



# Jungle ZOO

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

# Newsletter

A message from Emma

Hi Families!

What a busy few months it has been at Jungle Zoo. I can't believe how much we have already accomplished in only a short time! All our little people have settled into their rooms so well and building strong connections with their educators and friends. We have already started our journey of building connections in our local community. The children have visited the library on an excursion and they have come to the centre to undertake a story time with some of the classes. The fire brigade visit was popular with the children, they loved seeing the fire truck, and Jungland were lucky enough to have a turn at spraying the fire hose. Our Father's Day breakfast was an absolute hit, and we are looking forward to the Grandparents high tea at the end of the month! The rooms are developing and planning a high-quality curriculum with lots of fun activities that build on children's strengths, skills and learning outcomes. We are always encouraging families for their feedback to help us improve, so any suggestions or ideas are welcomed. If any families would like to come into the centre and help participate in any events or activities, you are more than welcome to do so. It may just be to come in and read a story or do some craft with the children! We would love your involvement. Please come and see myself or Kelly to arrange this. This is only the beginning of all the fun to be had here at Jungle Zoo, and we have plenty more planned for the future! I would like to thank everyone for all your support, I cannot be more grateful, to our families who have supported us from day one, to the children who have developed so many positive relationships with us and also a big thank you to our amazing educators who have worked tirelessly from before opening to create a wonderful service. We couldn't have achieved this much without you all!



# 2023 Enrolment

We are currently enrolling for 2023 so please ensure that you complete the re-enrolment link on OWINA or you can grab a form at the office and return ASAP. Working with re-enrolments is a HUGE job and although we try and accommodate as many families requests as best as we can, this may not always be possible. We ask that you please be patient with us. We aim to confirm 2023 enrolments by the end of the month. If you have requested days for 2023 that you are no longer needing, please let the office know ASAP.



With week 1 being a huge success we all couldn't wait to see what week 2 had in stall.

Week 2 of our vacation program involved an excursion to the library, waterpark and colour run, cupcake decorating day, a walk to the local park, and a disco to celebrate the last day of the program. The children were so excited to go to the library, there was chatter amongst the children about whether or not they had gone to the library before and discussions of all the places they had gone as we drove through town. The younger children participated in readings and activities lead by Ms. Anita the Librarian whilst the older children spent their time exploring all the library had to offer and all the amazing resources.

Our colour run and waterpark day saw rainbows of colours through the waterpark as the children screamed with excitement while soaked with the colours of powder paint. Everyone had so much fun and after got to cool down with a nice cold lcey pole.

The children really enjoyed decorating their cupcakes. Although we had printed inspiration of cupcake ideas, the children were more interested in piling on as many sweets and lollies onto their cupcakes without them falling off.

Our walk to the local park was great fun. The children used their listening skills and followed instructions while we pointed out all the wildlife we saw along the way. At the park the children knew the boundaries and were beautifully behaved. They challenged themselves by using the different types of climbing frames to get to the slide. The children lined up eagerly waiting for their turn on the rope swing and showed us the cool tricks they can do. They all had so much fun and enjoyed walking to the park through the bush with their friends and educators. To end the 2 weeks celebration Jungle Zoo held a disco for the children. They had so much fun as they jumped around, dancing to their favourite songs, showing off their best moves.

We have loved having the Vacation Care children with us these school holidays and wish them all the best with term 4. We can not wait to have you all back at Jungle Zoo for the Christmas school Holidays!

-The OSHC and Jungleland Team.



# Zoosh

September has been a busy month for our OSHC children here at Jungle Zoo.

We celebrated our first ever vacation program which was a hit among the children.

Week 1 we did rock painting and tie dye, bike and scooter day, waterpark and sausage sizzle, and movie day with popcorn.

The children loved everything week one had to offer, especially the bike and scooter day as well as the water park day. Children brought their bikes and scooters from home to ride in the Jungle Zoo carpark.

The children enjoyed showing off their cool tricks they had learnt to their peers and educators.

They followed instructions and were cautious of road safety. Our first waterpark day was another success! We are so lucky here at Jungle Zoo to have our very own water park. the children put on their swimmers and were ready to go. They were so excited to get involve and use everything the waterpark had to offer. There was screams of joy as the children went down the slide and ran through the running water. we even saw some children relaxing and soaking up the sun.

