



# Families and Children's Newsletter

April & May 2024

Email: [office@therangecc.org.au](mailto:office@therangecc.org.au) Phone: 03 9397 8244

Monday – Friday 7:00am – 6:00pm

## Wominjeka

*The Range Children's Centre would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families. We would also like to thank our existing families for their continued support. Thank you for trusting us to educate and care for your children.*

*The children, families and educational teams have settled in well into the new year.*

### Acknowledgement to Country with the Children

Here is the land  
Here is the sky  
Here are my friends  
Here am I  
We thank the  
Yalukit-willam people of the [Kulin nation](#).  
On who's land we play

*Children participate in the Acknowledgement to Country as a group every day.*

### TRCC Website

The Range Children's Centre website has a plethora of information about your children's time in childcare such as weekly menus, room reflections, calendar of events and newsletter. Just click the link below and look under the 'Parents Lounge' tab for all your informational needs.

[Parents' Lounge](#)  
([therangecc.org.au](http://therangecc.org.au))

## Calendar of Events

### Special Celebrations for April

- 1<sup>st</sup> of April- Hindu New Year
- 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> of April- National Wildlife Week
- 2<sup>nd</sup> of April- International Childrens Book Day
- 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> of April- Eid Al Fitr Festival and end of Ramadan
- 22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> of April-Every Kid Healthy Week
- 22<sup>nd</sup> of April-International Mother World Earth Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> of April- International Mother Language Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> of April- ANZAC DAY – Public Holiday
- 29<sup>th</sup> April – International Dance Day

### Special Celebrations for May

- 4<sup>th</sup> of May- International Firefighters Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> of May- World Red Cross Day
- 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> of May International Compost Awareness Week
- 12<sup>th</sup> of May-International Nurses Day & Mother's Day
- 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> National Road Safety Week
- 15<sup>th</sup> of May- International Day of Families
- 20<sup>th</sup> of May- World Bee Day.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> of May- Buddha Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> of May- National Sorry Day
- 27<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> of May & June – National Reconciliation Week

### Family Communication Books

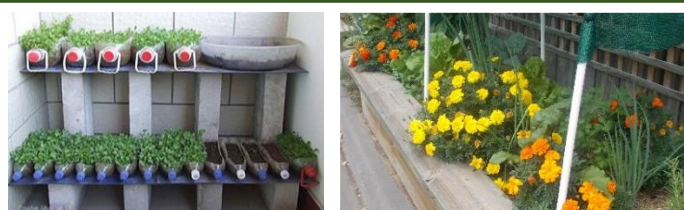
At The Range Children's Centre, we strive ourselves in working in partnerships with families. The Family Communication Books assist in continuing our positive communication between families and educators and to ensure that we give your child the best possible education and care.

During arrival periods, please feel free to write down any messages in the Family Communication Book, for example, how long you would like your child to sleep/ rest.

Educators will check the book every morning to read messages written by families and communicate these messages to the rest of the team.

### Community Garden

We are thrilled to announce that we have found a wonderful volunteer to care for our community garden. Our wonderful Catherine who was our chef at The Range for many years, who also happens to be Antoinette's mum she has already started caring for our beautiful garden.



## Centre Leadership Team consists of:

**Director:** Janice

**Assistant Director:** Nellie

**Educational Leaders:** Jenny & Nanisi

**Book Keeper:**

Thao

Tuesday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Thursday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Friday 7.30am – 4.00pm

## Child Safe Standards:

The 11 child safe standards include clarity and practical steps for each standard. They outline the action organisations need to take to keep children and young people safe.

We are legally obliged to comply with the Child Safe Standards at The Range Children's Centre.

## Christmas Holidays and Upcoming Events at the Range.

We wanted to let our wonderful families know our dates for the end of year Christmas break so you are able to work our alternative care for your children.

The last day of daycare will be Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of December and we will re-open Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2025.

We also have some exciting incursions coming up at The Range

-Mister Ants which will take place in May

### **Birthday Cakes**

Birthday Cakes for the Children can be provided for Birthday Celebrations. Please see the following instructions to ensure the health and safety of the children.



- Purchase directly from the supermarket
- Packaging is clearly labelled with all ingredients
- NUT FREE
- As plain as possible with minimal icing or cream
- Provide a receipt with purchase

## Updates from around the Service

### **New Members in the Committee of Management**

We would like to welcome Jane to the committee as a general member.

### *Welcome to the Team*

The Range Children's Service would like to give a warm welcome to Tatsiana, Katrina, Mystique and Tash to our wonderful team. You will see them working throughout the centre relieving staff.

