Dear Parents,

We have had another very busy and exciting year, enjoying our new buildings, welcoming many new families and new staff. At the end of the term we will say goodbye to children transitioning to Prep next year, many of them have been attending the centre since they were babies. It is such a joy for us to watch your children grow and mature over the years they spend at the ECDP.

National Week of Deaf People
Yeerongpilly celebrated this special event with some of our staff involved in Auslan storytelling for students at Yeronga State School. It was a captivated audience of students that soaked up the storytelling experience, learning a little bit about sign language and Deaf culture. We also had a special fun day for our families on Friday 24 October. Deaf Services Queensland provided a wonderful program of events and activities throughout the morning, including a puppet show, face painting and a balloon lady.

Auslan Video Series & Filming at Yeerongpilly
As you are aware the ECDP is involved in an amazing opportunity, helping to create a resource that will benefit children and their families using Auslan long into the future. This exciting, educational video series will be presented entirely in Auslan and available online. This project is being produced by the Queensland Government Department of Education, Training and Employment and Khemistry, a leading Brisbane film production company. Khemistry have been
consulting with staff from Yeerongpilly ECDP regarding the content for script development and are now ready for filming. Khemistry would like to film content for some of the episodes at Yeerongpilly, featuring students and teachers in engaging, real-life school activities, including bubble play, obstacle course, making boats, getting ready for a party and paper mache. Filming days are scheduled for Thursday 6 November and Friday 7 November. If you are happy for your child to be involved in activities that will be filmed and possibly used for the video series please sign the Project Consent Form available from your child’s teacher. If you do not want your child involved in this project please let Sheridan or your child’s teacher know. If you have any questions or concerns please speak to Sheridan.

620 Public Holiday
No programs, individual sessions or playgroup will be operating at Yeerongpilly on Friday 14 November due to the 620 in Brisbane.

Goodbye May
This term we farewelled May. May has worked for HICTI, supporting children attending Yeerongpilly for 8 years. We would like to thank May for the wonderful contribution she has made to our program; we appreciate the dedication May has shown to her work and the families that attend the ECDP.

We would like to welcome our new physiotherapist, Sybil. Sybil has experience working with children and families through Family and Early Childhood Services.

Healthy Hearing Symposium
Many of our staff attended the Healthy Hearing Symposium on 9 and 10 October. This valuable professional development opportunity celebrated 10 years of newborn screening in Queensland and we were delighted to hear that Queensland leads Australia in terms of numbers of children screened and those enrolled in early intervention. The presentations on topics such as unilateral hearing loss, early intervention, family support outcomes and audiology were interesting and informative.

Yeerongpilly ECDP & HICTI presented on the Friday morning of the symposium, the title of our presentation was Reflecting on family centred early intervention.

Our centre has undergone a self-evaluation process to reflect on our provision of family centred early intervention based on best practice principles and was the basis of Yeerongpilly’s presentation at the Symposium. Thank you to all the families that filled in and returned the Parent Feedback questionnaire as part of the process. Your feedback is very valuable and the questionnaires will be available at the office for you to fill in anytime.

Our Teachers....
Last month we celebrated Teacher Aide Day with an afternoon tea and this month we celebrate World Teacher’s Day on 31st October, so we thought you may be interested to know more about our teachers, starting with our wonderful Acting HOSES, Sheridan Howell. Sheridan began her teaching career as an Early Childhood teacher, but when her daughter Jamie was born 16 years ago and was diagnosed as having a profound hearing loss at the age
of 5 months, she became increasingly interested in becoming a Teacher of the Deaf herself. Sheridan also has a 13 year old son, Quinn and has been happily married to Darren for nearly 20 years. Sheridan embarked on her Masters in Special Education with two small children 'underfoot' and while working part time, completing her studies in 2006 and starting work at Yeerongpilly ECDP as Teacher of the Deaf the same year. She is a much valued and respected colleague for us all and her wealth of knowledge both as a professional and as a parent is invaluable. Sheridan spends her spare time supporting her children’s passion for sport and enjoying beach holidays.

A big thank you to all the wonderful teachers at Yeerongpilly.

Transport Conveyance Allowance
A reminder for ALL families that there have been changes to the eligibility rules for conveyancing allowance and you may be eligible for a partial or full allowance. Forms are available through Nea in the office.