# OSHC

**Will your child need out of school hours care for next year?**

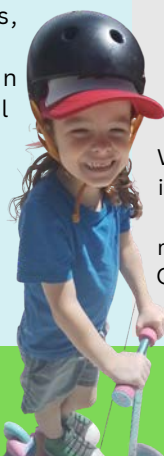
Consider in advance how you will manage your family's routine and work arrangements during the school term. If you will need out of school hours care, Jungle Zoo can offer after school care for children attending Cannonvale State School. We have an arrangement with the Whitsunday Transit School bus service for them to drop the children off at the front of Jungle Zoo straight through the car park. An educator will wait for the children at the front of the Service and take them through to the playground to begin their afternoon session.

It's good to discuss these new arrangements and routines with your child in advanced and inform their teacher of their arrangements.

## Overdue fees:

As the year is coming to an end, and we have lots of children heading off to big school next year, we ask that you please ensure your account is paid up to date by the end of the year. If you need to make a payment plan, please speak to Amy about this. Overdue accounts that are not paid by the end of 2022 may jeopardize enrollment for 2023.

We ask that all families ensure that their child's immunization status is updated at the office as soon as possible. This is an essential requirement of enrollment and claiming of Child Care Subsidy. We can only accept the Medicare Immunization Statement as proof.





# Upcoming Events



**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS – OCTOBER 1**  
Farmland will be embracing this special day and making connections with our community by writing to the residents of Proserpine nursing home, brightening up their day with letters, pictures and photos.

**Monday 17th – Friday 23rd – National Water Awareness Week.**

**Friday 21st – Loud Shirt Day** – Wear your loudest and craziest shirt, and bring along a gold coin donation to raise money for children with hearing impairments.

**Monday 22nd – Friday 30th – National Children's Week**  
An event to celebrate the rights of children to enjoy childhood and for the wider community to rejoice in their talents, skills and abilities

**Thursday 27th – Grandparents High Tea.**

**Monday 31st – Halloween dress up day.**

## Woodland

Hello Woodland families,

What a great couple of months it has been getting to know each child and their families. The way the children have settled in is fantastic, and the way they have started to open up and build with relationships with the educators and the other children in the room. The children have become so confident in everything they do. They have developed strong trust with their educators and independent to express and communicate their needs with their educators and peers.

We have been very busy creating lots of masterpieces, as you may have seen displayed in the room. From paintings to gluing and sticking. There has been lots of fun had. The children love to get messy with the playdough and shaving cream experiences we have been doing. We have learnt our shapes, colours and have been learning all our friends' names. The big winner in our room is bubbles, the children love the bubbles, it helps them settle into the room very well.

We have just started to learn about our native animals in Australia, we are so excited to see the children develop and learn lots more in the coming weeks.

Grace, Bek, Cat, Lilly, Jade & Nicole



### PRETEND PLAY

Young children learn by imagining and doing. Have you ever watched your child pick up a stone and pretend it is a zooming car, or hop a Lego across the table as if it were a person or a bunny? Your child is using an object to represent something else while giving it action and motion. But this pretend play is not as simple as it may seem. The process of pretending builds skills in many essential developmental areas.

**Language Skills** - Pretend play helps your child understand the power of language. In addition, by pretend playing with others, he learns that words give him the means to re-enact a story or organize play. This process helps your child to make the connection between spoken and written language – a skill that will later help him learn to read.

**Social and Emotional Skills** - Through cooperative play, he learns how to take turns, share responsibility, and creatively problem-solve. When your child pretends to be different characters, he has the experience of "walking in someone else's shoes," which helps teach the important moral development skill of empathy.

**Thinking Skills** - Pretend play provides your child with a variety of problems to solve. Whether it's two children wanting to play the same role or searching for the just right material to make a roof for the playhouse, your child calls upon important cognitive thinking skills that he will use in every aspect of his life, now and forever.

**Nurturing the Imagination** - Let them lead - When you pretend-play with kids, try not to guide them. If they ask you for help or for ideas, you can suggest prompts. But as a general rule, let your child take the lead and figure out what and how you'll play.





# Dreamland

Hello from the Dreamland room,  
Wow! What an exciting few months it has been. The strong and trusting relationships the children have built in the room with their educators and peers are absolutely amazing.

Relationship building is central to children's learning experiences. Once these foundations have been formed, it is a wonderful experience for children to open up the world of relationships. We are so proud of the bonds that have been formed and how well the children are progressing with settling into the Dreamland room.

