LEAD CHILDCARE BUNDABERG
JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH:
- New Year's Day; January 1st (Centre Closed)
- Australia Day; January 26
- Public Holiday; January 27th (Centre Closed)
- School Returns; January 28th

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HELLO AND WELCOME!

I am so glad that you are a part of our LEAD Bundaberg family as we head into 2020!

Can you believe that 2019 is already done and dusted??? So many amazing things happened for our LEAD family last year and I am still so very proud of our amazing team for having secured 3 (Yes, 3!) awards at the LEAD Childcare Awards event in December!

For those of you who missed it here is a little recap of our awards:

1. Our amazing Miss Tiarna was named the “ECT of the Year” – Tiarna provides an absolutely outstanding program for our Kindergarten children and it is so lovely to see this recognised by Nina Hefford, our Approved Provider and the whole Leadership Team. I am so very proud of you Miss Tiarna!
2. I was blown away to be named “Most Committed Centre Manager of the Year” – it is an understatement to say I was absolutely lost for words and overcome with pure joy and excitement when my name was called! And then to find out that I will be joining a study tour in New Zealand next month only increased that excitement to a whole new level! I absolutely love my job, and I love working my best for LEAD!
3. While we were still processing those 2 amazing awards……we were beyond excited to here LEAD Bundaberg announced as the "Most Improved Service of the Year!" 2019 saw the team go above and beyond with commitment to our service and improvements made and again it was amazing to see these improvements not only supported, but celebrated by the whole team at Head Office!

2019 was just the start of our journey of improvements and we are so excited for everything 2020 has install for us at LEAD Bundaberg.

Our team has our sights set on another award this year and are keen to get going with improvements … We want to hear your ideas and your feedback …. Will you come along on the journey with us???

Kieran

OUR EDUCATORS

Nursery - Miss Sina
Toddlers - Miss Caitlin
Junior Kindy - Miss Sarah & Miss Emily
Pre-Kindy - Miss Tracy
Kindergarten - Miss Tiarna
Schoolies - Miss Tiff & Miss Taya
On leave - Miss Joanne

Our supporting team...

Kitchen - Miss Kirst
Under 3’s - Miss Katie
Over 3’s - Miss June
Over 3’s - Miss Shyanne
**BOARDGAME by Martaya**

This month I have found a board game the children will love. Counting Caterpillars is a fun colour matching game that encourages number recognition and sequencing. You take turns picking up number cards to add to your caterpillar characters. The cards feature both the written number and dots to count, as well as matching colours to the feet, developing number recognition, counting skills and colour recognition for younger family members. Cards must be put into the right position on the caterpillar to count 1-10. The winner is the first person to complete their caterpillar!

Ages – 3+

Purchase locally at Dymocks on Bourbong Street $36.95

**MESSY MOMENTS by Joanne**

Pudding painting – Fun AND Yummy!!!!

Ingredients
Vanilla Instant pudding mix or Vanilla Yogurt
Gel food colouring

Items
Plastic Table cloth or Vinyl playmat for floor
Paper

If using pudding - make the pudding according to packet directions prior to starting the activity.
Divide your pudding or yogurt between small containers and colour with food colouring until you are happy with the colours....
Use fingers, hands, feet to paint your masterpiece!

**APP REVIEW by Katie**

Storypark is a great application for the whole family to enjoy and keep up to date of what your child/children have been playing with, exploring and learning whilst with us at LEAD Bundaberg. You will never miss a thing, with numerous photos every day and a detailed learning thread (story) at the end of every week. This Learning Thread will show you the learning journey your child has been on over the entire week!

Storypark is also another avenue for you to contact your child’s educator and discuss how your child is going or any other concerns that may impact your child at care or outside of their day. We also love when parents choose to share their family adventures, holidays and general fun with us on Storypark too – so go on, give it a go today!!!

Download the Storypark for Families app today – available on both iPhone and Android: look for the purple ducks!

**Continued over page…. Families who cook together…..laugh together 😊**
SING-A-LONG by Emily

Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
And eyes, and ears, and mouth, and nose.
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.

Place both hands on parts of body as they are mentioned. On second time speed up and get faster with each verse.

To make it a little trickier for older children remove 1 body part each verse from verse 2 and replace it only with the action! I guarantee there will be mistakes and laughter!

