

# Our “We made it through 2020” Celebration!!



It was supposed to be our Family End of Year celebration but instead we had a week of in house fun where to be honest it seemed like a great chance to breathe a collective sigh of relief that this year is almost over. It wasn't the same without you all—we missed the crazy, busy, hot and crowded 2 hours that we have enjoyed every year since 2004. The old saying of 'you don't know what you've got till its gone' was felt heavily this year on many occasions. Our week of celebration was of course different, but it was meaningful and full of joy for the children and that is what matters most. The children had time to enjoy having their faces painted by our visiting elf Skye from Blue Sky Face painting. She did an awesome job of decorating the children's faces with some festive cheer. The children dressed for the occasion in their favourite festive shirts and clothes— well done mums and dads for remembering! It was lovely to see the excitement in the children's eyes when they saw that gifts had been left under our big Christmas trees in the playground and to hear them discussing why Santa can't come to Elder St this year. 2020 has proven more than ever that young children are capable, insightful, awake to social justice and eager to know what is happening around them.

We hope you enjoy reading our last news for the year 2020. We wish everyone a very safe, healthy and joyful Christmas and New Year.

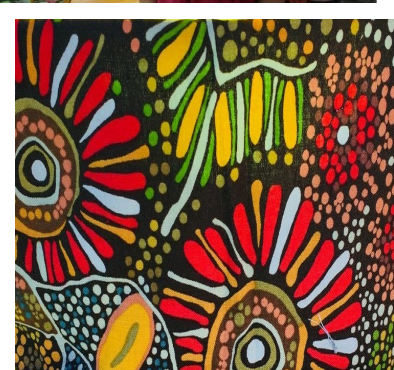
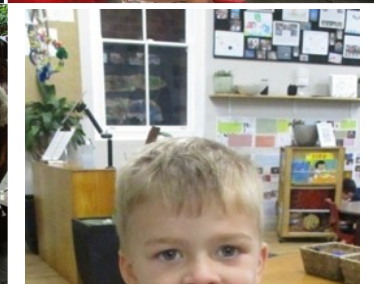
Enjoy these very happy snaps :)







Joy  
to  
the  
WORLD



It's not what's  
under the Christmas  
tree that matters,  
it's who's around it.  
Charles M. Schulz

## ELDER ST TEAM 2021

Here is our team line up for 2021

### Nursery Possums—8 children

Paula Guy: M, T, Th, F

Bree Creighton: M, T, W, F

Jena Talbott: W, Th

### Toddler Joeys—10 children

Lauren Berwick: M - Th

Ellie Austin: M, T, Th, F

Jena Talbott: F



**New trainees 2021:** Casey Boyce and Jessica Blanch will be working full time from January 2021. We will have a further trainee begin sometime in the new year. At this stage we are yet to confirm a third candidate and are still recruiting. Our 2021 trainees will change rooms that they are working in throughout the year; this is so they develop a holistic understanding of working with children in all age groups.

### Preschool Wallabies—21 children:

Kate Hewat: M, W

Roxi Heywood Hayes: M (till 03/21), T, W, F

Donna McRae: T, Th

Emily Loader Weston: M-F

Jena Talbott: M

**Leadership 2021:** Our leadership team will change in March 2021 when Mel takes some time off to complete her PhD studies. Kim will continue to work in the Director and management role and take on the Nominated Supervisor position of the centre. On return from maternity leave Kate will join the leadership team and work as acting Educational Leader and co director on Thursday and Friday each week for the year. Paula will take on the role of assistant director and support both Kim and Kate in their roles. Mel will be coming in once a month to meet with the leadership team and say hi to everyone, and will be available by email and phone. Any account or enrolment queries will be looked after by Kim on her work days of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Finally, as this unprecedented 16th year of operation draws to a close I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for the support and collaboration we have received from our Elder St community. This year has been like no other and we have felt very supported as we continued our commitment to quality education and care for the children and connection and partnership with our families. We feel validated for being acknowledged as essential to society during 2020 and hopeful that this will demonstrate that ECEC can be seen as education *and* care in equal measure. We feel confident that with our team's strong growth mindset and commitment to all being leaders we will continue to successfully provide contemporary, equitable and holistic teaching approaches and a dedicated warm ethic of care to each other, the children and families of our Centre. I personally feel hugely privileged to be sharing part of everyone's lives every week and to all at our Centre, families and team members—thank you for choosing us!

Merry Christmas and see you in the New Year. I will be at the centre from Wednesday to Friday each week until the end of February. If families need to contact me after this time they can email the normal centre email address or contact me on my mobile which is listed on my business card in the front foyer of the centre. Take care....

Mel xx

# 2021 ENROLMENTS AND END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

We have all enrolments finalised for new families beginning in 2021.

If families would like to change their attendance this can be organised by letting us know any other days you would prefer so that we can make a note on our internal waiting list. To reduce days we require 2 weeks' notice from 11 Jan 2021. Most of our families who have children leaving the centre have had their bonds allocated to final fee balances. Anyone who indicated they would prefer their bond refunded needs to ensure that they have a nil balance on their account by Wednes-

day 23 December and then we will refund bond monies into directed accounts.

## END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

All families will be emailed an invoice showing fee weeks from 14 December to week-ending 27 December, 2020.

Balances owing for 2020 are **due by WEDNESDAY 23rd DECEMBER, 2020.**

If you are still unsure of your balance due by the end of this year, please contact office staff for clarification.

