

news

JET: This is a reminder for parents that are eligible for the JET payment through the Department of Human Services. For this payment to be applied to the cost of your child care, you are required to present your confirmation letter to the Family Day Care office. We are not able to process this payment without this letter.

PHOTOCOPYING & LAMINATING: Effective from 12th March 2015, the office will no longer be providing a laminating service for Educators. Also, new charges apply for photocopying (black and white only). These are:-

A4 = 20^c and A3 = 50^c

When forwarding documentation to the office for certifying, please also include a copy to be certified or the appropriate money. Please be mindful that we hold very minimal change and we would appreciate the correct change being supplied. Photocopying charges are not able to be deducted from your fortnightly payment and payment is required at the time of photocopying.

EDUCATOR VACANCIES: Educators are reminded to notify the office every time there are changes to their child care vacancies. This streamlines the process for Co-ordinators when completing new enrolments and it is a requirement for our Service to report weekly to the Department of Social Services with our vacancy numbers. Remember, part of our Funding Application requires our Service to provide evidence of unmet demand for child care in our area. If Educators have filled child care places and not notified the office, this will not reflect favourably for our Service when we submit our weekly report.

ANNUAL SAFETY CHECK: February and March have been busy months as all our Educators have been through their annual re-assessment and safety check. An area that has come under the spotlight this year has been fencing and the importance of Educators being vigilant with regular maintenance. Parents may be asked to sign an additional or amended Risk Minimisation Plan in relation fencing. I would like to thank each and every Educator for working with us through this process.

What's On?

Fortnight ending:

5 and 19 April 2015

Public Holidays:

3 April—Good Friday

4 April—Easter Saturday

6 April—Easter Monday

25 April—Anzac Day

Birthdays

April

18th Karen McNaught



FDC Gympie Region Team

Phone: 5482 6099

Email: admin@fdcgympie.org.au

www.fdcgympie.com.au

Service Manager/Nominated Supervisor

Sue Williams

Educational Leader/Certified Supervisor

Kay Braddock

Certified Supervisor

Merril Patrick

Administration

Susan Duncan

Jill Kewin

Registrar

Nicky Giesen

Office Hours

Mon—Fri: 8.30am to 4.00pm

Approved Provider

The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q)

Management Committee

Uniting Church Child Care Association
(Gympie Congregation)





STAFF PROFILE - Hello All.



I'm Nicky Giesen, the new Family Day Care Registrar. I have been resident in Gympie for almost 5 years and have practiced the accounting game for around 15 years, for government and not-for-profit organisations. Some of you may recognise me from the Early Years Family Hub. Since becoming mummy to a gorgeous little boy 5 years ago, I've also discovered the delights of paint and playdough, and have started to believe that I will never see grown-up TV again!

I'm really stoked to be working here at FDC. It's a great organisation that plays such a valuable role in the community, so I'm very pleased to have this opportunity to be a part of that. Thank you to the Committee for selecting me, and thank you to the lovely staff here at Red Hill Road who have made me feel very welcome and who are also taking it easy on me whilst I find my feet!

★ Educational Leader

In the last 2 newsletters we have identified *collecting information about children* and *identifying strengths, interests and goals* as two very important phases in the **cycle of planning**.

It is now time to look at the “**learning environment**”. When describing learning environments we use words such a *flexible, vibrant, rich, welcoming, challenging, inviting, interesting* and so on. The learning environment provides a space for *open-ended interactions, spontaneity, risk taking, creativity, exploration and discovery*.

Reflect on your own learning environment. How many of these words can be applied to your space?

Is your environment responsive to those strengths, needs and interests of the children in your care?

Look at your environment through the children's eyes, through families eyes and even the eyes of prospective clients. How would they describe it?

One great way to get ideas is to take the opportunity to visit other Educators especially through a *play session*. I have seen some fantastic environments in our service especially in the area of sustainability and natural environments. Speak to Merril if you are interested in attending a play session with other Educators that may have a particular focus such as “environments”. There are also some excellent resources in the toy library for ideas on environments for children.

Kay



REV'S RAMBLINGS—A caring community, loving Jesus, reaching out to a hurting world. I shared with the committee last Wednesday evening of the importance of vision. Most are aware of the saying that – without a vision, the people perish. That actually stems from the Bible and can be found in Proverbs 29: 18. While its actual interpretation is more to do with revelation from God and that without it, moral and societal chaos reigns supreme, it is still worth noting that vision is critical to leadership and knowing where one is heading. The church here has recently undergone some in depth analysis of itself and a few weeks ago adopted the above as our Vision Statement. It helps us identify clearly and succinctly - and hopefully simply - who we are trying to be realizing that we need God's supernatural help to achieve anything really. It means that we care. It means that we do so not in isolation but in community – a sense of shared values and shared purpose. It means that we love Jesus first and foremost and that this love – incidentally revealed to us a fresh each Easter – sacrificially given to you and I without conditions is the foundation to all we are and do. It means that we are seeking to be more than spiritual goodie goodies – to be doing what we can to aid a world which in general aches for direction and searches for purpose and meaning. This statement will appear on every communication from the church over coming weeks in order that our worshipping people might own it, those we serve might appreciate it, and those for whom we reach out – and that includes all our educators, our staff, our parents and children may – over time - see and feel the difference. I read the other day that **vision is a picture of the future that creates passion for the present**. So let me ask – What vision have you that creates and inspires the passion within you?

★ Toy Library

Some different Easter ideas

<http://simpleasthatblog.com/2014/04/funny-bunny-easter-hairdo.html>

<http://www.kraftrecipes.com/recipes/funny-bunny-eggs-143450.aspx>

<http://www.sheknows.com/food-and-recipes/articles/1033799/hatching-chick-deviled-eggs-recipe>

<http://www.artistshelpingchildren.org/easterbunnyrabbitartscraftsideaskids.html>

<http://aboutfamilycrafts.com/candy-carrot-cone-craft/>

<http://www.ajoyfulriot.com/2014/04/09/handheld-easter-egg-pinatas/>