

HERITAGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE



IN THIS ISSUE

**ABOUT HERITAGE
MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

**HERITAGE ON 9 NEWS
AND WIN NEWS**

**LEARN ABOUT
HERITAGE PROGRAMS
FROM KATIE**

**NEW ADDITIONS TO
OUR LIBRARY**

UPCOMING EVENTS

WHAT HAS CHANGED WITH COVID-19

Dear Families,

What a year we have had with fires, smoke, hail and now COVID-19. Each and every one of us - little and big - has had a tremendous amount of changes happening in our life, outside of our control and have had to work out a way to smile through it all.

What we have here at Heritage is special. Our community - our educators, our families, our children - it just has this special aura about it. I am so proud to be a part of this collective and know, because of the strength of this community, we will get through whatever we have to and get to the other side.

There is a lot of good that will come out of what's happening around the world at the moment; like the way people, neighbourhoods and communities pull together to help one another. However, there is also much sadness, pain and unprecedented change to the way we normally do things and we just have to make the best we can of new situations. I try to remain forever an optimist, but this week was the hardest in my professional life, that is for sure.

As of Monday 6th April 2020 - how we used to operate no longer exists. The way we invoice, use software, record absences, etc all changed. A whole new system came into play. There is no longer Child Care Subsidy (CCS), no hours based on activity tests, no gap payments for parents to make.

All direct debits for accounts up to date have been stopped. For those who have a debt outstanding - this will continue for you until the account is up to date. Salary sacrifice is now put on hold. This will remain in place until the government informs us otherwise.

What this means for you?

Everything up until Sunday 5th April 2020 will remain how it was. The final week is processed and that's it - done (forever or just a little while I don't know?) You will no longer be charged a fee for childcare.

What does that mean for us?

The Government has stopped us from receiving revenue the way we were previously and told every service that they will receive 50% of their CCS base rate fee of \$11.98 per hour for the total number of children they had enrolled at a certain point of time in February. We will then receive this amount each week.

Receiving this low hourly amount automatically gives Heritage access to the new Job Keeper payment of \$1500 a fortnight, per eligible staff member. Heritage will still have to top up wages and pay super/long service leave. Running cost of the centre does not go on hold either and based on our calculations Heritage stands to lose \$120,000 this year if these conditions go through to September. Heritage has built up a highly skilled team of educators over the years and will strive to keep all full-time educators employed. We have had to let our regular and well-loved casuals go but hope to be able to reemploy them once this is all over. I know I work with an incredible team and I'm sure our families will stand with us to ensure they continue to have secure employment. I am so proud of the way they have strived to keep up our education standards and foster our communities' sense of belonging through this uncertain time.

Coronavirus Australia app

Stay up to date with official information and advice about the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. You can check your symptoms and get notified when urgent information and updates are published.



Australian Government
Department of Health

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/>

Protect yourself and others from getting sick

Wash your hands



- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste



HANDWASING PROCEDURE

Heritage will continue to run our fund-raising events during the year, so I really hope you can support these happenings.

Children attending

I ask that those who have had your children at home through this health emergency over the past few weeks continue to do so (if possible) - so that we can maintain the physical distancing measures we have tried to put into place at the service and the lower attendance at this time assists with this. However, I believe the service is the second safest place they can be outside of the home. Call me if you need help in making this decision. Your mental health is important so please reach out to ask for help if you need it.

I have to say I miss the buzz of 57 children here each day though - I cannot wait for the day when we are all back to this and our children can run freely, laughing and playing together.

Stay healthy
Vicki McDonald

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

In March we held the Annual General Meeting of our Management Committee. We farewelled our Chair Bec Doolan and secretary Danielle Venn. The new chairperson of the committee is **Fleur de Crespigny**, who has been involved on the Heritage Committee for at least 6 years or more over a 10 year period. We also welcomed a few new parents to the committee. Fleur and the rest of the management committee are meeting regularly to discuss the COVID-19 situation and its implications for Heritage and together we are doing our best to ensure Heritage comes through this in as good a shape as possible.

HERITAGE ON AIR



Heritage had media attention as we made swift changes regarding the children’s learning, which supports families who stay at home. We took a chance to highlight the challenges that the childcare sector are facing.

Watch Videos <https://www.facebook.com/9NewsCanberra/videos/906885639748691>
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=144316840355349>

The Chairperson

Fleur de Crespigny

contact via email
fleurdecrespigny@gmail.com

Deputy Chairperson

Brendan Taylor

Treasurer

Emily Hurley

Deputy Treasurer

Adrian Plumb

Secretary

Suzie Alcorn

Public Officer

Katherine Carroll

Human Resources

Jeanette Bruce

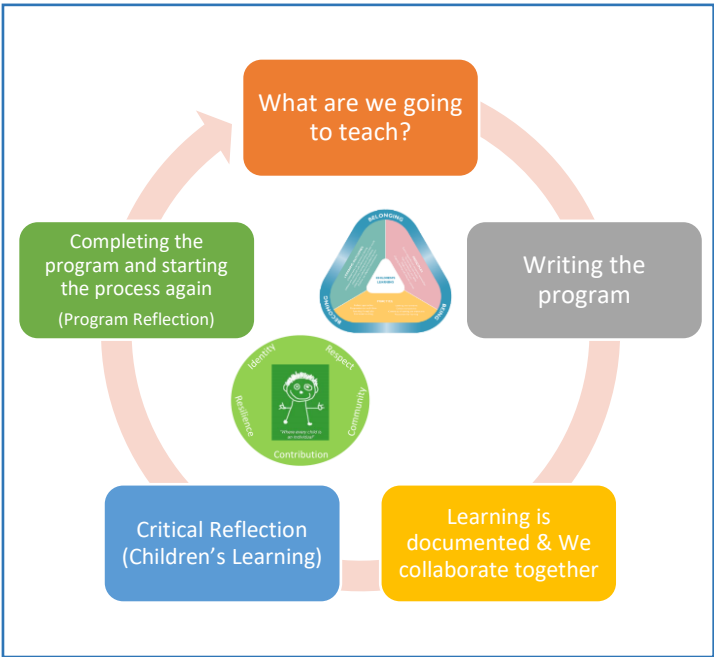
Social, Cultural and Fundraising officer

Stevie Wright

Grant Officer

Susan O'Reilly

You are welcome to join our committee meeting on second Tuesday of every month at staff room or via ZOOM (currently). Let Vicki know if you’d like to join the conversation.



HERITAGE PROGRAM CYCLE

HOW LEARNING HAPPENS

Hello to all,

First of all, thank you so much to all of the families for their support during this time. I'd like to acknowledge that everyone is dealing with these world events in different ways. I hope that we can continue to support your family and your child/children's learning during this time. Our aims going forward have included: To provide a sense of normalcy, keep nurturing our relationships with children, learn, innovate, adapt and stay positive.

With these goals there have definitely been a few big changes to our usual routines here at Heritage and our teams have been so busy adapting (and innovating) with the new Google Classroom App. We hope you are enjoying the daily flow/routine suggestions and videos. If you haven't had a chance to join us yet or you're unsure how it works you are welcome to call or send us an email. Your feedback and sharing what you've been doing is so important, each time we see feedback or a photo it is one of the highlights of our day. We are tweaking the delivery of our Google Classroom learning as we go along, so your feedback is essential to tailor this process to our community's needs.

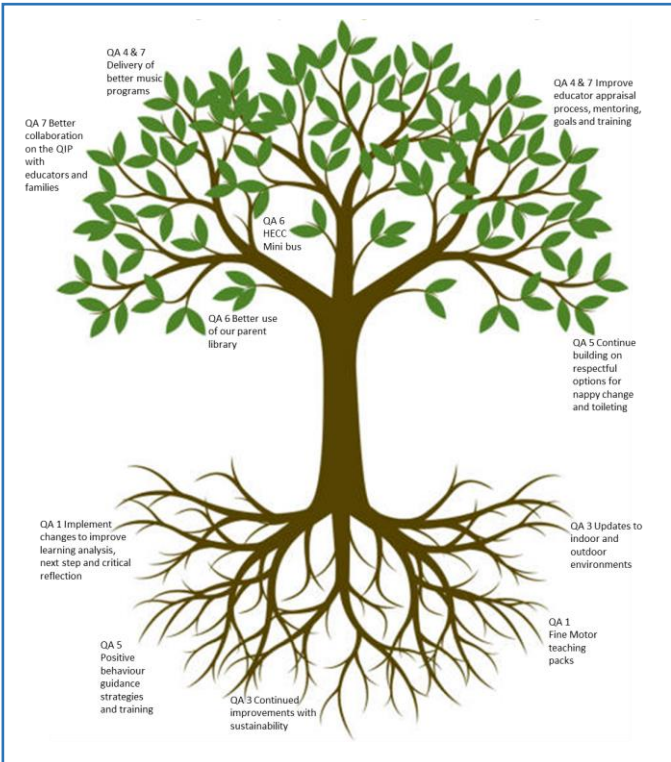
March was also meant to be the month where we catch up face to face at the Meet and Greet and parent

teacher interview. Because both of these were unable to go ahead in the usual way, we have attached information about our planning cycle, Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). Many parents did not get the time to catch up for an interview, but we are still keen to communicate how your child went with our transition programs and form future goals for your child.

Additionally, it is still important for us to be recording observations for your child and there are a few ways we will be doing this even if your child is at home. So this week, you will receive a short summary via email with additional information about our goals and next programs. Firstly, we would love to know anything else you are working on at home (to add to your child's goals). Secondly, message us pictures/short stories about what your child is doing (could be spontaneous or related to Google Classroom). Thirdly, your child's focus educator will also contact you with a few questions via email. We can't wait to hear from you!

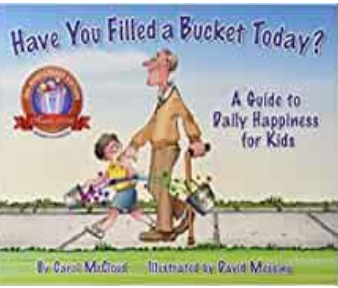
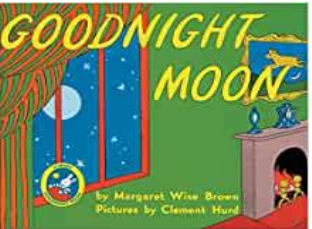
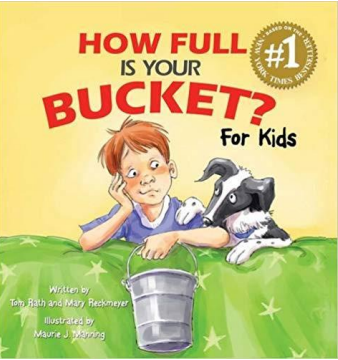
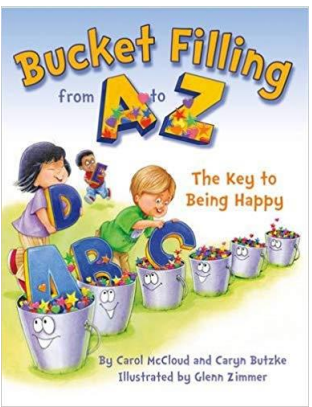
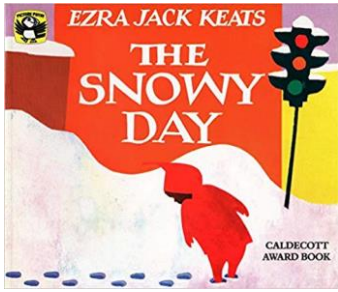
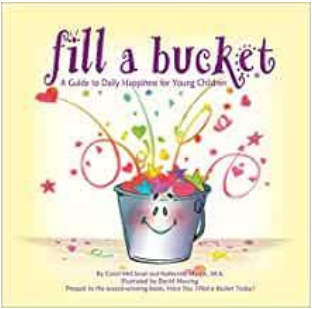
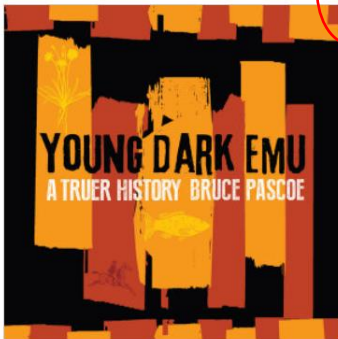
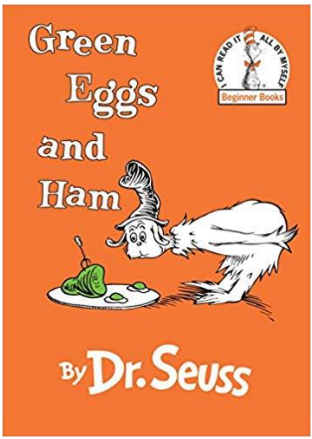
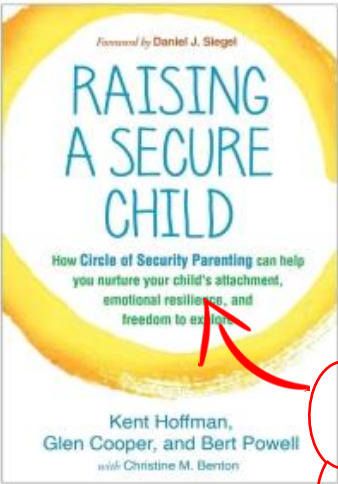
We hope you all stay healthy and sane and if there is anything we can do to support you during this time please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thankyou.
Katie



HERITAGE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

NEW ADDITIONS TO THE HERITAGE LIBRARY



**PARENTS
AND
EDUCATORS
RESOURCES**

THE GUIDANCE APPROACH TO PARENTING
PARENTAL GUIDANCE RECOMMENDED

This book replaces the popular Children are people too. Written for parents, it explains that although we often share the same values of the guidance approach, we end up instead using the controlling practices of rewards and punishments. This is mainly because we ourselves were raised that way, and because we get into a dance with our spirited children of coercion on our part and rebellion on theirs. However, the more we try to control these spirited children, the worse their behaviour gets. The book will help parents to prevent behavioural problems in children, support children who are distressed, be assertive when our own needs are not being met, and solve problems collaboratively. It also offers ways to solve persistent behavioural problems and reminds us to be compassionate towards ourselves.

This book is intended to accompany Parental guidance recommended and give parents activities and exercises to practise guidance skills, such as acknowledging rather than praising children, listening to children, being assertive and solving problems collaboratively. It also gives some activities for looking after ourselves.

UPCOMING EVENTS


**BOOTCAMP WITH
ALICIA**
VIRTUAL ART NIGHT
**HERITAGE
OLYMPICS**
**VIRTUAL DISCO
PARTY**

Exercise with a qualified trainer every Wednesday. You will be able to get feedback through real time interaction (ZOOM).

We are collecting parents' interest at the moment. So stay tuned.

This year we would like to do our Art Night a bit differently, but we still want to encourage families to creatively explore and experience art together.

Get ready to be inspired to create! Educators will send you ideas to try at home. Send us photos of the process and the result.

Let's make a torch (relay). We will give you a challenge every week, and you send us a video or a photo how you pull this off at home.

This will be an ongoing program that Heritage and Families can work on together.

We don't want to miss fun as a Heritage Community. We would like to organise a virtual Disco Party with families. You still can dress up, request songs before, and join our Disco!

COMING SOON
IN JUNE
COMING SOON
EVERY MONTH

"WE CAN'T CONTROL EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS, BUT WE CAN CHANGE OUR EXPERIENCE OF THOSE THINGS."

VIRTUAL ART NIGHT 2020



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT HERITAGE DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

This beautiful artwork will be our main feature of fundraising for 2020. It was created by all Heritage children including pre-schoolers, toddlers and babies. We will put out this art work as our main raffle to be drawn at our VIRTUAL ART NIGHT. Each time you make donation to Heritage into the fundraisings account, you will receive a raffle ticket (\$20 = 1 ticket). Friends and family members are welcome to purchase raffle tickets too!

Please send us photos of your child's artwork to each room via email. Each room will create their own art gallery where families can visit through our Google Classroom. We would like to see your child's art (including the process/mess), so please take photos during their art exploration and share with us.

You can send photos from now on and make donations too!
(You will receive a raffle ticket/s with your donation)

HERITAGE FUNDRAISINGS ACCOUNT BSB: 062 903 / ACC: 10370080