



Hunter Mobile Preschool

September 2017
Newsletter



Our Service is Expanding!!!

We are very close to completing the very long drawn out process to start Outside School Hours Care at Gresford School. We have employed a new staff member to run this program, and will continue to work to get this ready for operation during the last term of this year. If you have children at Gresford School, and are interested in using the service, please email our office on hactivityvan@bigpond.com

Congewai Harvest Festival

On Sunday 10th September, staff held a preschool information stall at the Congewai Harvest Festival. We promoted our venues that operate within the Cessnock area. We also provided activities for the children on the day, and handed out promotional material, which included balloons, bags of playdough, and flyers.

Next Committee Meeting

The next Management Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th October at 10am at our base, 3/5 Anlaby Street Maitland.

Children are welcome and morning tea is supplied. If you are coming to the meeting, we will have the garage door to our building open, to offer some parking in the van bay.



Term 3 finishes Friday 22nd September

The school holiday break is for two weeks, incorporating the October long weekend

Term 4 starts Monday 9th October

Preschool Photos

Preschool photos will be taken at the venues on the following dates. More info will come out to preschool next term.

Vacy - Monday 30th October
Gresford - Tuesday 31st October
Lochinvar - Wednesday 1st November
Wollombi - Thursday 2nd November
Millfield - Friday 3rd November
Gillieston Heights - Tuesday 7th November



Toy orders

A reminder that toy orders are due by Friday 22nd September. Your support allows our preschool to purchase equipment with the points gained from the money spent by our families.



To date, we have collected **4200** stickers. Thank you to everyone who has supported our preschool by donating their stickers!!!! We are able to use the points to get toys for use at preschool.

2018 Enrolments

Over the past few weeks, staff have provided a page for you to nominate your plans for next year. At the beginning of next term, the enrolments for next year will start to be organised. If you have completed the form for your child who is currently enrolled, they will be appointed their days of choice first, and then the children on the waiting lists will be offered a position.

If you have a child, or know of a child who would be eligible for preschool next year, please complete a pre-enrolment form so we have their information. You can get one from the staff at your venue, or they are available on the website www.huntermobilepreschool.com.au

Every child who enrolls from the beginning of 2018 must be fully immunised, unless they have a medical exemption form that has been completed by their Doctor as per the NSW Vaccination enrolment requirements.

Our enrolment process will be stricter, as we will need to physically have a copy of their immunisation history (for our records), and their completed enrolment form before they are able to stay.

NSW Vaccination Enrolment Requirements from 1 January 2018

On 14 September 2017 Parliament passed an amendment to the Public Health Act 2010 to strengthen vaccination requirements in early childhood education and care services.

The changes mean that from 1 January 2018:

- children who are unvaccinated due to their parent's conscientious objection will no longer be able to be enrolled in ECECS
- it will be an offence (with a penalty of 50 penalty units) for an approved provider to fail to comply with the ECECS vaccination enrolment requirements in section 87
- it will be an offence (with a penalty of 50 penalty units) for a person to forge or falsify a certificate that is required to be provided under these requirements
- the temporary exemption (for 12 weeks after enrolment) will be extended to Aboriginal children and those in out of home care.

Children who are already enrolled in ECECS before 1 January 2018 will be unaffected by the changes.

Updated advice about these changes is available on the NSW Health website.

NSW Health will also be developing an updated parent brochure and toolkit for ECECS that will be made available on the NSW Health website and distributed directly to ECECS in the coming 1-2 months. NSW Health is working with the Department of Education so that these new requirements are incorporated as part of routine regulatory activities.

Sourced from:  **Amplify!**
(An Early Childhood Newsletter).

Sickness & Medication

There has been a lot of sickness at preschool over the last couple of months. More and more families are having to rely on a variety of medications to deal with this.

We need to give all families a reminder about our medication policy, which states that '[Any medication must be in the original bottle bearing name and dosage.](#)'

We are governed by [Children \(Education & Care\) Services Supplementary Regulations 2012](#). The following is the information we are required to follow, so we do not breach our licence and risk closure.

81 Medication

- (1) The approved provider of an education and care service must ensure that:
 - (a) a policy is developed and maintained concerning the administration of medication to children, and
 - (b) procedures to implement that policy are developed and observed.

- (2) The nominated supervisor of an education and care service must ensure that:
 - (a) medication is not administered to a child being provided with the service without written authorisation or authority from a parent of the child, and
 - (b) medication is administered from the container in which it was originally packaged, being (in the case of a prescription medicine) a container that is labelled with the child's name, the prescribed dosage and the medicine's use by date, and
 - (c) if it is necessary in an emergency to administer medication to a child that is being provided with the service without the prior consent of the child's parent, every attempt is made to secure that consent.

Hunter Mobile Preschool Staff

Sarah, Leanne, Jacque, Paula, Alex, Jennifer & Liz

Fun Fact ☺

On average, a four year old child asks 437 questions a day.

There are four simple steps to get ready for a bush fire:



DISCUSS

STEP 1

DISCUSS WHAT TO DO IF A BUSH FIRE THREATENS YOUR HOME



PREPARE

STEP 2

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND GET IT READY FOR BUSH FIRE SEASON



KNOW

STEP 3

KNOW THE BUSH FIRE ALERT LEVELS



KEEP

STEP 4

KEEP ALL THE BUSH FIRE INFORMATION NUMBERS, WEBSITES AND THE SMARTPHONE APP

Get the easy guide to making your bush fire survival plan at

www.myfireplan.com.au

Do you have a **BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN?** **FREE** **GET READY**

BUSHFIRE SAFETY INFORMATION SESSION

Sunday LAGUNA HALL
24 September
10.00am – 11.30am

Learn the basics of **how to prepare** and what to do in the event of bushfire – **LEAVE EARLY** or **STAY and DEFEND**. It could save your life.

All Welcome - no booking required to attend

BUSHFIRE SAFETY SURVIVAL PLAN WORKSHOP

Saturday
14 October
9.00am – 3.30pm

Wollombi Fire Station
2810 Wollombi Rd Wollombi

Do you know how to decide to **LEAVE EARLY** or **STAY and DEFEND** in the event of a bushfire? Do you have a **BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN**? The workshop will guide participants in the preparation of a **personalised BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN** as well as provide the opportunity to learn practical bushfire preparation and protection skills.

Booking Required to attend - please email brigade@wollombibushfire.org.au