

# Educator e-dition - July 2016

## Date Claimers:

Fortnight Ending:  
10 & 24 July 2016

Naidoc Family Fun Day  
Celebration:  
15 July 9.30-2.30pm

Educator Training Day:  
6 August

## Birthdays

Rosslyn—13th July



**NATIONAL WORKFORCE CENSUS WEEK 23 TO 29 MAY:** This census was **mandatory** for all child care services approved to receive CCB and failure to participate would have affected our eligibility for funding. Thankfully, we have now completed this. This was a mammoth task and a huge "Thank You" goes out to Susan Duncan for all the work she did to ensure this was completed within the specified timeframe. Unfortunately, we were not privy to all the questions until after census week and it was very obvious that the census was designed with child care centres in mind and not Family Day Care. Because of this, Susan sent out urgent, high importance emails to obtain the relevant information. Thank you to all the Educators that responded, it is much appreciated. For those that didn't respond and required a follow-up phone call, please reflect on this and consider the impact on others.

**NEW STAFF MEMBER:** We are very pleased to have Lauren Miller join our team as a Casual Relief Co-ordinator. Initially, Lauren will be working Wednesdays and Fridays and she is already out and about meeting Educators. She is looking forward to seeing the great relationships you have with the children, and the quality programs and wonderful environments that make up our service.



Hi, My name is Lauren Miller and I am a new Coordinator here at Family Day Care Gympie Region. I have a background in Childcare, Nannying and Teaching, and I have a four year old daughter. I look forward to getting out and about and meeting all of you over the next few months.

Cheers, Lauren.

## HOUSE KEEPING:

The service mobile is only for **emergencies only** and **after hours** if needed. If you need to contact the service please use our landline number or alternatively our admin email ([admin@fdcgympie.org.au](mailto:admin@fdcgympie.org.au)).

If you are responding to an email from a staff member then use their individual service email.

Staff personal mobiles are only to be used after hours or in the case of an emergency.

Please remember to submit booked hours forms prior to timesheet processing. These should be received by the Friday of the fortnight ending.



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## FDC Gympie Region Team

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Email: [admin@fdcgympie.org.au](mailto:admin@fdcgympie.org.au)  
[www.fdcgympie.com.au](http://www.fdcgympie.com.au)

**Service Manager/Nominated Supervisor:** Sue Williams

**Educational Leader/Certified Supervisor:** Kay Braddock

**Certified Supervisor:** Merrill Patrick

**Certified Supervisor:** Lauren Miller

**Administration Officer:** Susan Duncan

**Registrar:** Nicky Giesen

**Office Hours:** Mon-Fri: 8.30am—4.00pm

**Approved Provider:** The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q)

**Management Committee:** Uniting Church Child Care Association (Gympie Congregation)





## Educational Leader—

Over the next couple of months we will be facilitating some play sessions and are hoping that you can all be involved.

Play sessions are a great way to network and make contact with other Educators, share ideas, view different environments and for children to participate in a larger group experience and to get out and have some fun.

The sessions will be facilitated by Lauren and Merrill.

Each Educator attending will receive a copy of the Play session Plan for their records with an evaluation attached to complete in their own time. We will also be asking for reflection and feedback that will influence ongoing sessions.

The focus over the next few months will be on Physical Health and ways that we can support children in our own environments. This is particularly relevant at the moment in light of the latest AEDC results (refer last newsletter).

As part of these sessions I will be attending for some of the time to support Educators with an informal shared group critical reflection.

This is a great way to become more familiar with what critical reflections are and support you in your ongoing practice. This information will then be documented and you will receive a copy for your own records.

Looking forward to catching up.

Kay

## YARN UP TOK BLO YUMI:

Our Yarn Up series has come to an end. For those of you who attended, we hope you found this interesting & informative. We would like to share a poem with you which has been written by our Educator, Margaret Rapley. Margaret penned this poem many years ago whilst operating as a tour guide in the Northern Territory.

*There's a certain feeling of sadness for the original people of these lands,  
When they were free to roam around and they made everything by hand.*

*They had their native boundaries and knew where not to roam,  
It was told to be taboo and they had respect for others homes.  
They are taught from early age of their culture, dreamtimes and ways of lives,*

*I can't imagine what it was like when they saw the white man arrive.  
The trespass of their country, the change and invasion of all they knew.  
It was all to change so quickly and was hard to accept the new.  
We are not so understanding of our true Australian.*

*We are arrogant and ignorant and fail to learn from them all we can.  
They are people and they have feelings and sure they are different from who we are.*

*They have a better feel for this land and outdo us whites by far.*

*Lets take time to talk and listen to the people who know best.*

*About how to treat our rugged country and how it puts you to the test.*

*Lets hug them and embrace them and treat them with love and care.*

## CHECK IT OUT



Looking for a quick and easy way to complete an observation...Try the **2Simple (to build a profile)** App. Load it on your phone or ipad...take a photo...tell the story...note any next steps...link to outcomes...email it to yourself or a parent...print or store electronically...tooo simple!!!

**NAIDOC FAMILY FUN DAY CELEBRATION:** The Gympie 2016 NAIDOC celebrations flyer has been emailed to all Educators. Our Service will be participating in the Family Fun Day on Friday 15th July, 2016. This will be held at the Gympie Civic Centre between 9:30am—2:30pm.

Come along and enjoy the various dancers including the Gubbi Gubbi Dancers, traditional story telling, art and crafts, traditional games and loads of stalls. We hope to see you there.

**REV'S RAMBLINGS**—I shared this story with the Board last Monday night and thought I would share it with all of you as I believe there are some significant truths hidden within its content. A man bought a small rural acreage property. The house was at the front of the property not that far off the road and between the front door and the footpath was this large, ugly boulder. The man wondered why it was left there when the house was built and was left to only surmise that it was too big to shift. So being somewhat creative and possessing an artistic flair, he had an idea. He scrummaged through some old books until he found this picture. And he began the painful process of sculpting something from this ugly rock. It took some months to complete but finally he stood back and admired his handiwork – he had made a stunning, indeed captivating and beautiful sculpture of an elephant. It was so life like. Over the coming days and weeks his front yard became an attraction as people stopped to admire the elephant and take photos etc. Hidden within this huge, horrible eyesore was a masterpiece. From nothing to something one might say. His neighbor, who chose not to buy that property because of the ugly rock in the front yard,



asked the man, “how did you create such a stunning feature out of such an ugly boulder?” The new owner simply replied, “I just chipped away everything that was not an elephant”. What a powerful message. Any job – any role we have – can at times be frustrating and seem lifeless. It's like we have this ugly ‘rock’ in our life. I knew a young woman once who for a time hated being a mother. She was young and although loving her son, couldn't help but be envious of her peers who didn't share her responsibilities. Then one day she realized that being a Mum was one of the greatest privileges she had been blessed with and she began chipping away the envy. She found her elephant. All of us have areas of our life that need to be chipped away. It may be work related or it may be personal. Whatever it is – the good news is that it can be chipped away. It may take time and it may seem for ages like there is no difference – until that day when someone notices and remarks wow – you are different. Let's find the elephant! And by the way, in case you were wondering – God is a great sculptor trainer! Ask him?

**Reverend Dave Thomas is the Chairman of the Uniting Church Child Care Association Management Committee**