I have chosen this song as it teaches the children where some of their body parts are, it also gets the children up and moving with the song. The movement of the song is very important as children learn their range of motion, such as balance and coordination. It also helps children with social interaction and language growth.

Why not have a great time with your little one and introduce some singing games into your family evening time??

OUT & ABOUT by Shyanne

Lake Ellen Park Bundaberg
George Street, Bundaberg

Toilets, plenty of shaded tables, picnic areas, bbq’s, water bubbler, great for bikes, prams, scooters and skates, free parking.

Just to the right of the Park and a 2 minute walk away is Lake Ellen. A small Lake where kids can feed the local ducks and turtles.

It’s not hard to spend a few hours at Lake Ellen Park. This large park has equipment catering for children of all ages.

This park can be divided into three areas, the playgrounds, bike and scooter tracks and lake and walking tracks.

COOKING UP A STORM TOGETHER with Jane

This is a great summer meal for the whole family, not only is it delicious it's a healthy and fun meal to create with your family. Your children will be able to help you prepare the whole thing and it will make them want to eat it as they are adding in the ingredients that they like, and trying something new with just a little encouragement! It also allows your children to feel independent as they plate up their own taco.

I have cooked this meal many times before and I just love that it’s a meal you can eat with your hands, which makes for a fun time and it doesn't matter if you get messy (my favourite part)!

INGREDIENTS
1 tbsp olive oil
1 finely chopped brown onion
2 tsp ground cumin
2 tsp ground coriander
1 tsp paprika
1/4 tsp Ground Cayenne Pepper
500g beef mince
400g can crushed tomatoes
10 jumbo taco shells (or soft taco’s for those under 2 years!)

Shredded lettuce
Chopped tomatoes
Grated tasty cheese
Fresh Avocado – smashed Sour Cream

METHOD
1 Preheat oven to 180°C
2 Heat oil in a large frying pan over medium-high heat. Add onion. Cook, stirring, for 3 minutes or until softened. Add cumin, coriander, paprika and cayenne pepper. Cook, stirring, for 30 seconds or until fragrant. Add mince. Cook, stirring with a wooden spoon to break up mince, for 8 minutes or until browned. Add crushed tomato. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes or until sauce has thickened.
3 Prepare salad ingredients, arrange on serving platter.
4. Heat the taco shells & soft tacos according to directions. While heating place the meat into serving dish.
5. Assemble at the table and mix it up a bit!!!
Do you ever wonder why we do things the way we do them? Have you found yourself thinking about how each service can be so different and yet they all claim to follow legislation?!

Essentially, every service within Australia is required to follow the National Quality Framework, this framework (NQF) sets a high, national benchmark for all Australian children attending long day care, family day care, outside school hours care and kindergarten. It is the framework all centres are ‘measured’ against and can be a great point of comparison, while still allowing each service to be individual!

The major benefits of the NQF for parents and children include improved educator to child ratios; greater individual care and attention for children; educators with increased skills and qualifications; better support for children’s learning and development; and a ratings system to help parents assess the quality of education and care providers in their area.

What are the National Quality Framework Ratings?
The National Quality Standard comprises of seven quality areas, with services aiming to achieve the highest possible rating when they receive their Assessment & Ratings visit. These visits last for several days, are conducted by an officer from the Department of Education, and inspect every aspect of the service, the educators and management.

The possible ratings are (from best, to worst): Excellent, Exceeding National Quality Standard, Meeting National Quality Standard, Working towards National Quality Standard, Significant Improvement Required

What areas does the National Quality Framework cover?
The National Quality Standard comprises of seven quality areas, 18 standards and 58 elements. These areas are:

QA1: Educational Program and Practice, which focuses on ensuring the educational program and practice is stimulating, engaging and enhances children’s learning and development.

QA2: Children’s Health and Safety, which outlines how the approved provider (Dr Nina Hefford), through the nominated supervisor (Mrs Kieran Molkentin) and all Educators and staff have a responsibility to supporting the health, protection, safety and wellbeing of all children within our service.

QA3: Physical environment, which ensures the approved provider of any service must ensure that the premises, all equipment and furniture used in providing education and care services are safe, clean and in good repair. This area also outlines the importance that the physical environment provide a rich and diverse range of experiences that promote children’s learning and development.

QA4: Staffing arrangements, which discusses staff numbers, suitable qualified and experienced educators and nominated supervisors who are able to develop warm, respectful relationships with families and children. This is to help create safe and predictable environments and encourage children’s active engagement in the learning program.

