

POSSUM POST

Brushtail Babies | Sugar Glider Juniors | Honey Possums Preschool

Playground gets a facelift!

You spoke - we listened!



Our question of the month for April was: Do you think our outdoor area is stimulating and inviting?

We received a great response to this question and we would like to thank all those people who did participate, we really do appreciate your feedback. We have taken on board your comments and have revamped the art area in the 'big playground', added resources and created an inspiring space in the outdoor kitchen, painted the cubby, tyres of different sizes are now in the sandpit. We also added new elements to the water station, created a music wall and planted flowers. We now have a boat that the children are absolutely loving which was kindly donated by Sue Scott. In the 'little playground', we have added a gorgeous bird house and some small worlds for everyone to explore as well as another window so artistically painted by Sharon. All of the children have been so engaged and enjoying their new play spaces being social, using their imaginations and exploring their environment all while having a fabulously fun time!

We'd love you to come and see what we have done. Hope you all had a fabulous Easter break and looking forward to next month. Roz



Chicken Bake (serve 6)

1 broccoli (cut into florets)
 1/2 cauliflower (cut into florets)
 60 g butter
 1/3 cup plain flour
 3 cups milk
 1 tsp sea salt (*optional)
 3 cups cooked chicken (shredded)
 1 cup tasty cheese (grated)
 Topping
 1 cup fresh breadcrumbs
 1/2 cup parmesan (fresh, grated)
 1 lemon (small, finely chopped, zested, juiced)



Preheat the oven to 180°C. Butter the base of a 2.5 or 3L casserole dish or 6 individual dishes. Cook broccoli and cauliflower in a steamer or the microwave for 4-5 minutes until just tender and drain well.

2. Melt butter over medium heat in a saucepan. Stir in flour and cook, stirring, for one minute. Gradually whisk in milk to prevent lumps forming; add salt (if using). Bring to the boil, keep stirring, until the sauce thickens.

3. Stir chicken, cheese and vegetables into sauce. Spoon into prepared dishes.

4. Combine breadcrumbs, parmesan, and lemon zest and juice in a small bowl. Sprinkle evenly over chicken mixture. Bake for 20 minutes until top is golden and crunchy

Brushtail Babies

What another exciting month we've had in our room!

This month we have engaged the babies in a vast variety of sensory play experiences which they are thoroughly enjoying. Creativity, fine motor skills, and exploring senses of smell, touch, feel and visualisation have been benefits of sensory play for your babies. Most importantly they are having FUN exploring these play experiences with peers and educators.

Physical play has also been a highlight in our room with the children engaging more and more in spontaneous physical activities. The balancing beam and stepping-stones are a recent favourite for our little ones and it is amazing to watch them mastering their balance and coordination skills by making their way through balancing obstacles. A lot of self praise being displayed and expressed when your children realise their accomplishments. The babies have been working hard and displaying their creative abilities in decorating their Easter artwork. We hope you enjoyed your gifts and hope you all had a happy and safe Easter long weekend.

A reminder with the cooler months approaching, to pack extra clothing that is clearly labeled.

We truly look forward to the coming months and watching your precious babies continue to learn through meaningful interactions and engaging play experiences.

Many thanks, Shantana, Jo & Deb



Sugarglider Juniors

To our dearest Sugar Glider families,

The last couple of weeks in our Sugar Gliders room has been so busy!

The end of daylight savings has brought about some small changes to our daily routine in the junior room. Our little Juniors were a bit restless so we have now started to have our yummy lunch at 11:30am and be in our beds by 12:00pm for a rest or quiet time.

We have been targeting your child's creativity and fine motor skills. Throughout the last couple of weeks we have also had many events, including fire safety day, Easter and Anzac Day. We made our bunny masks and bunny baskets for our Easter Egg hunt and we decorated our Sugar Gliders room in red and black with beautiful Poppy's that our Juniors made to pay our respect to the fallen soldiers.

I hope all our Juniors enjoyed marching in the ANZAC day parade with Little Possums and we thank those that joined us to lay our beautiful wreath.

Judi and myself love watching our Juniors grow and develop into the beautiful independent souls they are becoming and all the new skills they are learning.

We hope you had a wonderful and safe long weekend.

Thanks Judi and Bradey



Diary Dates

CCS Explained

Tuesday 14th May , 6pm
@ Little Possums

We invite any parents that are interested in learning more about the Child Care Subsidy to join us for an informal information session and question time.

Waste to Art 2019

Official Opening & Awards Night

23rd May , 6pm
Warren Sporting & Cultural Centre -
Community Room

**Hear our Heart Ear Bus Project
visiting Little Possums on 21 May**

**NOW TAKING ORDERS
FOR LITTLE POSSUMS
HOODIES
JUST IN TIME FOR
WINTER!**

**Grab an order form from
the front desk.**

Routine changes

Please note that we are adjusting our daily program for indoor and outdoor play as the colder weather approaches. We will be flexible and follow the children's interests in this way.

Please do not hesitate to speak with Roz or your child's educators should you have any questions about the daily routines.

Mobile Speechie

Our Mobile Speechie information night was a huge success with lots of interested parents attending and gaining lots of sensible and valuable information. How lucky is Warren to have the very professional and caring Jemma Burrell in our community and now offering her services at the Hub in Dubbo Street to assist in Early Intervention Services for our children.

ANZAC Day

Following on from our visit to Warren Central where our Preschoolers attended the Anzac Ceremony, each of our rooms made wreaths that staff and children placed at the cenotaph on Anzac Day when Little Possums staff and children marched with the community. Thankyou to all those who attended.

Quality Improvement Plan

Please comment on our QIP on the corkboards in the foyer
 This time we will be concentrating on Quality Area 2. Children's Health and Safety. We really do appreciate your feedback and your input and we will use this information to work with our families to improve our service.

Honey Possums Preschool

The first quarter of the year has ended and now comes a change in the weather. We encourage the children to bring with them a labelled jumper or a jacket in case of cool weather.

Over the past few weeks we have been fortunate to have enjoyed many visits from community members and organisations. Our local fire brigade bought the fire truck to the centre to show it to our children and talk to them about fire safety. Mr & Mrs Lim, Mrs Soriano and Ms Jo, Filipino, have been actively involved in teaching us about their culture and providing delicacies to try from their traditional tables. We were also very lucky to have a cuddle with the puppies from Jemmas sister and the children also enjoyed a close encounter with some chicks which Roz bought in from her mums.

Our Jolly Phonics literacy program continues to engage our children who have started to retain the letters they're learning when integrated to songs and music throughout the program. We can also see that our preschoolers little fingers are getting better at controlling their pen grips.

We would like to give a big thanks to everyone who assisted in making out outdoor areas more engaging and hope that you all enjoyed your Easter break.

Look forward to seeing you soon, Mr Em & Jemma.