We have been incorporating diversity into our interactions with the children and families. One of the most important aspects of new relationships is the exposure children have to different ways of being and doing. Ensuring we have been taking the time to have those one on one conversations with families about their practices at home and how we can introduce and welcome that comfort and practices into the Dreamland Room to support the settling in process.

The children's interests are being followed in the room and incorporated in our weekly program. These interest's include: sensory activities, water play, arts, and craft, participating in music activities and much more. Following these interests that the children have, allow the children to learn more effectively when adults engage them in everyday activities. The children's voices and opinion's are being heard and included in our weekly program.

Following on from how much the children love to participate in arts and craft, you may have noticed that our room is looking lovely and bright with all of the children's art pieces being displayed. In the room we have the children's art folders which is accessible to each family. This art folder will be your child's end of year portfolio which we are working very hard on piecing together for the end of year to take home. So please when you have a spare moment upon pick up or drop off have a look at your child's art folder and celebrate with them their beautiful art work pieces.

Following on from waterplay and sensory exploration. We have been sharing plenty of photo's and observations on the children's planned experiences with waterplay and sensory exploration. In the next following weeks we will be focusing a lot on our play in the outdoor environment with plenty of water play as the weather heats up. Lots of picnics, health and hygiene practices as well as lots of planned and educational activities for the children.

We really appreciate family input and family feedback. Please feel welcome to voice your opinion's and idea's for our weekly programs. If you have anything in particular that you would like us to focus on or incorporate in our everyday learning please come and have a conversation with either Miss Jordan or Miss Mackenzie and we can work on including your ideas in our weekly program.

As the weather is warming up can we please ask that parents are packing a few spare changes of clothing, water bottles and hats. If you haven't already also please send through or bring in a picture of your family for our family tree displayed in the room.

Thankyou all for being so supportive, welcoming and for making our first few month's in Dreamland so successful and fun. We are super excited to see where the next few months take us.

Miss Mackenzie, Miss Jordan & Miss Angel



## Community Events

**Nanny McPhee and  
The Man from Snowy  
River: Airlie Foreshore  
Movie Screen**

A night under the stars at  
the Airlie Beach  
Foreshore Movie Screen

**Shrek: Airlie Beach  
Foreshore Movie  
Screen**

A night under the stars at  
the Airlie Beach  
Foreshore Movie Screen

**14th October 2022**  
Location  
**Airlie Beach Foreshore**  
Cost  
**Free**  
Time  
**18:00 - 20:30**

**11th November 2022**  
Location  
**Airlie Beach Foreshore**  
Cost  
**Free**  
Time  
**18:00 - 20:30**





# Jungleland



Hello to you all from the wonderful world of Jungleland.

We can't believe we are already in the 3rd month since opening and what a fabulous time we have all had with an enormous amount of learning. In the beginning our focus was to get to know each other, build friendships and customize ourselves to our routines and transitions which we have mastered together. This is revisited daily to ensure that we as a group continue to deepen our social skills, positive play etiquette and emotional regulation.

The children have grown and developed so much over these last few months with their confidence soaring, they are always full of stories from their home adventures and are always keen to get up onto the show and share chair and tell the world. We have introduced a room mascot called "Pig the Pug," he too is very excited to be going home with each of you at various intervals to share with you, your family adventures. At the moment he is spending time at Miss Marion's house and Jungleland where he is getting to know all of the children, he will start his travels home with his Jungleland friends soon.

In Jungleland the children are exposed to a large variety of purposeful teacher initiated and led experiences to support their growth and development to prepare them for positive and successful transitions to Prep. Us educators also are co-learners beside the children as we embrace the individuality of each child and view them as leaders of their own learning. We support the children with the tools and resources needed to expand upon their ideas and interests as they emerge and continue to follow them throughout the entire learning process, providing challenges along the way to enhance the children's questioning and thinking abilities. Please view the OWNA app to see the fun and learning that is occurring.

Keep up to date with  
your child's day  
using the OWNA app.



SCAN ME



Scan this QR code  
using the camera  
on your phone to  
access a cheat  
sheet to operate  
OWNA and access  
all its awesome  
features.

We recently took part in the "Indigenous Literacy Day". Part of this experience we watched and interacted in a National digital event called – "Reading open's doors to future opportunities and choices. This included songs, dance, early learning board books, resources, and programs that support Communities to create and publish their stories in languages of their choice. From this we decided to create our very own story and illustrations. This book is available to view in our Jungleland room, it will also be on OWNA in the very near future. We are seeking further information on how we can send our book to the Indigenous Literacy Committee; this I will keep you updated on.