QA5: Relationships with children, which looks at taking reasonable steps to ensure that children being educated and cared for by the service are provided with opportunities to interact and develop respectful and positive relationships with each other and with the staff members.

QA6: Collaborative partnerships with families and communities, which focuses on the importance of working with parents and how this is key in achieving educational and developmental outcomes for children. Local community partnerships are also an important part of this quality area. Effective collaboration established by the service is fundamental to achieving quality outcomes for children and community partnerships.

QA7: Leadership and service management, which embodies the staff culture and identifies the flow from effective leadership and management through to the educators and ultimately through to our most important stakeholders: children! Effective leadership and management creates positive organisation culture which empowers others by listening, recognising and addressing potential conflict and changes processes that contribute to quality environments for the children’s learning and development.

This is a summary of National Quality Standard and Framework. For more information, please visit the complete resources on the mychild.gov.au website.
FROM THE KITCHEN....

Hi all!

As we dive right into 2020 we are almost through our first cycle of the new and improved Summer Menu!

You’ll notice a few new additions to the lunches, such as Taco Tuesday in Week Two (an instant winner), Nasi Goreng, Beef Chow Mein and Vegetarian Tortillas. We still have some of the classics, including Fruity Chicken Curry, Pizzas, Spaghetti Bolognese and Tropical Chicken.

Afternoon teas have plenty of new (and returning) dips to try, including French Onion, Pineapple Yoghurt, Tzatziki and Beetroot Hummus! As always – these are all made in-house and served with an assortment of fresh vegetable sticks, crackers and cheese cubes!

Another great change to the updated menu is the mixing up of morning teas and late snacks. We all enjoyed some mornings of toast, yoghurt and rice cakes over the last couple of weeks in addition to our traditional fruit mix, while our late snack (served at 5:30pm just to tide us over to dinner!) has offered cruskits with vegemite, fresh fruit and finger sandwiches!

Check out the menu outside the kitchen door for more details, and please feel free to pop in any time to chat about the meals and let us know what recipes you would like – I will organise a copy of the recipe for to collect that same afternoon!

Happy New Year,

Miss Kirst

MEDICATION REMINDER

A friendly reminder that medication needs to be handed directly to a staff member, and a medication form will need to be completed!

Medication forms will need to be updated each week for short-term medications and each term for long-term medications. If your child requires daily medication please see Miss Kieran or Miss Tiff directly in the office as we will require some additional information from your child’s doctor.

ALLERGIES

Does your child have an allergy?

Please see Miss Kieran or Miss Tiff directly in the office so we can update your child’s Allergy Advice! This will require your child’s doctor to sign the forms, so the sooner we can get the update to you, the more time you have to organise a check-up!

DROPPING OFF FOOD OR MILK BOTTLES?

As we are a registered kitchen we need to make sure processes are being followed to allow us to keep our 5 star rating!

If you are bringing ANY FOOD, or milk bottles which contain anything other than water you need to see a staff member as these need to be recorded in our ‘Childrens Food & Bottle registers’!

If your child is in the nursery, please see Miss Sina or Miss Caitlin as they can help you with this. If your child is in any other room please see Miss Kirst in the Kitchen, or if she is not available please see your child’s teacher or educator who can help you.

Remember – we do not allow flavoured milks at LEAD Bundaberg.
Welcome to all the new and returning families in 2020! I hope you have enjoyed your New Year’s celebrations and look forward to the year ahead in the Nursery.

This month the children really engaged when learning about families. We looked at the different members in a family, played a family matching game and used imaginative play to create our very own families. We understand the important role of family and this learning displays self-awareness and develops a respect for self-identity.

Now for some exciting news- the children have hit some milestones this month with language development, unassisted standing and walking! If your child has achieved something at home, no matter how big or small, I’d love to hear about it.

Lastly, I look forward to another amazing learning adventure and collaborating with families as we jump into 2020!

Miss Sina

NURSERY BIRTHDAYS

No Birthdays this month!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

All children require a hat and water bottle when attending the centre. These items must go home with them each day please!

Please make sure you are checking StoryPark to see what we have been doing, share special moments or comment on what has been happening in our centre each day and week! We would hate you to miss an important reminder or message!
Another month has flown by and here we are at the beginning of 2020, where has the time gone?

