



JULY 2021 | ISSUE 2

HERITAGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

WHERE EVERY CHILD IS AN INDIVIDUAL

Directors Report

In June, when it was safe to travel, my husband and I travelled to Central Australia to explore the red centre and connect with local artists. We met with a local indigenous person who we travelled through some amazing countryside with and introduced us to artists from the Mulga Bore Area. One women artist from this area paints solely from bush medicine plants collected from the Utopia Country. She explained the process of making the paint from the leaves and the healing powers the leaves have. We watched some very talented artist at work and were amazed by the different styles of painting in the outback areas of Central Australia in comparison to the more touristy area of Alice Springs. Heritage has had many years of friendship and association with Thunderstone (Aboriginal Cultural Service) and they have often talked to our children about bush medicine. I took the opportunity to purchase a painting by artist Janet Golder Kngwarreye, which is made from bush medicine leaves and is titled Bush Yam Dreaming. I am excited to share this painting and its story with the children and to see it hanging proudly in Heritage. This painting was purchased through our fundraising money.



Access the Heritage Website with
our members password -
heccANU!



Last term we saw a number of parents join their child/ren's for our first "walk-a-thon". All three rooms had a wonderful day and although I never got to join them, it was lovely to hear about the dancing, singing, the games that were played and exploring that children, educators and parents participate in. The walk-a-thon raised \$1,355, a BIG thank you for all who supported these days. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Heritage values the learning that can happen on country and has completed many hours of "outside the fence" training with our educators. We have an in-depth risk assessment that the educators have read and discussed together and with the children, incorporating the children's voice and understanding into the risk assessment. As well as this, we have a thorough excursion and supervision policy. Both of these and the risk assessment can be found in the policy area of the member section on our website.

Despite having all this in place we had a child wander off during a recent walk. Our emergency plan was put into place and the child was located promptly. Heritage stopped all walks until we reviewed our practices. As a team we have diligently gone through our supervision policy, excursion policy and risk assessment for outings. I can assure you that our team of educators are competent and confident to resume taking the children back out to experience the learning that can be done on country.

What fun the children had wearing their Pajama's this week. Wrapping up in a warm dressing gown on a cold winters day was very welcomed by the children and the educators (maybe more by the educators). Swapping the morning fruit for vegemite toast was a nice change too. Book Day is our next celebration, so time to start talking about what book character your child might like to dress up as.

The professional room photos are ready for your viewing in the office. There is a range of purchase options and no pressure to buy any photos. However, they are well worth having a look at.

A reminder to any families that have changed their address or contact phone numbers to update the new information at the office.

Thank you,
Vicki

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chair Person
Fleur De Crespigny

Deputy Chair
Person/Human Resources
Brendan Taylor

Treasurer
Emily Hurley

Deputy Treasurer
Adrian Plumb

Secretary
Suzie Alcorn

Public Officer
Karen Ikin

Social &
Cultural/Fundraising
Grants Officer
Susan O'Reilly

Our committee meets in the Heritage staff room on the second Tuesday of each month from 5pm. All are welcome!



Bluebells Room Report

As we have wrapping up the first half of the year, we are lucky enough to have the sense of somewhat normality here at Heritage, and this is flowing over to our everyday interactions as well.

Throughout the past few month's educators developed a program which supports and encourages children to keep themselves safe by developing rituals towards maintaining a heathy body. Motor skills, self-help skills and get to know our selves and our emotions was an important approach to this program. Exploring our surroundings (forest learning), sensory activities and being helpers, supported the children to achieved their goals in a range of ways following their interests. The communication program has played a huge part throughout the months. Library visits, story times, sign language, music sessions and having one on one conversations also supported the development of communication skills through the children's abilities and desire to connect with others by exchanging ideas and feeling, both verbally and non-verbally.

Our walk-a-thon went well, our children explored the surroundings, engaged with yoga and music sessions. It was lovely to have bluebell parents join us for a walk and support us throughout the event.