From the week starting 11/1/21 please continue to pay your normal 2020 fee amount and we will advise new 2021 weekly fees from

approx. 25 January 2021. We recommend that families then adjust their direct deposit payments to reflect their new fee amounts as per that invoice. Families with siblings starting in 2021 will be advised of their new fees for that child in the new year. Be sure to check your myGov app for any notification or changes to your CCS. Please feel free to contact Mel or Kim to discuss plans to finalise your account if you are predicting that you may need more time to finalise. We are happy to work with families experiencing difficulties especially at this time of year as long as we have open communication and a plan of action in place. 😊

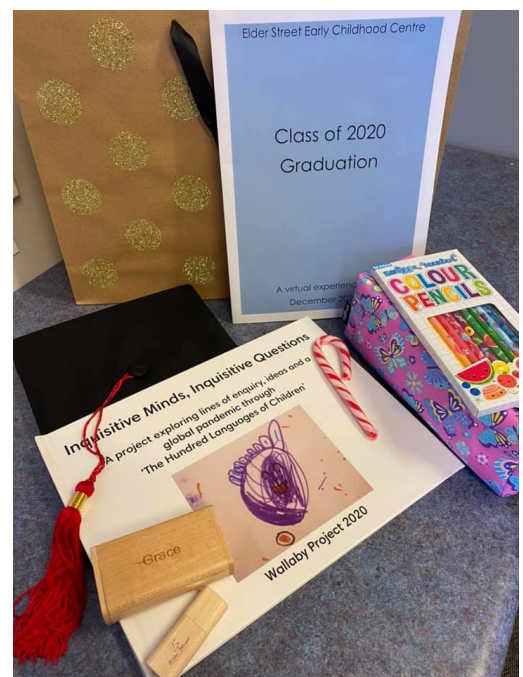


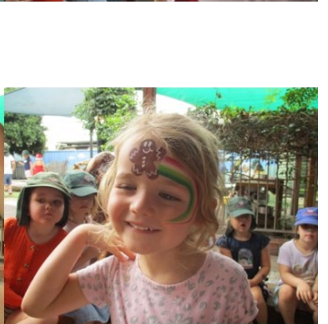
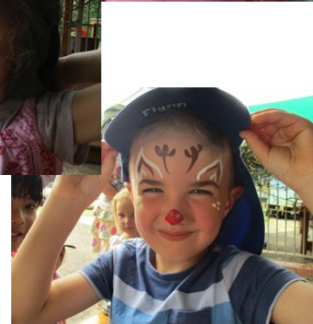
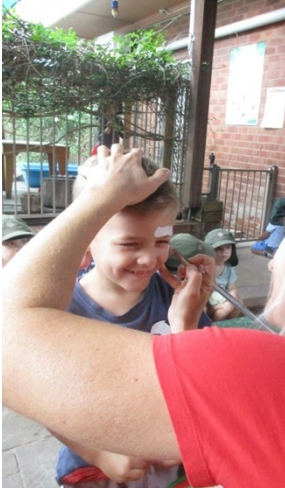
We are handing out the beautiful graduation celebration packs to our 15 clever little people who are ready for the important transition to school next year. We would like to farewell with love and light...

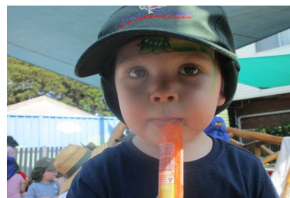
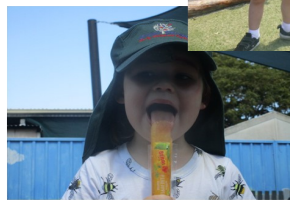
**Audrey, Axel, Frankie, Evelyn, Flynn, Cruze, Lawson, Theo, Sebastian, Grace, Lewis, Maz, Ruby, Zoe and Meredith**

We will miss all of these children more than you probably understand but wish everyone the best of luck and happiness and hope to see you soon for a visit xx

## School Leavers 2020 Graduation







Team Development Day Monday — 11 January, 2021 — facilitated by Lucy Ellis—waking women up to their awesomeness.

Lucy Ellis  
Wellbeing & Hypnotherapy

The team will spend the morning with Lucy exploring the three orders of love and how that applies to self-love and cohesion within a team.

1. Belonging
2. Knowing our place
3. Giving and receiving

Challenging the stories of suffering we listen to in our mind and using hypnosis, learn how to direct our thoughts to be positive and self-loving even, and most importantly, when dealing with stressful situations. A take home hypnotherapy audio will be given as an ongoing resource of support to use throughout the year.

Setting healthy boundaries so as to preserve our gorgeous soul throughout the year. During this session you will create your own healthy boundaries as a strong act of self-love. We then spend the rest of the day preparing our teaching and play spaces for the next day, ensuring we are ready for every little person who will be arriving :)



**ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE ON OUR SYSTEM?**

Please let us know if your email, mobile phone numbers, work details, home addresses or emergency contact details have changed.

**Final words for 2020.....**

Please ensure that all belongings are taken home on your last day of attendance for the year, ie, drink bottles, sleep bags, spare clothes, art work, medication etc.

This will help us have the centre lovely and tidy for when we reopen in January.

**Our first staff on bright and early on TUESDAY 12 January 2021 will be Paula and Lauren and Roxi and Bree will see you off on the late shift.**

Once again, have a lovely and safe Christmas & New Year xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx