



Next week we say goodbye to Rufus from Monday Treefrog group whose family is moving away from the area.

Rufus' parents, Jess and Marty have been very involved in Alstonville Community Preschool, from the time they arrived in Alstonville when the preschool was very new in this location. Jess has been a member of our Management Committee for a number of years, serving as both Public Officer and then President until April 2021, and Marty developed and presented a Governance training package for us to use for new Management Committees. Both of them have advocated heavily for our preschool over this time, and for our Camphor Laurel tree when it really mattered, and have made such a difference to what this preschool is now.

We will be very sorry to see them go, wish them all the very best and thank them for all of their time and efforts given to our preschool.

SICK CHILDREN

We have had children attending preschool recently whilst they have family members at home isolating with Covid 19. Whilst this might be what is generally accepted in public areas now, our staff and Management Committee are trying to ensure that our staff can stay well so that the preschool can remain open. Recently we had to restrict attendance in some groups for this reason. Preschool is a high-risk environment, with most of our children unvaccinated, therefore the possibility of Covid or Influenza A transmission is very high. We continue to ask families who are unwell, with Covid or other contagious illnesses to remain at home.

If children arrive at preschool unwell, there is a high chance they will be sent home

As per the preschools' Covid Management policy, if anyone in your house has a positive Covid result, both you and your children are considered close contacts and are not able to attend preschool for 7 days from the date of the positive test.

You are also required to let us know if your child has been at preschool and then tested positive for Covid 19 within the following 48 hours by phone 66280822 or at info@alstonvillepreschool.com.au, as we are required to notify this to authorities.

Do you or someone you know sew?

We have quite a bit of blue lycra that we would like to have sewn up into some stretchy rest time sleeping bags, basically like a pillow case.

If you can help please see Narelle or Naomi 😊

Thanks everyone for remembering to pick up your children's food containers from the fridge each day. This is more cost effective in saving food for later, and much more time effective for staff.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Preschool OPEN DAY has been postponed and will now be held on Sunday 28th August. This is a lovely morning for current and new families with face-painting, music, cakes, coffee and performances by the children.

More details later.....hopefully by then the rain will have stopped and our playground had time to dry out, and all repairs completed.

Good hygiene practices are a much needed skill for preschool aged children, and we are finding that there are quite a few children who aren't able to blow their own nose effectively, or use appropriate strategies to cover their coughs.

Recently, the Itinerant Support Teacher (Hearing) from the Department of Education visited preschool to talk with the Tuesday children about nose blowing, and **the importance of ear health and conductive hearing loss**. I have attached an information sheet to this newsletter for all interested families, who, with the current cold and flu season in full swing, along with Covid, might find this helpful

We had very few responses to our Family Communication survey after the last newsletter and have now made the decision not to use the Parent Portal on the website as a weekly communication tool for families.

We are currently looking at alternatives for family communication and until then please check the ACP Family Facebook page and the daily floorbooks for program information.

A SAFETY note

Most afternoons and early mornings you will see the **PLAYGROUND CLOSED** signs out. This is due to safety concerns for toddlers and older siblings who may use the playground unsupervised during these times, and also to ensure the preschool outdoor area is ready for preschool children to use.

In the mornings before 8.30am, staff take time to set up special activity areas and experiences for the day on the deck and outdoors, which toddlers often disrupt before the preschool children are able to enjoy them. Again in the afternoons, quite a bit of tidying of equipment and areas takes place before 3.00pm, so that the outdoor area is ready for the following day.

Thankyou for keeping your toddlers and older children close by you at drop off and pickup times. 😊

The new Preschool Management Committee for 2022

We were finally able to hold our Annual General Meeting recently, and a full new Management Committee was elected for the upcoming 12 months.

They are:	<u>President</u>	Jane Mackenzie Hollows	(Mon/Tues group)
	<u>Vice President</u>	Claire Johnston	(MW Gumnuts group)
	<u>Secretary</u>	Anthea Payne	(Community member)
	<u>Treasurer</u>	Meg Pickford	(Mon/Tues group)
	<u>Ordinary Members</u>		
		Nicola Buster	(Th F Treefrog group)
		Alison Punch	(Th F Lilli Pilli group)
		Laura Applecamp	(TW Lilli Pilli group)
		Leah Wood	(TW Lilli Pilli group)
		Anna Nesbitt	(MT Treefrog group)

A very big thankyou goes to retiring Committee members – John Wiley and Kirby Johnston

At this meeting the revised Preschool Constitution was passed.

This task was very much assisted by the generous time and advice given by **Parker Kissane Solicitors, Lismore**. Thank you to their team

PLEASE READ WHAT OUR TAFE Student Megumi is planning over the next few weeks and help out if you can.

The Market Stall

My name is Megumi and I am currently studying the Diploma of Early Childhood Education & Care at TAFE NSW.

Thank you for having me and making me feel welcome at Alstonville community preschool. It is wonderful to see all the ways children and educators care for the environment, explore nature and care for the community. I would like to further explore sustainability practices for children by making a new market stall sign board with recycled materials.



During this experience children will respect food and reconnect with food. Reducing food waste is essential in a world where millions of people go hungry every day.

Please take what you would like from the market stall and please add to the stall with excess produce from home such as vegetables, fruits, eggs, herbs, plants, flowers, seeds, seedings etc. if and when you can. Surplus produce can be shared, not thrown away.

Sharing is caring.



Little changes to our daily habits can make a huge global impact.
Let's take action. For the people and for the planet.

I will be implementing this experience 14th Jun 2022. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the experience more please feel free to come and chat with me.

Things for sale that have been donated or we don't need at preschool any longer.

All funds raised will go to the Northern Rivers Preschool Alliance Gofund me page for flood affected community preschools.



BYRON BEACH TENT – these retail at \$185.00.

Selling one that we had at the preschool previously and has barely been used - \$75



DOLL HOUSE (kidcraft) - \$80

With furniture, good condition.

This was donated by one of last years' families.