

news



HAPPY NEW YEAR: The Staff at Family Day Care Gympie Region hopes that everyone had a safe and happy Christmas, and had fun celebrating the arrival of the new year. We all look forward to working together with our Educators, families and children throughout the coming year.

SO LONG: Our service would like to wish Laura-Jean Lawrence, Wendy Kindregan and Kay-Leigh Kachel all the best as they take on new endeavours. We hope you enjoyed your time as Educators with our service.



PARENTING PROGRAMS: There are two programs available at the moment. Below is information on both of these.

1-2-3-Magic and Emotion Coaching Parenting Program for parents and carers who are interested in learning simple and effective parenting strategies. It is designed for children aged 2 to 12 years of age and will be held on 17th and 24th February and 3rd March at The Early Years Family Hub. You will be required to attend all 3 sessions. The workshop is free but you must purchase the workbook (\$12.00) Bookings are essential. Contact Andre on 5482 9012 or Jodie on 5480 3400 for further information or to register.



Circle of Security Parenting Program is a relationship based 7 week parenting program that is suitable for parents with children under 8 years. This program is free and will be held every Tuesday from 11th February to 1st April from 10am to 12pm at the Gympie Community Health Centre. Phone 5489 8718 or email denise.kane@health.qld.gov.au to register. Bookings are essential and places are limited. For more information on Circle of Security visit www.circleofsecurity.net.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Child Care information for families.
Important Notice For Families: Are you yet to lodge a lump sum claim for Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate and/or Family Tax Benefit for the last two financial years? If the answer is YES, you only have until Monday 30th June 2014 to lodge a lump sum claim with Centrelink. CCB and FTB lump claim periods have been reduced from two years to one year. For more information about lump sum claims for Child Care Benefit, Child Care Rebate and Family Tax Benefit:

- www.humanservices.gov.au/taxtime
- Call 136 150 between 8am and 8pm
- Call 131 202 if you need information in a language other than English



What's On?



9th f/n Ending
14th Valentines Day
23rd f/n Ending



★ Birthdays

February

4th Elaine Elson
18th Amber Garwood
25th Katie Scott

Early March

1st Muriel Sellars
2nd Sally Barnden



FDC Gympie Region Team

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Nominated Supervisor Marilyn Mullaly

Coordinators Kay Braddock
Narelle Cramb
Sue Williams

Administration Trish Pountney
Joanne Lewis
Susan Duncan
Jill Kewin

Resource Coordinator Merril Patrick

Office Hours

Mon, Tue, Thurs: 8.30a to 4.30p
Friday: 8.30a to 4.00p
Office closed on Wed

Management Committee
Uniting Church Child Care
Association
(Gympie Congregation)





★ Educators

EDUCATOR TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS:

Please check the FDC Gympie Region website on a regular basis to keep up to date with professional development and workshop opportunities.

2013 FDCA SYMPOSIUM - MELBOURNE: *Just a note from Jenny.* Ivan and I flew to Melbourne on the 2nd November as I was invited to the 2013 FDCA Symposium to celebrate my 25 years service with Family Day Care. We arrived in time for a quick walk around, and then got ready for the function which started at 6.00pm. After pre-dinner drinks we met up with Amiee, and enjoyed our meals. Ivan attempted to take photos of the function room and stage area, but the yellow lighting inside prevented the photos turning out. Afterwards, we listened to a presentation about the winning Educators and their services, and heard about the great things they do with the children in care. Taking lots of photos within my care environment is something I find difficult, and so I was amazed by the number of photos on display, and wondered over what period of time these were taken. The names of all the Educators who have worked 25 years or more were then displayed on a screen and we were invited to make our way to the front where we were given our certificates. The rest of the evening was spent enjoying eating, drinking and dancing, and making use of the photo booth provided. On Christmas Eve, I was surprised to receive a parcel in the post which contained a silver cup engraved with Family Day Care Australia, and a badge that says Family Day Care Australia Recognising 25 Years.

Thanks, Jenny Rigby



REV'S RAMBLINGS: The other day I went to jump on my bike (motorbike that is) and realized that I had a huge roofing nail in my back tyre. Ouch, I thought, that can't be good. When you only have two tyres on the road you kinda need both to be in good shape.

Knowing that tyres these days are all tubeless, I knew that I couldn't just take it out. So off to the motorbike tyre place for some assistance! There followed an interesting conversation. I could plug the hole caused by the nail and it might last for a time but I was told that they (the repairer) could not take any responsibility for the plug blowing out at any time as they do not recommend plugging. The option was to buy a new tyre. Ummmm – plug about \$25 – new tyre \$256. \$25 and a significant risk (what would happen if the plug blew out when on the highway at 100klms/hr?) or \$256 and have an assurance that the tyre will carry you safely. What would you do? I chose to go the latter – a very expensive option – but one that gives me and my wife some confidence about the future. I suspect that many of you would do the same. But here's an interesting thought. Many of us accept the lesser cost (and greater long term risk) when it comes to our work, our parenthood and even our own living. You know we take shortcuts – look for short term fixes – focus on the immediate - all the time accepting the risk of 'blowing out'. As we begin 2014 in earnest is it time to refocus and look for those solutions which may cost more in the short term but provide much more peace of mind and security in the long term? For us in the church, the ultimate security for our future comes in the form of a personal relationship with Jesus – which is available for anyone. Give me a call sometime. I love a good chat and a good coffee.



★ Toy Library

ANNUAL CAR RESTRAINT CHECKS: are due once again. These checks will be held on Monday 10th and Tuesday 18th of February. Please phone the office to book your time slot. Places are filling fast, so hurry to get a time that suits you best.



Educational Leader ★

PROFESSIONAL REFLECTIONS: are a time to STOP; BREATHE; and TALK - with other Educators about what is actually happening around us, and HOW we can move forward in our practices. Often our best current practices are inherited when they should be embedded. A topic to think about.

Where are you heading in 2014?

What will you do in 2014 to improve your Education and Care Service?



Narelle