



July Newsletter



A BITTERSWEET GOODBYE TO OUR BEAUTIFUL EDUCATOR ASH



We have some heartfelt news to share – our wonderful Ash will soon be leaving Playtime at Wauchope as she begins a new adventure at our sister centre, Playtime at Port. While it's not goodbye forever (she's only down the road!), it's certainly a bittersweet moment for us all.

Ash has been our chatty ray of sunshine – brightening every day with her warmth, kindness, and boundless energy. We've cherished every story, song, dance, and costume she's shared with us. Her creativity and joy have left an unforgettable mark on our centre, and she'll be deeply missed.

But we couldn't be more excited for her as she steps into her new role as Team Leader at our smaller Port centre. We know she will thrive, grow, and flourish in this new chapter, just as she has with us.

Don't worry we fully intend to steal her back for a visit whenever we get the chance!

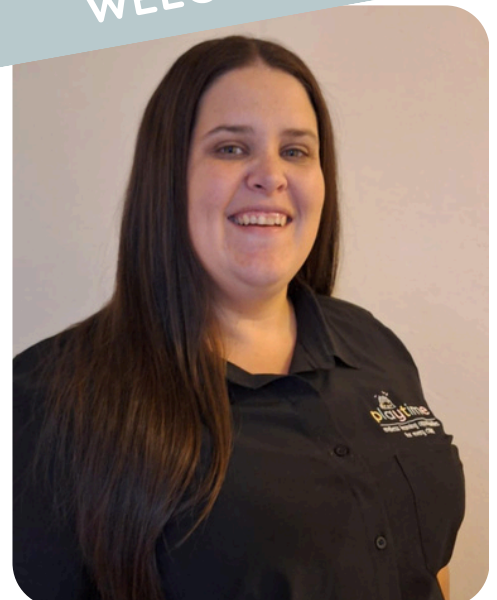
Ash's last day at Wauchope will be Friday, 4th July, so be sure to give her all the love and well-wishes she deserves before she sets off on this exciting journey. With love from all of us at Playtime



WELCOME SAM

We're excited to introduce Samantha (Sam), who has recently joined our team. Sam is a dedicated mother with over 10 years of experience in early childhood education. She holds current child protection qualifications and is passionate about inclusivity, ensuring every child has opportunities to learn and enjoy.

Currently studying for her Bachelor in Early Education, Sam has been supporting us for the past fortnight and will primarily work with our Beginners group. She's already becoming a wonderful part of our Playtime family, supporting children, families, and staff as she settles in. Please join us in warmly welcoming Sam!



CLOTHING SWAP MONDAY 21ST JULY!



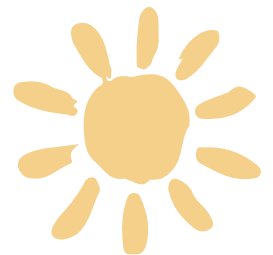
Come on down and support this amazing sustainable initiative! It's a great way to refresh your wardrobe while helping reduce waste. A huge thank you to our incredible Sustainability Leader, Tammie, who has gone above and beyond yet again to make this event happen.

We're also thrilled to share that Tammie has been nominated for Employee of the Year in this year's Wauchope Business Awards – a truly well-deserved recognition of her hard work and dedication.

THIS MONTH, WE CELEBRATE NAIDOC

From 6–13 July 2025, we proudly celebrate NAIDOC Week, a time to recognise and honour the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's theme is "The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy", a powerful call to amplify First Nations voices, share stories with strength and pride, and honour the legacy that continues to shape future generations.

We warmly invite families to share their culture, stories, and knowledge with us throughout the week. If you or a family member would like to contribute—whether through art, storytelling, music, or another cultural expression—please let us know. We'd love to welcome you into the service to celebrate together.



COMMUNITY EVENTS HAPPENING IN OUR AREA

Hastings NAIDOC Family Fun Day - Thursday 10 July, 10am–2pm, Westport Park, PMQ
A vibrant day filled with cultural performances, interactive activities, stalls, and food. A wonderful celebration for the whole family to enjoy.

Essence of Country Art Exhibition - 3–13 July, Luminance Gallery, PMQ
Featuring stunning works by local Aboriginal artists including Angela Marr, Natalie Jennings, Nardja Davies & Corina Latimore.

Free Film Screening: Emu Runner - Monday 7th July 5.45pm, Majestic Cinema, PMQ
rsvp: veronica@buttery.org.au

A heartfelt story exploring connection to Country and culture through the eyes of a young Aboriginal girl.

Let's come together to listen, learn, and celebrate the richness of the world's oldest living cultures.

CELEBRATING NAIDOC WEEK

THE NEXT GENERATION: STRENGTH, VISION & LEGACY
6-13 JULY 2025

Ancestral Lines by Jeremy Morgan Worrall

This artwork is a visual representation of the generational lines that carry through my mob. When I think of the next generation, I think towards my ancestors—Lucy Wright, Enoch Wright, Nonie Wright—through to my Nanna Audrie and my Mother Vanessa. Looking back gives me the strength and vision to look forward. Each figure in the painting is tied to family lines, like songlines, reflecting what they knew and what they passed on. The first represents lore, hunting, and tracking. The second reflects care, weaving, and love. The third shows the two combined, while the final two carry unfinished elements—symbols of knowledge and care in motion. Above them sits the essence of Country—swirling skies and a giant moon over Emmaville. It is by the fire, under these cool skies, where the next generation finds their strength, vision, and legacy.

#NAIDOC2025 #BLAKLOUDPROUD

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Aboriginal Flag designed by Mr Harold Thomas. Torres Strait Islander Flag reproduced by kind permission of the Torres Strait Island Regional Council, designed by the late Mr Bernard Namok

POSTER TITLE - ANCESTRAL LINES
ARTIST- JEREMY MORGAN WORRALL

Ancestral Lines is a visual representation of the connections and songs passed through Jeremy’s family, from his ancestors to his mother. It reflects the strength and hope found in their journey through adversity.

The figures depict knowledge like lore, hunting, care, and love, woven together like songlines, showing how culture and wisdom are passed down.

Above them is the land of Tenterfield, with its cold skies and swirling clouds, symbolizing the place where Jeremy’s family finds strength, vision, and legacy around the fire.