Cherrio for now and thanks so much for allowing us to be apart of your child's learning journey.

Many thanks  
The Jungleland crew.



# Water Park

Our water Park is up and running and the children are absolutely loving it. If you could please have your children dressed in their swimmers on their waterPark day, to Participate in the morning.



## Chef Amy

It's been an amazing three months since we opened. The time has flown by and I've really enjoyed getting to know all of your children and what they like eating.

We've worked our way through a lot of different foods, but these have been the definite favourites:

- \* Spaghetti Bolognese
- \* Fruit smoothies
- \* Sandwich day

Please feel free to ask for any recipes and to share yours with me! I'm always happy to get new ideas.

Kids in the kitchen

### Spaghetti Bolognese

Serves 4-6

- 500g beef mince
- 1/2 onion
- 1 x T sunflower oil
- 1 x T crushed garlic
- 1 x T vegetable stock powder
- 1x tsp dried mixed herbs
- 1 x grated carrot
- 1 x grated zucchini
- 1/2 cup chopped spinach
- 2 x T tomato paste
- 2 x 400g tinned tomato's
- 1 x 500g packet of spaghetti

1. Heat oil in large pan add, Finely chopped onion, garlic, stock powder, mixed herbs and beef mince, cook until brown

2. Add carrot, zucchini, spinach and tomato paste cook until vegetables are soft.

3. Add tinned tomatoes and simmer for at least 30mins. The longer the better.

4. Cook pasta until tender

5. Serve with shredded cheese

Enjoy!





# Farmland

Hello from Farmland room!

Wow! What a busy few weeks we have had! We have accomplished so much in such a short amount of time. Thank you to all our wonderful families and little friends for helping to make all of our events so fun and meaningful.

We have only been open for 8 weeks and in that time, we have built so many secure and trusting relationships with your children and we are so incredibly pleased to see them each morning with their big smiles and cuddles ready to play and learn with us.

It is also so very wonderful to see new friendships blossoming. We quite often hear your children plan their own play dates or sleepovers with their friends which is so very cute!

Our farmers have become familiar with our daily routine so quickly and they are displaying their enjoyment of this consistency and knowing what is happening next. We are working on supporting children's self-help skills as well as to show respect for our resources and learning environment by playing a pack away song. This song encourages all our farmers to work together to pack away all the toys before coming together to share in some singing on the mat. We are so very proud of all our farmers for showing such care and respect towards our learning environment.

These past two weeks we have trailed progressive morning teas every day. By having progressive morning tea supports children's autonomy by giving them the choice when they want to eat as well as supporting their body awareness of when they feel hungry and thirsty. It has been a great success and all our farmers are responding wonderfully to this new way of having morning tea and are displaying their satisfaction of being able to voice their needs and wants. Everyone is reminded when the morning tea trolley is being put away and they will always ensure they eat something before it does, so please be rest assured that no one ever goes hungry.

On the topic of body awareness, each day we share in a moment of mindfulness, and this is such a beautiful time of day. We use our Tibetan singing bowl and take steady breaths in and out when we hear the beautiful sound of the bowl. By having a moment of mindfulness, children slow down and become aware of their own bodies and learn skills to self-regulate difficult emotions. Our farmers all agree that the singing bowl makes them feel good.



We are just loving that so many of our families are having input into our program. How lucky are we and not to mention your children, to have you all so invested into their early learning education. Our farmers show such pride and satisfaction when they share their weekend adventures in front of their peers and when they see their photos in our floor book. If you would like to share with us anything from home, please take a sheet from our notice board and fill it out and either email it or bring it in with photos. It could just be as simple as cooking, gardening, or going to the beach or park.

You will notice that our room is coming together with children's artwork displayed and we are proud to say that our room feels so very welcoming and reflects your child's interests and learning. Our farmers show great pride in showing their masterpieces to their families as they walk in. We are all working hard on creating your child's end of year portfolios which will include all the fun and learning your child has been involved in. We are completely transparent so if you would like to view your child's portfolio at any time, please ask and we will be happy to show them to you. Thank you to you all for making our first few months of Farmland at Jungle Zoo so very fun and successful.

We are excited to see where the next few months takes us!

