

### In this month's Newsletter...

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QA6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities.

QA6.1.1 Families have opportunities to be involved in the services and contribute to service decisions.

### P.O.L.D stands for Parents of Little Diggers...

**Parents are encouraged to participate at any time in, anyway.** For example... You are invited to come to meetings (whenever you can). Notification will be given on the front door when these are on. Or, just come in and do something with the children, read a story, share a skill or knowledge. **This enriches our program, children's learning and helps to connect with each other and our community.** There is no cost to you, but your time. Do it for yourself and your child/ren. It is an opportunity to connect with other families within your centre, be a part of and contribute to your centre, share your ideas, knowledge and skills, learning from each other and have support. **Feel free to ask questions anytime.** To clarify or gain a better understanding of what we do and why and anything you might want to know. There may also be times when we may not have an answer for you straight away but, we will do our best to get back to you as soon as possible. **Please support P.O.L.D and their Fundraising Events and Efforts,** as this is for you and your child/ren. P.O.L.D also supports our **QIP** Quality Improvement Plan goals... together we can achieve more.



Sarah Chamberlain from Little Diggers Preschool and Child Care Centre presents books from **Paint The Ridge REaD** and **Books4Outback** to support **Books for Babies** to **get up and running...** with Marandra McBride and Rebel Brown - Parents As Teachers Program - from WinangaLi, Belinda Bailey - Childhood Nurse (covering local area), Karnie Walford from Did Ya Know Project – NSW Outback Division, and Carol Ferguson from McKillop Childrens Services LR.

**QA6.2 Collaborative partnerships enhance childrens inclusion, learning and well being.**

### \* Important dates coming up...

- \* Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March - **Harmony Day Morning Tea** here at Little Diggers. Bring a plate to share... reflecting what you like or your culture etc.
- \* Monday 25<sup>th</sup> of March - **POLD AGM** - Parents Of Little Diggers. See details below.
- \* Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April - **Easter Morning Tea Gathering.**
- \* Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April - **West Pymble Group** 9.30 – 11, as well as Gordon from WAMS for **Hearing Screening.**
- \* **Our Egg on the Easter - Float Parade,** Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April.
- \* Monday 13<sup>th</sup> **Barbie Bates** - Keynote presentation on **Books and Bonding, Builds Brains** from PTTR 5.30 at the LRBC in the Dining Room. After which you can join in Dinner.
- \* Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of May - Our Community **"Hatching Event"** and **meeting our Mascot** at the LRCS. As well as being part of the **Reading Relay.**

**HARMONY DAY**

IS HELD ON 21 MARCH & CELEBRATES HOW ALL OF OUR DIFFERENCES MAKE AUSTRALIA A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE!

HARMONY.GOV.AU

L2.2b Children explore the diversity of culture and the opportunities this presents.

## \*From the Children

**Recycling** - Tally end of March \$608.50. **Thank you to Florence, Liam, Karnie** and the **NSW Outback crew** towards this goal. **Thanks also to Noah, Quinn**



**and Phoenix** who contributed to our program with recycle/ reuse ideas, projects using yoghurt lids and newspaper.

QA3.2.3 Children are being environmentally responsible.

## QA6 Families and Children contribute to our Program...



**Thank you to Grace and Thomas** for some new sandpit toys and new prams. **Quinn** set these up with **Brooke** ready for play. It was great to see the boys interest in the pram play... **caring fathers.** 😊



## **\*STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths.**

Our first experiment involved oil, water and colour. **Natalie** guided the children through the process, adding the ingredients and then mixing this up, which made it turned black. Then the magic began... **the colours separated.** This experience lead **us to colour blending** experiments over the next couple of weeks. First with water and cups... and then on paper towel with pipettes.



LO4 Children are confident and involved learners. From these experiments children LO4.2 develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigation ... all through play. 😊

## \*Butterfly Life Cycle...

From children connecting with nature and LO4.1a expressing wonder and interest in their environments, we followed up with learning about... The Butterfly Life Cycle. We read *The Hungry Caterpillar* and sang the *Fuzzy Wuzzy Caterpillar* and got involved in research LO5.5 using technology to access



information and investigate...The life cycle of a butterfly. We learned that the caterpillar morphs into a chrysalis and becomes a butterfly. While the caterpillar, who spins a cocoon, will become a moth. So we discovered what we had found outside was actually a cocoon from a moth.

### The Fuzzy Wuzzy Caterpillar.

The fuzzy wuzzy caterpillar curled up on a leaf.

Spun a little chrysalis and then fell fast asleep.

While she was sleeping she dreamt that she could fly  
and later when she woke up she was a butterfly.



We also had our surprise twirling/ fluttering butterfly to play with. Picture here... Shannon and Harlen enjoying this experience together.



## We love books....



**\*Books and Bonding, Builds Brains.** LO5.2 Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts engaging in conversations with other and learning together.

