels or soles may cause accidents. Shoes with soles that grip make climbing and other physical activities easier and safer for children to enjoy and take part in. **No thongs or open-back shoes.**

Sun Protection

Children need protection from the sun while playing throughout the day. T-shirts with long sleeves and long trousers offer good protection. Hats are essential and should have soft brims to allow for movement and to provide maximum protection. Read our [Sun Protection Policy](#) for more information.

Dressing to support children's play and learning

When clothes fit properly and are not too loose or tight, children can move freely and comfortably and participate in experiences. It can be helpful to talk with your child about the clothes they feel most comfortable in for different activities, and to help them to choose clothes that will be practical.

Nomination Form for Management Committee

As a public preschool & a community based centre we are managed by a committee of parents and staff. Being a part of the Committee provides a way for you to participate in the management of the service and to have a strong voice in what happens.

Any parent can join the Committee and no experience is necessary.

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 1st March 2022 6:30-8:00pm

I would like to nominate as parent representative on the Management
Committee for 2023

Nominee Name: _____

Print name_

Signature

I wish to nominate for the position of:

Committee member

Chairperson

Treasurer

Secretary

Nominated by _____

Print name_

Signature

Date: _____

(Please return the completed form to the office)