Kind regards from Kelly, Michelle, Katie, Charne, Stephanie & Em-Lee.



# TRANSITION TO SCHOOL

Starting school is an exciting milestone for your child and family. All of you will be experiencing changes as your child settles into a new learning environment, develops new friendships, and spends time with new teachers.

Preparing your child for their transition to school prepares them for future learning and development.

Is your child ready for school?

Being school ready is not dependent on whether your child can read and write. Being school ready is about the whole child. When deciding on the right time for your child to start school, it's important to consider a range of factors, including your child's age, emotional maturity, language skills, social skills, physical wellbeing and their ability to undertake simple self-help tasks independently.

If your child is attending an early childhood education and care service, speak to the educators about your child's cognitive, physical, social and emotional development and seek their views on how to best support their transition to school. Ask the educators about the transition to school strategy they have at the service.

You can also speak with the principal of the school your child may attend. Most schools support your child as they transition to school, through an orientation program, made up of visits to the school and spending time with the Prep teachers and other children.

## How can you help prepare your child for beginning school?

- Talk positively and confidently about starting and attending school
- Speak with your child about the change in their daily routine, how will they get to school, what time they have to get up in the morning and what they will have in their lunch box
- Visit the school with your child before they start so they're familiar with the classrooms, playground equipment, bubblers, toilets, sick bay etc.
  - Meet the teachers that may be working with your child and speak about them positively to your child
- Tell your child about support systems that the school offers e.g. if there is a buddy system where an older child supports your child in their first year of school
  - Read books together about starting school
- Be involved in your child's school community e.g. participating in playgroups, orientation days or other social gatherings like school fetes and welcome barbecues
  - Attend school events such as the book week parade, an assembly or school concert
- Develop good relationships with other parents, especially other parents of your child's friends
  - Establish good attendance patterns for your child
- Develop family routines at home to support your child's learning at school e.g. read with your child each night, help them with any homework etc

## HOW CAN YOUR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICE SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S TRANSITION TO SCHOOL?

**BOTH YOU AND YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATOR AT THEIR SERVICE PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN SUPPORTING A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO SCHOOL. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD'S INDIVIDUAL NEEDS ARE CONSIDERED CAREFULLY TO ENSURE THAT THE TRANSITION PROCESS IS POSITIVE AND EFFECTIVE.**

**THERE ARE A RANGE OF TRANSITION TO SCHOOL EXPERIENCES THAT MANY SERVICES CAN, AND DO, IMPLEMENT TO SUPPORT CHILDREN TRANSITIONING TO SCHOOL. SOME EXAMPLES INCLUDE:**

- TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT SCHOOL, AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO ASK QUESTIONS OR VOICE THEIR CONCERNS
- ARRANGING VISITS TO LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO MEET PREP TEACHERS AND TOUR THE SETTING
- INVITING SCHOOL STUDENTS TO VISIT THE SERVICE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT SCHOOL IS LIKE
- READING STORIES ABOUT STARTING SCHOOL
- INCLUDING SCHOOL PROPS, SUCH AS UNIFORMS, BAGS, LUNCH BOXES, AND CHALK BOARDS IN DRAMATIC PLAY AREAS
- SUPPORT CHILDREN TO DEVELOP THEIR SELF-HELP AND SOCIAL SKILLS THROUGH EVERY DAY ROUTINE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS MEAL TIMES WHEN CHILDREN WILL PRACTICE USING LUNCH BOXES AND DRINK BOTTLES
- PROVIDING LITERACY ITEMS SUCH AS READING AND WRITING MATERIALS IN EVERYDAY PLAY ACTIVITIES

## How can you help your child settle into school?

The following suggestions may help you to support your child to settle comfortably and confidently into school:

- Say goodbye confidently – saying a quick, confident goodbye may help them to feel secure and reassured that you trust that they will be okay at school.
  - Label your child's belongings – labelling everything, including clothing, can help reduce anxiety for children, school staff and yourself. At school, children are responsible for their belongings and labels can help them with this.
- Communicate with your child – take time to tell your child what might be happening at school that day, and in the afternoon, ask your child about their day. This is a great way to build confidence, and to find out how they are feeling as they settle in. If you have any concerns talk with your child's teacher, who will provide further insight to their day.
- Avoid overloading your child – when children begin school, they tire easily. It may be worth considering fewer extracurricular activities such as swimming, music or dance lessons, until they adjust to their new routine