Dear Parents,

As this term flies by and we prepare for our final term of the year I would like to take the opportunity to welcome all our new families to Yeerongpilly. We have had 18 new families enrol at our centre this term. We are all looking forward to getting to know your families and supporting your child’s development.

Healthy Hearing Symposium
Many of our staff will be attending the Healthy Hearing Symposium on the 9th and 10th of October. This valuable professional development opportunity is celebrating 10 years of newborn screening in Queensland and will include presentations on topics such as unilateral hearing loss, early intervention, family support outcomes and audiology.

Our centre has undergone a self-evaluation process to reflect on our provision of family centred early intervention based on best practice principles. 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.

Yeerongpilly ECDP & HICTI are presenting on the Friday morning at the symposium, the title of our presentation is Reflecting on family centred early intervention.

If parents are interested in attending the symposium please contact your Family Support Facilitator for more information, ph. 3250 8609

Auslan Storytelling for Children’s Book Week
This annual event was celebrated at Yeerongpilly this year with Auslan storytelling in Lynda’s room. We all enjoyed the drama and the expressive ability of our brilliant ALMs – Tracey and Amanda with relief teacher Helen joining in the fun. Enjoy the photos displayed outside the library.

Morning teas, lunches, birthdays and cooking within the group program...
Please keep us informed about all food allergies and we also appreciate your awareness of possible critical allergic reactions to nuts and other foods in some children.

We aim to encourage healthy eating at morning tea (eaten outside with all the group children) and lunch time (children eat with their class group) and are appreciative of foods such as fruit, vegetable sticks, crackers and cheese, sandwiches, etc being sent to school, but we are aware that some children have very specific or limited diets and aim to always support these families as well. Chocolate and fruit juices are best kept as celebration foods and we always
have water available for the children to drink. You may find your child will drink more water if they have their own water bottle. Birthday cakes (a large single cake or cupcakes) are of course always welcome!

Our Teacher Aides
This month we celebrated Teacher Aide Day with an afternoon tea. We have amazing teacher aides at Yeerongpilly supporting our teachers, therapists, parents and children and we thought you may like to get to know some of them a little better...

Tracey Wardrop (photo above) is a past student and a valued colleague. She was born profoundly deaf and has a deaf older brother. Tracey says that the highlight of her work is her ability to make Auslan books for the i-Pad with pictures, words and signs for parents and children within the centre. Tracey returned to Yeerongpilly in March, 2010 as an ALM (Auslan Language Model). She has been happily married for the past 24 years to her hearing husband and has two teenage hearing children. Her newest hobby is cycling - and she is firmly addicted to it already - and she also enjoys clothes shopping, cooking and quality time with her family and friends.

Amanda McQuitty moved to Brisbane in 1991 from Hobart, to study for her degree in Environmental Science at Griffith University, which led to work in forestry and plant nurseries for a number of years. Amanda is a much valued ALM at Yeerongpilly (since 2007) and she continues to teach sign classes, is involved with Auslan Coffee Shop and the SE Qld Deaf Four Wheel Drive Club where she is able to indulge her love of the outdoors especially camping and bushwalking. Amanda also enjoys gardening, cooking and healthy food and she is married to Gavin and has two sons (one with bilateral Cochlear Implants and the other with bilateral hearing aids) who happily attend Toowong State School. Both parents and both children are Deaf and use Auslan as their first language at home with English as their second language.
Transport Conveyance Allowance
Recently I completed Assessor Training for the 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.

Donations Needed
If any families have some old single/double/queen/king sized cotton sheets or cotton doona covers that they could donate to the centre to cover the mattresses in the Physio Room it would be greatly appreciated.

We would also appreciate donations of size 4 (approximately) warm clothing – jumpers especially - for chilly morning teas outside. Spare hats are always welcome too.

Playgroup dates for Term 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday Toddler Playgroup</th>
<th>Friday Baby Playgroup</th>
<th>Tuesday Combined Playgroup</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>September 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Describing our group programs information session</td>
<td>Australian Hearing visit</td>
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In term 4 our Tuesday fortnightly playgroup will be changing weeks and will be held in the same week as our Toddler playgroup. This is to better allow us to accommodate the large number of new babies that are enrolling in our program.

The first playgroup dates for next term are:

Tuesday Playgroup 7th October
Toddler Playgroup 10th October
Baby Playgroup 17th October

All families that attend individual sessions are welcome to attend playgroup. If you are unsure about which playgroup to attend please talk to your child’s teacher.
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 preschool program. It’s also lots of fun!

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

School Holidays
Friday the 19th September is the last day of term 3. We can all enjoy two weeks break and re commence individual sessions on Tuesday 7th October and the group program on Thursday 9th October.

Pupil Free Day Term 3
Monday the 20th October is a pupil free day. Our staff will be participating in professional development activities on this day. There will be no individual sessions.

Enjoy a break over the holidays and thank you for your ongoing support.

Sheridan and all the staff at Yeerongpilly
Yeerongpilly ECDP General Purpose Fees

Name: ..................................................................................

Please tick below.

☐ $10 Individual session + playgroup
☐ $20 Group program (Thursday & Friday)
☐ $20 Families with 2 children accessing both programs
☐ $10 CODA families accessing baby or toddler playgroup