

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

NEWS

DECEMBER 2020



CORANGAMITE
SHIRE

Thank you

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the Family and Children's Services team throughout this testing year. A big thanks to the committees of management, parent advisory groups, cleaners, families, council staff and educators who have enabled programs to operate in a COVIDSafe environment, allowing children to maintain some sense of 'normal'.

Family Day Care achieves benchmark

Corangamite Shire Family Day Care has joined Council-operated kindergartens and child care in achieving the Mental Health and Wellbeing benchmark of the Victorian Achievement Program. Christine Dewhurst said: "Family and Children's Services are excited that we have almost achieved total accreditation of the program and will commence on the 'Safe Environment' benchmark early in 2021. We have every expectation of early recognition of 'Safe Environment' as we take great pride in ensuring this for our children every day." "We would like to thank our educators and colleagues including Health Promotion officers at South West Health and Cancer Council for their engagement with the Achievement Program. We believe that we are demonstrating leadership in supporting health and wellbeing at our services that will ripple into the community."

Kindergarten Parent Advisory Groups



Thanks to the 2020 Kindergarten PAG's for their efforts this year through such a tricky and challenging time. AGMs for each service are currently being held. Welcome to all new Advisory Group members for 2021. Simpson PAG held its AGM outside to elect new committee members.

Gift giving in Family & Children's Services

We are approaching the time of year where a small gift is often provided by parent groups, families and/or carers whose children are enrolled in our family & children services

At Council we understand you and your child may wish to recognise and appreciate the valuable contribution our educators and teachers have made over the course of the year. However, Council employees are not able to accept cash or cash equivalent cards (eg. gift vouchers) or those of a high value as this contravenes Council's Code of Conduct for Staff. We respectfully ask families to limit gifts to no more than \$20 per enrolled child.

Council thanks you for using our family and children's services and wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and prosperous 2021.



We're creating a healthier early childhood service



End of year dates

- Council offices will be closed from 1 pm Wednesday 23 December.
- During office closures, Family Day Care coordination will be available when education and care is being provided on 0438 393 649.

Final days of care 2020

	Friday 11 December	Monday 14 December	Tuesday 15 December	Wednesday 16 December	Thursday 17 December
Childcare	Port Campbell MCC Ecklin Child Care Skipton Child Care	Skipton Child Care	Glenormiston MCC	Lismore Child Care The Sisters MCC	Ecklin Child Care Port Campbell MCC
Kindergarten		Coben Kindergarten Terang room 2 Timboon gold group Timboon green group	Simpson Kindergarten Skipton Kindergarten Terang room 1 (Sally) Western Plains		
After kinder/ school care			Terang AKAS Timboon AKAS		

Remembrance Day

Ecklin Child Care made poppy as a way to help our children commemorate and learn about our fallen heroes. Involving children in significant days builds their understanding of culturally important days and connection to community events.



Storytelling in Simpson

Simpson Kindergarten has been interacting with various storybooks with an aim to help children understand the current events and their impact on people around them. The stories address COVID-19 and its effect on the way we live our lives, the need to tell the truth and how the situations around us can affect our mood.

Recruitment: Family Day Care Educators



"It's a great career - you get to work from home and your children can stay at home with you"
-Amy, Family Day Care Educator



"You really get to draw on your creativity. I love exploring and finding new ideas and activities for the kids. It keeps me inspired and fresh every day."
-Karen, Family Day Care Educator



Seeking a new career challenge?

Build your own business as a Family Day Care Educator with Corangamite Shire Council. Family Day Care Educators care for children in their own homes, often alongside their own families. Our Educators choose the days/hours that best suit them, effectively operating their own business.

Family Day Care Educators are supported by a local network of Educators plus the professional team at Council's Family and Children's Services Department.

Request an information pack by emailing familydaycare@corangamite.vic.gov.au

Coming Up

25 Nov - 10 Dec | 16 Days of Activism

Vacancies

There are currently places available at:

Family Day Care in Timboon 2021

Monday-Friday

To register your interest in a Corangamite Shire Council Family and Children's Service call 5593 7100 visit www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Community/Family-Children-Services/Enrolment-Forms

NAIDOC Week

The Victorian Early Years Learning Development Framework (VEYLDF) guides early childhood professionals to work together with families in support of their children, embracing and responding to the cultural and linguistic diversity of the Victorian community and diverse approaches to child rearing.

In particular, the VEYLDF:

- recognises and respects Aboriginal cultures and their unique place in the heritage and future of Victoria. Learning about and valuing the place of Aboriginal people will enhance all Victorian children's sense of place in our community (VEYLDF 2016)

Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture plays an important part in Family and Children's Services. NAIDOC week allows children to be part of a national program that celebrates the culture and contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people past present and future. Educators involved children by providing story telling, music and art experiences during NAIDOC Week.



Harvey, Braxton and Laura designed their own didgeridoos at Family Day Care in Cobden. They engaged in learnings of the traditional owners of our land.



Skipton Child Care created a Rainbow Serpent for NAIDOC Week.



Corangamite Shire Family & Children's Services

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Policies

Family and Children's Services policies are available at www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Policies

Feedback

Your opinion is important to us, click on this link to provide feedback on the service:

www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Contact/Feedback

Info book

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