### *Educator updates.*

We are wishing Nanisi a wonderful time as she enjoys so much deserved long service leave. Rachel and Megan will still be in the Joey Room while Ashleigh will step into the Educational Leader Role while Nanisi is away.

### *Reconciliation Week 27<sup>th</sup> of May- 3<sup>rd</sup> of June.*

The Nation Reconciliation Week theme for 2024, Now More Than Ever, is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People will and must continue.

The dates for NRW remain the same each year, 27<sup>th</sup> of May until the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey- the successful referendum and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

At The Range we are proud to be apart of the Reconciliation Action Plan

We also like to add A Reconciliation Story time Collection which is a selection of beautiful, engaging and thought-provoking pictures books created by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander authors and illustrators for young audiences.

<https://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/our-work/reconciliation/story-time-collection/>

### *ACECQA Newsletter*

#### **StartingBlocks.gov.au – helping families find quality.**

StartingBlocks.gov.au is the national government one-stop-shop for families. They're using our free government website to shortlist early childhood education and care services, view fees and quality ratings, and estimate their CCS entitlements and out of pocket costs.

## Feedback

We welcome feedback! If you have something you would like to share, please feel free to speak to the leadership team. You can also email us on [office@therangecc.org.au](mailto:office@therangecc.org.au) or you can give us a call 9397 8244. Please visit our website to find out more information about our service and to access online forms <https://www.therangecc.org.au/>

## Message from the Educational Leaders

Planning is at the forefront of all the experiences your child participates in everyday while in Childcare/Kindergarten. Because of this, any information we receive from families about their children's interests help shape and mould our programs in each room. Educators have a planning framework that is outlined by the Victorian Early Years Framework and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) that guides our cycle of planning.

<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/nqf/national-law-regulations/approved-learning-frameworks>

Educators take this planning cycle and the information given to us by the families and our own knowledge of children's individual interests and needs, then create an individualized program from this information. We create experiences which help develop the skills and concepts highlighted by the parents in the "All About My Child" forms. We observe the children in these specific areas, write learning stories to show the progress of development, create additional experiences to help support the learning further and the cycle continues.

## Professional Development

Early Childhood consultant Catharine Hydon recently met with the kindergarten groups, educational leaders and all staff members to discuss the Victorian Early Years Learning Framework V2.0. In light of recent changes, she focused on "Collaborative Leadership and Teamwork" emphasising its crucial role in fostering high-quality programs for children.

Catharine highlighted the power of teamwork and how effective collaboration between educators and families can drive significant growth.

The session sparked valuable discussions and reflections among staff members encouraging them to strengthen collaboration within the team.



For more information on the new version of The Early Years Learning Framework please visit the website: <https://www.acecqa.gov.au/nqf/national-law-regulations/approved-learning-frameworks>

## Reminders

### Buying and Selling Days

Just a reminder to all families that the centre allows for the buying and selling of days. If you want to buy or sell a day, please notify Nellie in the office by email. Nellie will then organise (on a first come, first serve basis) to sell available days for someone requesting it. Emails about buying and selling days can be sent to [nellie@therangecc.org.au](mailto:nellie@therangecc.org.au)

### Car Park Safety

Just a reminder to all families that the car park has a speed limit of **5 kms**.

Please be careful when entering and exiting the car park as children sometimes detach themselves from their parents/guardians and can run off. Also please keep an eye out for pedestrians on the foot path.

### Immunisations

Families are required to provide a copy of current immunisations for your child that attends care/kinder. This information can be accessed via your MyGov account and can be emailed or brought to the service for us to make a copy. It is very important to keep our records up to date to stay in line with **No Jab No Play** regulations.

## Celebrations

To ensure the service is acknowledging and celebrating cultural events which are important to the children, we invite families to share with us information about their celebrations such as what is the meaning of the event and how do you celebrate at home with family and friends?

## Family Contribution

The service invites families to come in and share their talents and interests with the children and educators for example, playing a musical instrument, speaking another language, singing, gardening, cooking etc.

However, please ensure you have a current volunteer or employee Working With Children's Card.

## SunSmart Policy

It is summer in Australia and that means we are wearing a lot of sun protection. Children and staff are wearing sun hats and sunscreen and reapplying every few hours. If you could please ensure that your child has a sunhat and is wearing the appropriate clothes, (no spaghetti straps or sleeveless tops or dresses).

The Centre does provide sunscreen but if you want/need to provide your child with their own sunscreen, bring it in labelled and left in the room for the year.

## Menu

Based on your feedback, our yummy new menus are here! Thanks to families, children and educators, we've updated our menu for the year and you can find out what is on offer for the day by looking through our website, the big sign in the foyer, or the menu poster that's up on display by the wall in your child's room. If you have any feedback about the menu, please let us know.

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