

## Tanya's AGM Report for 2017

It is with great pleasure that I provide you with this report and a recount of what was a very successful and satisfying 2017.

I was privileged to be the Educator in charge of the 'Suns' group, working on Tuesday afternoons, Wednesdays and Thursday's with two highly skilled and capable Co-Educators alongside me; Janine Whitelock and Jenny Hardman. We had a great year in terms of assisting our 28 children to not only develop the skills, abilities and independence necessary to prepare them for the introduction to their formal schooling; but skills that will hopefully carry on and enable them to become successful life- long learners.

We had a certificate III in Children's Service student 'Molly Henderson' join us on Wednesday's from April to October.

I am presenting my report in a slightly different format, each letter of the alphabet will correspond to an aspect to the program we facilitated.

A. We went on excursions to 'Allawah' Dementia Ward/Hostel and participated in activities with the more capable residents. We sang, we danced, we shared afternoon teas and we dressed up for Halloween with them.

B. I organised a 'Building Skills for Life' Presentation with four keynote speakers to educate and inform parents and interested bodies in warning signs, strategies and information on dealing with concerns relating to their health, diet and nutrition, speech development and Occupational Therapy.

C. We had excursions and/or incursions with our local Community Workers – Police, Fire, Ambulance and SES.

D. 'Dynamic' relationships that were created in our room

E. We participated in our communities 'ELF Day (Early Literacy) we all dressed up for a morning spent in Belmore St and surrounds visiting shops and the hospital to listen to stories and become engaged in a whole community event.

We also had the excitement of hosting Elf on a Shelf for the month of December, so much fun!!!!

F. We practiced fire drills and talked about being fire safe. Some drills involved evacuating the building, taking cover, lock downs and lock ins.

G. We visited both the local 'Gyms' Focus and Priority. The trainers put us through our paces and we loved it!!!!

H. We had an Egg 'Hunt' after the Easter Bunny paid us a visit ☺

I. We borrowed an incubator and ten fertilised eggs from one of our families. We hatched seven chickens, our children were able to witness first hand two of them hatching whilst we were at Preschool.

J. Jenny from Yarrawonga Community Health visited us numerous time throughout the year to promote Oral Health and Healthy Food choices.

K. Our very first excursion was a walk to and a play at 'Kennedy Park.'

L. We went to the Town Library, we met Edie the Librarian

M. We went across the foyer to the 'Maternal Health Centre' in terms one and four to be weighed and measured by the nurse. It was amazing to see the growth over the year.

N. 'Nothing' short of fun filled and amazing. We always bring our best 😊

O. Open- door policy, we had at least one Parent Helper come and visit us in the yellow room every session. Wonderful participation from our supportive families.

P. We introduced 'Playball' into our program, every week for six weeks. An absolute highlight for our group!

Q. Represents the 'quirky' personalities of our team and our children 😊

R. The 'Responsible Pet Program' visited us again this year, reinforcing how to approach dogs safely. Instilling in us "No owner, no lead, no touch!"

S. Sustainability became a big factor within our centre and we began implementing changes to improve and build on what we had previously been doing.

T. We went to 'Traffic School' in Wangaratta on the bus. We learnt so much in a short time that half our children needed a nap on the way back to Preschool.

U. We had an 'unbelievable' year, our children thrived and flourished

V. We had so many 'visitors' throughout the year, parents, pets, and people with skills/talents. We were extremely fortunate with the opportunities our children were exposed to

W. Woodwork was really popular and our children were keen to extend their interest and skills as the year progressed

X. EXuberant relationships within our room, this extended beyond our children to their families as well

Y. Staff from the Yarrawonga 'YMCA' came and spoke to us about being safe around water, especially pools, rivers and the lake.

Z. 'Zolubrious' Our suns children putting their stamp on the world, the skies the limit!!!

I'd like to thank my team for their incredible dedication and for always giving it their all, I'd like to thank the Committee who work tirelessly for us and our centre as volunteers. The amount of work performed by these ladies is an absolute testament to them. Last but not least thankyou to the GRPSA ladies for the massive and never ending work that goes into making our centre what it is. Thanks for your support, understanding and assistance, it's all greatly appreciated.

Thank you one and all, here's to a fulfilling and fabulous 2018.

Tanya Fraser

Yarrawonga Preschool