We have experienced so much learning and I am taking great delight in embracing and encouraging the growing and development in all areas of the Toddlers over the last few months of 2019! I can see the children becoming more and more confident each day and have really improved their words and manners, well done Toddlers!

Over the last few weeks of December, we have continued exploring our project focus of ‘connectedness’. The children have loved learning about their own families as well as their peers families. WE have explored what makes a family unique – learning about different family members and how many people live at our house! It has been great to see our families joining in on our exploration of families by providing photos and stories with us, the children have loved sharing their families with their peers and are starting to really embrace the idea of sharing what we know with others!

I have loved my first 2 months as the Toddlers Senior Educator and I can’t wait to see what 2020 has in store for all of us in the Toddlers Room! Watch this space to see what our next step will be!!!

Thank you for a 2019 and looking forward to growing more with you all in 2020,

Miss Caitlin

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**TODDLERS BIRTHDAYS**

Happy 2\(^{nd}\) Birthday Kassima!
(12\(^{th}\) January)

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**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

As part of our Toddler children’s development, we have started toilet training with some of our children recently and I can see other children becoming really interested in going to the toilet. We are happy to begin toilet training with your child and to work with each family to help your child understand toilet training and to also make this process run smoothly. Please let me know your thoughts!!!!!

As the days are getting warmer, please ensure your child is bringing a hat and water bottle each day and that all your child’s belongings are going home at the end of each day.
Hello families & welcome to 2020 in Junior Kindy!

I hope everyone has had a very good and relaxing Christmas & New Years break and ready to dive into new learning opportunities and provocations!

I would like to reflect on the year of 2019 as we have explored a lot of different aspects of our natural world around us and the connections we share with our friends and families. The children have focused on different projects and have thoroughly enjoyed starting a project and it has been a privilege foster their learning and watch their knowledge grow. I had the pleasure of being the Junior Kindy senior educator for the first time in 2019 and I have absolutely loved working within this age group and have built very strong relationships with the children. I am looking forward to continuing my journey within the room and watching the children grow and flourish. I would also like to introduce the Junior Kindy assistant educator, Miss Emily. Miss Emily has been helping in our room for the past 6 weeks and is very excited to join our permanent team and is currently fostering relationships with the children.

I would like to add a friendly reminder that all children need to bring a water bottle, hat, a set of sheets, 6x nappies, 6x underwear (if toilet training), a change of clothing.

Thank you again for a wonderful year and I look forward to working and learning with you and your children in 2020.

Thank you from the Junior Kindy Team

Miss Sarah and Miss Emily

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**JUNIOR KINDY BIRTHDAYS**

No Birthdays this month

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**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

Every day your child will require:
- A water bottle
- A hat
- A set of sheets (cot size are perfect)
- At least 6x nappies
- 6x underwear (if toilet training)
- A full change of clothing (several if toilet training).

These items will go home with your child each day please.
Welcome Pre-Kindy Families,

I trust everyone has had a fantastic Christmas and managed to have a rest over the New Year too!

As you would all be aware in the couple of weeks leading up to Christmas we were learning about different traditions around the world, and exploring the children's own ideas of what this season meant to them. It was great to hear about different family traditions and learn more about how other cultures celebrate the festive season.

Through our Literacy we expanded on our knowledge and looked into how different people have customs and traditions that differ to our own.

Through the last week leading up to Christmas we used our creativity and imagination to make and paint some fabulous Christmas items, sending something new home everyday. The children loved doing these, and we now need to stock up on our glitter supplies – but hey, there can be enough sparkle in our world!!!! 😊

This month we will have a large group of children focusing on transitioning as most of our Pre Kindy children prepare to move up to Miss Tiarna's Kindergarten Room. We will be welcoming some of our friends from Miss Sarah’s Junior Kindy room and introducing them to the rules we follow in Pre-Kindy. To foster these changes we will continue to spend time focusing on building a sense of belonging and feeling secure in our environment. An exciting time ahead.

Miss Tracy

**PRE KINDY BIRTHDAYS**

Happy 4\textsuperscript{th} Birthday Bethany  
(5th January)

Happy 4\textsuperscript{th} Birthday Natalie  
(5th January)

Happy 4\textsuperscript{th} Birthday Mia  
(6th January)

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

All children require a hat and water bottle when attending the centre. These items must go home with them each day please!

Please make sure you are checking StoryPark to see what we have been doing, share special moments or comment on what has been happening in our centre each day and week! We would hate you to miss an important reminder or message!
Happy New Year and Welcome to 2020! The Kindergarten children had a great end to the year of 2019.

