



August Newsletter



WHATS COMING UP AT PLAYTIME

9th- 17th August- National Science Week

18th till 22nd August- Book week dress up! Join the fun and volunteer to share a story with your child's class

August- Annual- book swap, sharing the love of reading in a fun and sustainable way

27th and 28th August Preschool STEPS eyescreening- please return forms asap

October- Our Grandparents Gardening and afternoon tea, date tbc

1st September - 7th September- National Child Protection Week

3rd September- Early Childhood Educators' Day

School Photos - Stay Tuned!



Don't worry - we're working on something special! More information coming soon.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

After reflecting on previous Christmas closure periods and the diverse needs of our families, we've made some adjustments this year.

While we understand many industries observe a full Christmas shutdown, we also recognise that many of our families continue working through the holiday season.

To support this balance, our centre will remain open across the holiday period, closing only on the following public holidays:
Christmas Day - Thursday, 25th December
Boxing Day - Friday, 26th December
New Year's Day - Thursday, 1st January and Friday, 2nd January

We hope this supports your family's needs during the festive season. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or require further clarification.

COMING SOON: CONNECT & COMMUNICATE TOOLKIT!

We're excited to share that once finalised, we'll be engaging with the Connect and Communicate Toolkit, a collaboration between Bright Beginnings and the Department of Education.

This resource supports strong, meaningful interactions with children and families and aligns beautifully with our focus on connection and communication across our service.

Stay tuned as we prepare to implement this exciting new tool!

WE'RE SO PROUD OF OUR BEAUTIFUL TAMMIE!



Tammie Hancock has been nominated for the 2025 Wauchope & Hinterland Business Awards and we couldn't think of anyone more deserving. Tammie has been a loyal, calming presence at Playtime for over 14 years, supporting children, families, and fellow educators with unwavering dedication.

She's led countless initiatives, from championing sustainability across the centre to launching our much-loved annual community clothing drive. As a mentor, Room Leader, and advocate for inclusion, Tammie quietly leads with heart, wisdom, and integrity every single day. Her passion, professionalism, and deep connection to our community make her an irreplaceable part of Playtime and we're so lucky to have her.

BUILDING STRONG BODIES & BRAINS THROUGH PLAY

You may have noticed our adventurous outdoor experiences continue to evolve, with recent additions like abseil-style tree climbs joining much-loved favourites like the rope swing. These types of play aren't just fun, they're powerful tools for supporting your child's brain and body development. Known as "heavy work," activities that involve climbing, hanging, pushing, or pulling provide deep sensory input that helps children feel calm, focused, and better able to regulate their emotions and bodies. They build strength, coordination, and resilience, while also activating brain pathways linked to attention and learning. By offering these opportunities in safe, supported ways, we're helping your child build confidence, body awareness, and essential lifelong skills all through the joy of play!

A HUGE THANK YOU - CLOTHING SWAP SUCCESS!

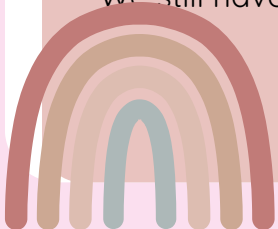
A Huge Thank You - Clothing Swap Success!

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated, sorted, and shopped during our recent Clothing Swap. Your generosity and community spirit helped us support dozens of families—not just within our Playtime community, but across the wider Wauchope area as well. Together, we've made a real difference, easing the load for local families and giving quality clothing, shoes, and essentials a second life.

Thanks to your involvement, we've also saved a significant amount of wardrobe items from ending up in landfill—proving that small actions can have a big impact.

We still have a selection of leftover items available, so please feel free to pop in and help yourself—everything left is up for grabs!

Thank you again for helping us create something so meaningful.



FUEL FOR A POSITIVE DAY – THE POWER OF A HEALTHY LUNCHBOX

What children eat during the day can have a big impact on how they feel, focus, and behave. A healthy, balanced lunchbox helps set your child up for a more productive, settled, and positive day. Foods high in sugar or low in nutrients can lead to energy crashes, mood swings, and trouble concentrating. In contrast, whole foods like fruit, vegetables, wholegrains, and lean proteins help keep little bodies and brains fuelled and focused.

Need some lunchbox inspiration? Here are a few simple, egg-free and nut-free sandwich ideas:

Chicken, lettuce & avocado on wholemeal bread

Ham, cheese & grated carrot wraps

Hummus & salad on wholegrain bread

Tuna & cucumber in a soft roll

If you're finding it difficult to provide some of the healthier options, please don't hesitate to speak with Crystal or your child's educators, we're here to help wherever we can. Together, we can support every child to thrive with the right fuel for learning and play.