We have looked at bringing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dialects with learning Acknowledgement of the country, learning body parts, counting, and singing songs. Celebrating Reconciliation week and NAIDOC week makes a huge impact on bringing back indigenous culture into our daily practices and it was nice to see educators came up with engaging activities for children to be part of the community and pay respect for the indigenous culture.

As we have reached the end of our wellbeing and communicator program, we would like to introduce our new program focus on the EYLF outcome 4: children are confident and involved learners. Through this program educators would like to give the opportunities to the children to explore inquiry-based learning with STEAM projects.

Through the next few weeks we will be sending developmental summaries to you via email. These summaries are snapshot of where your child is at in relation to the Early Years Learning Framework. We love to get parents feedback on these and feel free to have a chat with your child's focus educator.

We wanted to thank all our families for all the support you have given us through past months and look forward to enjoy the rest of the year with you.

From the Bluebells team.

Bluebells Educators

Team Leader	Eranga
Assistant TL	Titi
	Lisa
	June
	Sudeera
	Sharmi

Wattle & Grevillea Room Report

Wow, we can not believe that first half of the year has already gone by and that it is already time for our first summaries to be sent to you so you can be updated on all the wonderful things your child's being involved in in their learning journey this year. You will also be updated on your child's interest here at Heritage and their goals for the upcoming STEAM and Gulumbany (community) program that is going to be running in a room in the next couple months.

We have finalised our Empathy/Communication program, and as we reflected on it, we think it was so beneficial for our children's learning and met their needs very well. It also blended very well with all changes that happened in the toddler room in the last three months (for example: splitting the toddler room into two groups, getting to know our new team members, and establishing relationships, etc). Engaging children in different spontaneous and intentional experiences relating to our current program helped children gain the skills to understand and express their thoughts, feelings and information towards educators and between each other. Having an opportunity to express their feelings, needs and non-verbal language, learning how to recognise theirs and other people's feelings and developing empathy helped children build resilience, overcome challenges, overall becoming more self-aware to build positive relationships with peers and new educators.

We will also have a new addition to the toddler team with a new full time educator, Yuko, joining us from August. Wei will be taking part time position so she can get back to study, congratulations Wei.

We all are so excited to go ahead with this program and take your child through another learning journey while extending their interest, scaffolding their learning and meeting their needs. Making them curious learners who seek creative solutions to the real-life problems. We look forward to hearing your feedback on both of our programs via the educational summary feedback. Always open to hear any ideas and suggestions you might have and working together with you so we can support you and your child the best we can.

Thank you, Wattle/Grevillia Room



Grevillia

Wattle

Team Leader: Dragana

TL

Fatima

TL

Rocio

Yuko

Bingling

Wei/Jenny

Tomsaz

Banksia Room Report

Term two was guided by the Banksia Room's 'Our wellbeing & the wellbeing of our Gulumbany (community)' program. This took us on many learning adventures here at Heritage and out and about, as the preschoolers love to do.

We began by focusing on our own wellbeing, learning about what is best for our body in order to keep it happy and healthy. Investigating what goes into a healthy lunchbox, ensuring we are aware of others allergies, physical activity and what it does for our bodies, oral health, as well as meeting Kenny Koala who taught us about road safety and safety in the community.

We then took a major focus on the Gulumbany part of the program, beginning our research into native Australian animals and plants. We met Wiradjuri man, Adam Shipp, and he taught us about bush tucker and where around the ANU we are able to locate it. This led us on many walks in search for the plants and looking for traces of native animals. We trialled created habitats for the animals using indoor loose part materials then expanded our learning on a walk using bark, sticks and rope.

Our outdoor experiences took us on many learning journeys such as investigating ants nests, bees and their hives, and a major topic, rabbits. This was a big interest for our preschoolers, discovering why the rabbits are not good for our land, after a group time, Noah summarised what we had learnt: "did you know people from other countries bought bunnies here and they are not good for our land. They eat all of the plants and trees. When a wallaby jumps by and wants some food, they can't because it is all gone because of the bunnies".