During December the kindergarten children at LEAD Bundaberg were exploring ways in which we can help people in our community. This led us to wanting to help less fortunate people this Christmas to have a “happy Christmas” by donating some presents. They set themselves a goal of being able to make 10 people happy this Christmas which meant we needed to raise $150.

The final decision was to enjoy and experience in some Christmas baking to sell and a Christmas dress up day with a gold coin donation. With all their hard work they successfully achieved and exceeded their goal by raising a massive $210. This meant they were able to buy 14 presents to donate under the Kmart wishing tree and show a sense of empathy towards others.

To also finish our year in the kindergarten room we celebrated with our Kindergarten Graduation. Congratulations to all our wonderful and amazing kindergarten graduates and all the best this year as you venture off the school. We will miss you all dearly but we are also excited to see you continue to grow and develop into the amazing young people you are.

Lastly, I am super excited to be getting to know off of our wonderful soon to be kindergarteners from pre kindy as they transition daily into the kindergarten room helping them to begin feeling a sense of belonging to their new environment. It has been fantastic to see the current kindy’s showing some a sense of leadership as they act as buddies to support the pre kindy’s in this transition.

I hope you have all had a great start to the new year

Until next time,

Miss Tiarna

**KINDERGARTEN BIRTHDAYS**

Happy 5th Birthday Si
(16th January)

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

All children require a hat and water bottle when attending the centre. These items must go home with them each day please!

Please make sure you are checking StoryPark to see what we have been doing, share special moments or comment on what has been happening in our centre each day and week! We would hate you to miss an important reminder or message!
Happy New Year Everyone!

The start of our current Vacation Care has been a Blast! Over the last three weeks we have already enjoyed Wet play (with a huge slip & slide, water balloon fights and generally just getting soaked on a hot day!), Christmas Cooking and Science Days.

The Schoolies tell me their favourite day so far has been “Apprentice Kindy Teacher Day” – our schoolies all came dressed as a teacher and were able to ‘teach a lesson’ to a small group of children! Maxx made a very energetic sports teacher, Jayden was a very handsome looking teacher who taught the Kindy’s how to make robotic hands, Kealah was a beautiful Kindy Teacher who was a pro at reading books and Jakob was a Math Teacher Wizz who taught them how to play Bingo! The children enjoyed this day as they got to understand and see what our educators do before the day starts to ensure that all children have the best day they could possibly have!

We still have lots of fun activities planned for the last few weeks before School resumes and we would love to have you join us! Our Vacation Care program is available in the foyer if you would like more information about the fun times we have planned!

These holidays have seen us welcome several new friends and we are looking forward to our Schoolies numbers continuing to increase as school returns in a few weeks – why not encourage your friends to come along and join our fun times! In 2020 we will also be supporting Bundaberg Central State School with Before and After School Care – along with continuing to support Woongarra State School, East State School and Norville State School.

Miss Tiff

**SCHOOLIES BIRTHDAYS**

No Birthdays this month!

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

Please make sure your Schoolie brings a hat and water bottle each day they attend LEAD Bundaberg! These items also need to go home with them each day please!

Please make sure you are checking StoryPark to see what we have been doing, share special moments or comment on what has been happening in our centre each day and week! We would hate you to miss an important reminder or message!
NEXT MONTH’S EVENTS
FEBRUARY 2020

1ST Play Outdoors Day: A perfect opportunity to head to a local park, enjoy the fresh air and have a picnic with family and friends! With so many local parks and beaches to choose from who can resist?

4TH Miss Tiarna’s Birthday!!!!

14TH Library Lovers Day; why not encourage your families love of reading and head to the Bundaberg Regional Council to check out a book or three, and you don’t even have to stop at books – board games, DVD’s, Audiobooks and more……

14TH Valentines Day Fundraiser; book in for our Date Night Fundraiser! More details available shortly, limited spaces so make sure you book in early!

25TH Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day): originally a day to use up all the good stuff in the pantry (flour, eggs, butter etc) before giving these up for lent……but hey, who doesn’t want a day to celebrate and eat pancakes! We will be doing a pancake stall for breakfast, starting at 6:30am – why not stop by and enjoy some yummy treats for breakfast and help us with our fundraising at the same time! We will even have coffee and hot chocolate available too 😊