

# news



**APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUNDING:** Our Service has been busy collating and completing our funding application which supports services with the operational costs of running a Family Day Care Coordination Unit. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those Educators and families that have taken the time to write letters of support and complete forms telling us what is important to you and what you value about Family Day Care that other child care services cannot provide. This documentation will form part of our application which will be submitted prior to 31st May, 2015.

**WINTER WELLNESS:** The cooler months of the year are arriving and along with it comes the inevitable coughs and colds. Many children with a mild illness, such as a cold, can attend child care without causing harm to themselves or the other children. Whilst it is sometimes okay to send your child off to care with a cold, when making your decision at the beginning of the day, ask yourself these questions:

- ★ Will my child be well enough to comfortably and happily participate in the activities of the day?
- ★ Will my child's Educator be able to care for my child without it affecting their ability to look after the other children?
- ★ Will my child pass the illness on to their playmates if I send them today?

Another good habit to get into is to notify your child's Educator about any illness that occurred the night before and also if any medication, such as paracetamol, has been administered prior to delivering your child to care. This may make Educators more alert to any additional signs of sickness your child may display during the day.

**SERVICE LEVY:** In light of Federal Government budget restraints around the Community Support Funding for Services, our Service has made the decision to increase levies next financial year (2015/2016). Currently the levies are 49c per hour for parents and 22c per hour per Educator. Our Service has resolved to combine these two levies into a Service levy which will be charged directly to the Educator. The total fee will be 99c per child care hour or part thereof. This determination has been made to reduce the impact as much as possible for both Educators and families. These are:

- ★ The Service fee will be a legitimate tax deduction for Educators.
- ★ The GST component is completely refundable to Educators.
- ★ The Educator's fees will take into consideration the new levy which will attract CCB and CCR for parents.

Our Service is very pleased that we have been able to keep our levies to a minimum as many Family Day Care Services across the state have been left with no alternative but to double (or more) their fees.

**CCB INCREASE:** During June, the Department of Social Services will advise the child care sector of the new base rate for Child Care Benefit. Educators will be revising their hourly rates, taking into consideration these changes. Educators, allowing for families individual CCB%, will be able to provide an estimate of the new out of pocket expenses for parents, if requested.

## What's On?

Fortnight ending:  
14, 28 June  
Queens Birthday Public Holiday:  
8 June  
School Holidays:  
27 June—12 July

## Birthdays

June  
9 Melinda Gillieatt  
15 Debbie Auckram



### **FDC Gympie Region Team**

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[www.fdcgympie.com.au](http://www.fdcgympie.com.au)

#### **Service Manager/Nominated Supervisor**

Sue Williams

#### **Educational Leader/Certified Supervisor**

Kay Braddock

#### **Certified Supervisor**

Merril Patrick

#### **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)





**EDUCATOR PROFILE—BREE VOLLER**

My name is Bree Voller; I am a mum to an amazing 8 year old boy, who is my side kick and my inspiration for all I have done. I am a qualified Teachers Aide and have worked at a primary school in mostly the lower grades. I enjoyed working with the children but the school environment wasn't for me. So getting a call to work as an assistant educator and in the later stages a Co-Educator at a family day care I used to go to and did volunteer work at many years ago, sparked my want to start my own family day care. I am now an Early Childhood Educator and have called my family day care, Bree's Little Learners. It's been almost two months since I have started, every day brings new experiences and I love finding ways for the children to learn through play or see their faces when they finish an activity they really enjoyed.

My spaces filled up a lot quicker than I thought but there are a few left and also some after school spaces as well. If there are any families looking for quality care in a safe and educational home environment, you can give family day care a call and mention my name.



**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:** Each child is entitled to 42 absences each financial year that are subsidised by Child Care Benefit. Fees are charged to reserve each child's place when a child is absent for any reason, including Public Holidays. If your booked hours fall on a Public Holiday and you still require care on that day, please be aware that your Educator will charge your care for that day at their Public Holiday rate. If you do not require care for that day, you will be charged for an absence at the normal rate, which will be subsidised by your Child Care Benefit.

**WELCOME:** We would like to welcome our new Educators that have joined our team this year. They are Tanya Jacobi, Bree Voller, Rhonda Hart and Shelley Skene. Welcome aboard and we hope you enjoy your time with us.



**EDUCATOR TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS:**

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



**REV'S RAMBLINGS—**Well, the Gympie Show is over for another year. Did you go?

I have to say that despite the Show creeping up on me this year somewhat too quickly, I went on the Saturday, walked around Machinery Alley, (could have easily got talked in to buying a trailer) had a look and admired some of the artistic talent on display, chatted with several people that I knew and one or two that I didn't, and for the most of the day and evening enjoyed the spectacle which was the Rodeo. I watched and clapped as I witnessed, along with several hundred others, men, women and young people be subjected to the whims of a crazy, mad bucking bull or horse. One 'ride' sticks in my mind. It lasted all of about 4 seconds I think and it came to an abrupt conclusion when the rider was sent like a bullet over the head of the bull landing awkwardly in the dust bowl to find the bull's hoof just missing his head. Sure it may not have been as close as it what it looked from my safe seat, but it was still way too close for me. But here's what amazed me: not only was he silly (my word) to be on that animal in the first place, he was crazy to get up, dust himself off, and head back to do it all again -adrenalin junkies to say the least. I still have the picture of that bloke spiraling toward the dirt in my mind. Then I began to ponder. He took a fall – I am sure it wasn't the first and it won't be the last in that line of 'sport' – dusted himself off and started again. We all take 'falls' in our life. When things send us spiraling off course and we hit the dirt – be it physically, emotionally, financially, socially or even spiritually. It's at that point of impact that we have a decision. Do we get up, aware of our wounds, dust ourselves off, and keep moving forward - try again, or do we give in and 'enjoy' the woundedness looking for pity? Life does not always go the way we would like it to – we all know that. Yet, it's our choices – regardless our circumstances - that determine our destiny! I am comforted to know that Jesus is always there, understands my situation, loves me regardless, and helps me stay on the right track or when I fall, to dust off and get back on that right track. It works for me and it can for you too.

**HMMMM ...**

- ★ Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?
- ★ Is a fly without wings called a walk?
- ★ How do they get koalas to cross at that yellow road sign?
- ★ What was the best thing before sliced bread?
- ★ If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
- ★ Why is the alphabet in that order—is it because of the song?
- ★ If a cow laughed, would milk come out of her nose?