We were lucky enough to have two excursions this term, firstly we went to Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, this was a great day out for the group who enjoyed the meeting a friendly



bandicoot, searching for platypuses, getting a surprise greeting from a swan protecting her eggs, spotting a hiding turtle and of course, playing at the adventure playground. A group of preschoolers also went for a trip to the National Arboretum, wandering around the bush tucker gardens, having morning tea looking over Canberra, discovering the pine tree forest, and having a look/play in the Arboretum and the gardens alongside it. Each group had huge days out, but there was one clear highlight from both these excursions... the mini bus! Always a winner!

What a full few months it has been, we have always had something to look forward to! We would like to say a big thank you to Titi who has come into the preschool room while Kirsty was recovering from her knee operation, we hope you've had a nice change.

Our next program happening in the room is the STEAM program which explores science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics – there is a copy of this just inside our preschool room door. We would love for parents to get involved anyway possible, so please have a chat to us if you have anything to share!

The Banksia Team

Banksia Room

Team Leader	Kirsty
Assistant TL/ECT	Ria
	Tina
	Hannah

PHOTOS NOW AVAILIABLE FOR PICK UP FROM THE OFFICE!

Please select a package and pay prior to collection:
(credit card payments accepted only – envelopes in office)

Option A: whole set - \$60

Option B: choice of any one sheet - \$30

Option E: choice of any two sheets - \$40

Option F: sibling pack - purchase 2 'whole sets – option A' for \$110 and sibling pack is free *or* chose one sibling sheet for \$25 each

Option A + Email Digital Image: \$70

Email Digital Image only: class and portrait - \$45



We will be running our very popular 'Heritage Keep Cup' fundraiser again this year! Limited number available so get in quickly!

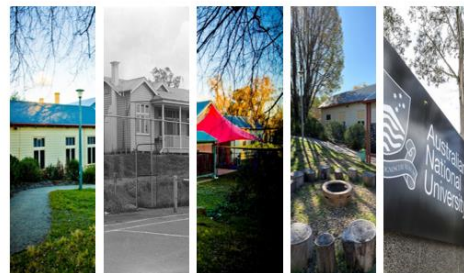
Find the sign-up sheet in the foyer to preorder yours today!

Heritage Yearbook 2020

It may be July, but we have been working hard to complete our 2020 yearbook!

We aim to get it finished up and printed as soon as possible

Preorder yours in the foyer!



Our Story

HERITAGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE
2020 YEARBOOK





Join us in the fun of **BOOK WEEK 2021!**

Come to Heritage dressed as your favourite book character for the week

Bring along a labelled book to share with your room!

Heritage T-shirt & Jumper Orders

Children's T-Shirts - \$15

Size	1	2	4	6	8	10	12	14
1/2 chest (cm)	30	32.5	35	37.5	40	42.5	45	47.5

T-shirt colours:

				
Aqua	Emerald	Gold	Hot Pink	Jade
				
Lime	Orange	Purple	Red	Royal
	Jade, royal and emerald colours <u>are not</u> available in infants size 1			
Sky				

Children's Jumpers - \$30

Size	1	2	4	6	8	10	12	14
1/2 chest (cm)	30	32.5	35	37.5	40	42.5	45	47.5

Available in:

- Royal Blue
- Pink
- Lime Green
- Purple
- Red
- Aqua Blue



Heritage T-shirts and Jumper Order Form

Family Name: _____

T-shirt	Cost \$15	Colour	Size	Quantity	Sub-total
				Total	

Jumper	Cost \$30	Colour	Size	Quantity	Sub-total
				Total	

Total payment: \$_____

Payment method - direct payment to fundraising account

EFT Details –

Heritage Fundraising Account:

BSB: 062 903

Account #: 1037 0080

Name & 'tshirt/jumper' reference

Please return form by Friday 6th of August 2021