School Transport Assistance Program for Students with Disabilities.
Under this scheme all students who attend an ECDP at their Nearest School with a Specialised Program are eligible for a Conveyance Allowance paid directly to the parent/carer to assist with the travel costs between home and school. If you are not attending your nearest specialised program you may still be entitled to a partial Conveyance Allowance, based on the location of your nearest specialised program. The Conveyance Allowance can be back dated to when you commenced at Yeerongpilly in 2014. The Conveyance Allowance is paid twice a year in July and December, directly into the parent’s nominated bank account.
If your child regularly attends a weekly or fortnightly program at the centre and you would like an application submitted to receive this allowance, please collect a form from the office.

Medicare Treatment Plan - access to allied professionals
This is a Medicare funded scheme that provides up to 5 referrals a year to allied health professionals (speech therapy, physiotherapy, etc). This funding is available for children with a medical condition that lasts more than 6 months. Children with a hearing loss may be eligible, including children that don’t meet the Better Start criteria. Further information is available through your family GP.

Medication at School
If your child requires medication to be administered at school please note the following DETE policies.

- All medication, including over the counter medication, must be in the original pharmacy labelled container. The label must include the student's name, dosage and time to be taken.
- Parents must provide a letter authorising administration of short term medication. A Request to Administer Medication at School form is available from your child's teacher for you to sign requesting staff to administer medication.
- The Request to Administer Medication at School form must be signed by the parent and the authorising practitioner for long term medication.
**Book of the Year Awards 2014 – Speech Pathology Australia**

If you are looking for some Christmas present ideas, these award winning books could be a good place to start.

**Birth to 3 years**

*I'm a Dirty Dinosaur* by Janeen Brian and Ann James

**Three to 5 years**

*A Swim in the Sea* by Sue Whiting and Meredith Thomas

**Five to 8 years**

*Silver Buttons* by Bob Graham

**Eight to 10 years**

*The Adventures of Sir Roderick the Not-Very Brave* by James O'Loghlin

**Indigenous Children**

*Deadly D & Justice Jones* by Scott Prince and Dave Hartley

**School Levy**

The school levy is voluntary but much appreciated. As you would be aware, schools run on very limited budgets and the levy money helps to pay for such things as paint, glue, flour for play dough and cardboard. Experimenting with paint, dough, cooking and creating art and craft items helps our children to consolidate knowledge, make new connections with prior experience and is integral to any kindergarten program. It’s also lots of fun!

Please see your child’s teacher for a payment envelope or collect one from the front desk.

**Group programs**

- Please note, there will be no group programs (or individual sessions or play group) on Friday 14 November due to the G20 Public Holiday.

- Please remember to send a (named) hat for outside play and apply sun screen before your child arrives at school. There is also sunscreen available at the office. With the warmer weather this term, we usually play outside between 9.30 and 10.30.

- Sand and water, cooking and painting are messy and fun and we appreciate having several changes of clothes in bags at school.

- We also happily accept donations of spare clothes (size 4 approximately). Spare hats are always welcome too.

- Please be aware that we appreciate you not sending any nut products (this includes Nutella) to school in your child’s lunch.

- Thank you to all the parents involved in the Teacher-Parent conversations, these proved to be very valuable and will continue to be part of our program.
Playgroup dates for Term 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday Toddler Playgroup</th>
<th>Friday Baby Playgroup</th>
<th>Tuesday Combined Playgroup</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>November 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 21</td>
<td>November 28</td>
<td>November 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5 - Christmas party</td>
<td>December 5 - Christmas party</td>
<td>December 2 - Christmas party</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Information Session

*Guidelines and recommendations for iPad technology* by Sally (HICTI speech pathologist)
Friday 21 November from 9:15am to 10:15am in the playgroup room. Morning tea provided.

Christmas Parties

Tuesday Playgroup: Tuesday 2 December
Toddler and Baby Playgroup: Friday 5 December
Group Program: Thursday 11 December

School Holidays

The last week of term 4 begins on Monday 8 December and the group programs will celebrate with an End-of-Term Christmas Party on Thursday 11 December.

Group children for 2015 will return to school on Thursday 29 January and Individual sessions will resume the following week, beginning Monday 2 February.

Wishing you all an exciting term,

*The staff at Yeerongpilly ECDP*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Individual session + playgroup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20</td>
<td>Group program (Thursday &amp; Friday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20</td>
<td>Families with 2 children accessing both programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10</td>
<td>CODA families accessing baby or toddler playgroup</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name:  

Please tick below.