**Thank you to Mary** for donating a collection of *Hush Little Poss* books to the children of Little Diggers. We read these **together** as a small group with **Megan**. Each child was able to have their own copy to read along. We also enjoy books **outside**... a group here using the pictures to work out the word with **Debra's** support. We also LO3.1f **enjoy moments of solitude**... reading a book at rest time.

**\* Going on a Bear Hunt...**

This has been an ongoing interest with the children. We have been reading from the book, doing it and with music and movement. We have also looked at different versions ... Going on a Croc, Egg and Nature Hunt.



Scout shared her very own...  
Going on a Lion Hunt.

This has led us to re-enacting the story outside.  
LO5.2d Children take on roles of literary users in their play recalling and acting out the story using props.



**We can go over it. We can't go under it. We have to go through it.**



We even had a Mum share that at home her child retells the story and makes her say "We have to go through it." Once we get to the cave and tip toe through... then the most exciting part comes ... **It's a BEAR!**

Over time the props have developed to support this imaginative play.

Brooke and Natalie create a forest and a snow storm to go through.

- Playing with spatial awareness concepts.



Extending on this play we have also been having fun singing...  
"There's a bear in there and a chair as well, there are people with games and stories to tell. Open wide come inside its... Little Diggers."

## “Paint The Ridge REaD” ...



### QIP QA6.2.3 Community Engagement and Building Relationships...

Miyay brought the egg to Little Diggers Preschool and Children Care Centre, for us to help care for and look after. The first question was “What’s in the egg?” As we have been exploring the life cycle of the butterfly some children thought... there might be a caterpillar inside. Once we read the story, they worked out it was an emu egg and learned the local language name for Emu ... Dhinawan. Children connected to the story “Girl, like me!” “I live in Lightning Ridge.” “I go to bore baths.” “Me too.” As we brought the egg inside... the children sang a song to let

it know we care for it. Children worked on writing their name, some children forming letters. Some children making makings, representing their name... Early Literacy in Action. The children talked about their names noticing and commenting, “I have a long name.” “Mine short.” All the children at Little Diggers added their name to the egg to make it strong. 8.3.19

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March - There was talk amongst the teachers that “The Egg was going to arrive today”. Alira, Sophie, Izak and Hendrik took our egg over to the Lightning Ridge Central School to Andrew Newman and the Kinder Classes - Above. Alira was excited to be helping with this important job. Sophie emphasising, “We will be careful.” Izak said “I saw my brother Ezra”. Hendrik explained to his Mum “I go to the big kids school and brought them the egg”. Jacob (one of the Kinder children who have a sibling at Little Diggers) told us what arrived at big school today... “The Egg” and that they are “Close to know what is in there.” At home Jayhli (Jacob’s) sister talked about “the girl” in the story. Samuel (Thomas’s brother) let us know “I got to see the egg today and I put my own name on it”. Below - Penny Fahey told Mark's story and let us know that “It kept the kids interested, it was a great story. The kids talked, read, sang and rhymed to the egg ... it was quite gorgeous.” After the students had written their name Kerri-Anne Turk helped the children with adding it to the egg. The students shared various ideas of what might be inside the egg. Penny, who is the Librarian, is hoping it might be a book. ☺



Lennie pointing out his name is on the egg.

Thank you to all the LRCS Students and Teachers who contributed to this experience and for helping to make our egg grow strong.

From our Community General Interagency Meeting we were given this information to pass on to you. QA6.1.3 Current information is available to families about community services to support parenting & family wellbeing.

### Available Services

- Community Health Nurses
- Aboriginal Health Practitioners
- Diabetes Educator
- Sexual Health Nurse
- Child & Family Nurse - Immunisation Clinic
- Mental Health & Counselling
- Dressing Clinic
- Pathology Collection Service
- Palliative Care
- Community Health Exercise Group
- Telehealth Services

### Visiting Services

- Australian Hearing Services
- Cardiologist
- Counsellor – Mental Health
- Dentist - Adult
- Dental Therapist - Child
- General Surgeon
- Midwife
- Ophthalmologist - Specialist Eye Team
- Optometrist
- Physiotherapist
- Podiatrist
- Psychiatrist
- Psychiatrist - Child
- Sexual Assault Counselling
- Women’s Health Nurse
- Women’s GP

## Lightning Ridge Primary & Community Health Care Services



**Address: Cnr Pandora & Opal Street**

**PO Box 84**

**Lightning Ridge. NSW 2834**

**Phone: 02 6829 9900**

**Fax: 02 6829 9918**

**Business Hours- 8.30am to 4.30pm**

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Each morning we gather and say... Our “**Getting in Touch**” Saying.

“We touch the ground of our land. We reach for the sky that covers our earth. We touch our heart and care for our world and each other.

I pledge to be the best I can be. Happy, healthy and strong, and a contributing member of my family and my community.”

Share the love. 

LO2 children are connected with and contribute to their world and LO2.1 develop a sense of belonging to groups and community and an understanding of reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation.