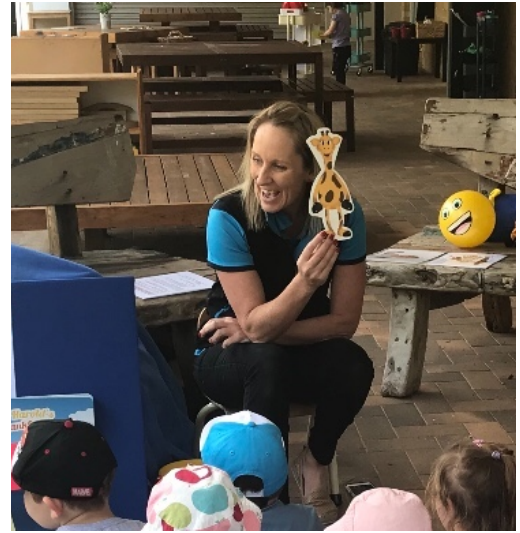




**Who remembers Healthy Harold from their childhood?**



**A classic hit for the older children last Friday**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
October



Fortnightly Newsletter. Vol. 8

## Important Dates

**Rockpool  
Incursion (P1 & P2)**

5<sup>th</sup>  
Oct

**School Photo Days**

16<sup>th</sup> &  
18<sup>th</sup>  
Oct

## Administrative News...

- **Re-enrolment**

Thank you for getting back to us regarding re-enrolment for 2019. This provides us with a solid place to start when negotiating days with new families. Of course, if your care needs change please send us an email or give us a call.

- **Sun Safety**

It's so hard to predict the weather these days! Please ensure your child has a hat and a morning application of sunscreen every day.

- **Rockpool Experience**

There is another incursion this week for Preschool 1 and 2! It's a very exciting event where a wildlife specialist brings in equipment and animals to setup a rockpool ecosystem! Again, the family contribution to this incursion is \$10. We apologise for the proximity in timing to the last incursion. If you would like your P1 or P2 child to attend please bring in the \$10 and hand to Chloe, Anna or Natasha. If you are unable to make payment this week please get in touch and we can make an alternative arrangement so that your child can still participate.

## Staffing Logistics ...

We are very lucky to have a community of engaged families who are curious, excited and interested in the operation of our wonderful Centre. A family had a chat with us this week and it sparked a conversation about the logistics of staffing a Childcare Centre. To this end, we would like to share with you the system that enables us to care for your children over the week.

During the week our wonderful educators are at My Story for 8.5 hour shifts. We stagger the start times of our educators in a way that attempts to ensure we have an educator from each learning space available for families at each end of the day. For example, when Natasha is on an early shift, we ensure that Amy is on a later one, and similarly when Helena is on an early shift, Jessi starts a bit later.

Generally speaking this sliding roster works very well and as children arrive for the day educators arrive with them, and conversely at the end of the day as children are picked up, educators can finish up their shifts. This rostering model is used widely in the ECEC sector.

When large numbers of children arrive unexpectedly early, or leave unexpectedly late, the usual course of action in Childcare is to insist educators start early, or insist they stay late until 'ratio allows'. However, Anna and I acutely remember the burn out and imposition on work/family balance that these requests place on educators 'on the floor'. For this reason, Anna and I step onto the floor if required on those busy mornings before we are fully staffed, or on those busy evenings when educators want to leave/have other commitments.

# From the Directors

Anna Tran

Chloe Chant

Apart from these circumstances, Anna and I don't include ourselves in the ratio calculations of the day. Generally speaking we are busily making plans in the office during the day, or lending an extra pair of hands here and there. We wholeheartedly believe that to be an effective leader, we need to understand the challenges, interests, frustrations and joys faced by the children and staff day-to-day.

When staff are away on annual leave or unwell, we have a pool of casual educators we call on to help out. We try to keep this group consistent so that children recognize a familiar face. Some of our casual educators are Emma, Kia, Jade, Kavita and Jacqui.

We're looking at ways to make our roster more transparent for families; it may be a physical display, inclusion in Newsletter, email etc. It's important to us to respond to families where we can, and we understand that the mental prep for some guardians regarding who they can talk to and when strengthens the trust that is critical to building strong, collaborative relationships.

## About our Educators...

**...a little insight into the lives of your children's teachers to stimulate a chat and encourage communication...**

We are very sad to bid farewell to Miss Paris as she continues her professional journey at a large business that can coach her through the ranks. We wish Paris the best of luck as she works towards her goal of business ownership within the next few years. Thank you for your contribution to My Story throughout your traineeship! You will be sorely missed! Watch this space for news on a new educator soon.

Miss Tamara rejoins us 4 wisdom teeth lighter! We're glad the procedure went well and that you've come back with such enthusiasm and energy.

Poor Miss Helena is still battling against some troublesome kidney stones, we wish her all the best and look forward to having her back in the Nursery next week.

## Sustainability and Reconciliation

It's like Christmas for Anna and Chloe in the office at the moment! We are very excited about planning a large resource purchase to support the learning and play (one and the same!) for our My Story children. We are auditing our current resources, scouting around for suppliers with ethical business practices and discussing wish lists with the educators. After all, the educators in the room with your children all day are the experts in the needs and interests of the little ones in their charge. We will be sure to post



some photos of 'the great unpacking' when it all arrives in the next couple of weeks.

The resources will be carefully picked to support not only the physical, social and cognitive development of the children, but to stimulate reflection on our 2 big projects –

Inclusion (specifically, reconciliation), and Environmental Education / Sustainability.



## **“What did you say?...”**

*Countless times in ECEC we see that look of embarrassment on a parent's face as they try to backtrack from an 'unusual' statement made by their preschool aged child. Lying is normal, and furthermore, is actually a critical addition to the array of social nuances a child will need to learn as they navigate what can be a very complicated society!*

# Why do children lie, and is it normal?

Posted on [August 21, 2018](#) by [Early Childhood Australia](#)

*This article, written by Penny Van Bergen and Carol Newall, first appeared on [The Conversation](#), on July 4, 2018.*

Children typically begin lying in the preschool years, between two and four years of age. These intentional attempts at deception may worry parents, who fear their child will become a pint-sized social deviant. But from a developmental perspective, lying in young children is rarely cause for concern. In fact, lying is often one of the first signs a young child has developed a “theory of mind”, which is the awareness others may have different desires, feelings, and beliefs to oneself. When a child misleadingly claims “Daddy said I could have an ice cream”, they’re using this awareness of others’ minds to plant false knowledge. While lying itself may not be socially desirable, the ability to know what others are thinking and feeling is an important social skill. It’s related to empathy, cooperation, and care for others when they’re feeling upset.

Continued at <http://thespoke.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/why-do-children-lie-is-it-normal/>