



# Flying Start News

Hunter Prelude Newsletter, Issue 8, Term 2, 2017

May, 2017

## Diary Dates:

23rd May	Riverlights Meeting
25th May	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea
26th May	National Sorry Day
27th May-3rd June	National Reconciliation Week
20th June	P2L Programming Meeting

Community play sessions are facilitated by Hunter Prelude, supported by early childhood educators and therapists, and partnered with Community organisations.

All playgroups are free and provide a variety of play based learning experiences and opportunities will be provided to support and enhance your child's skills.

A place to meet other parents and share your journey.

## Website of the month:

<http://www.teaching2and3yearolds.com>

Playful learning ideas for toddlers and pre-schoolers with activities and printable worksheets, great for educators and parents to gain new ideas.

## Who's Who in the Community.....

### Singleton Family Support Service

Singleton Family Support (SFSS) has been providing early intervention and parenting support programs to the Singleton community for almost 30 years.

The service has a focus on providing trauma informed, evidence based programs in a safe, inviting, and non-judgmental environment. SFSS understand that families come in all different shapes and sizes, and focuses on the connection between parents/carers and the children whilst addressing any external issues such as difficulties at school, challenging behaviours, mental health, parenting concerns, separation, domestic violence, and lack of support.

Services offered at SFSS include, case management, referrals, court support, parenting groups (Circle of Security, Tuning into Kids, Bringing up Great Kids, Keeping Children Safe, Supported Playgroup), and counselling.

"Let's Play" is our Supported Playgroup held each Thursday morning at 10am in the school terms. Let's Play is supported by our experienced Child Care Worker, Michelle, and our Family Worker, Monique.

"Let's Play" is a relaxed and safe environment to bring along your child/ren, have a play and a cuppa, meeting other families in the community. Let's Play is open to all families, and is a space free of judgement, where children and parents can be themselves, and have some fun!

If you are interested in joining Let's Play, or any of the other services provided at SFSS, please contact 65724288

or [admin@singletonfs.org.au](mailto:admin@singletonfs.org.au)



## Therapist Tip- Speech



Parents can have a big impact on their children's literacy skills. Research suggests that reading to young children, even in early infancy, has a lasting effect on language, literacy and early reading skills (American Academy of Pediatrics, 2017).

Here are a few tips to get started:

- \* Join your local library
- \* Choose books with an engaging storyline
- \* Choose books that are easy to read and predictable i.e. Feature repetitive phrases like *-Brown Bear, Brown Bear, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, We are going on a Bear Hunt*
- \* Follow the words on the page with your finger as you read, so children learn that text is read from left to right.
- \* Teach sounds by using linking text to words that are already in the child's vocabulary e.g. Point out words that start with the same letter of the child's name.
- \* Use intonation, character voices and incorporate animal and vehicle noises when appropriate Link the text to illustrations
- \* Read books more than once
- \* Read book text as it is written but also ask questions, comment, and add more information to in-



## Singleton and Scone P2L

Recently our Singleton and Scone Playgroups took part in a drawing competition run by Toyota and Faber Castell. The children were encouraged to draw their dream car. Some children chose to build a car using the blocks, then draw it. We were lucky enough to win a prize for submitting enough entries, which was a Faber Castell product pack worth over \$300.

We have split the prize between the two playgroups and the children have been making good use of the items.

*Singleton P2L is held Tuesday mornings 10-12pm at Hunter Prelude, Civic Avenue. Scone P2L is held Thursday mornings 9.15- 11.15am in Scone Public School Hall.*

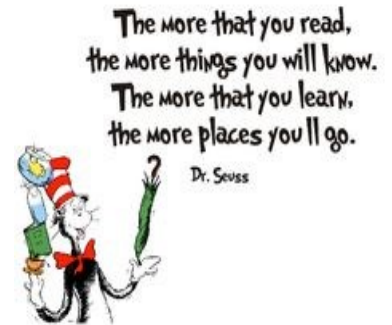
## Kurri P2L

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May the Kurri P2L Playgroup attended the Maitland Regional Art Gallery, to take part in the Bella Program, featuring "Teena's Bath time". The children were able to interact in a range of multi-sensory activities including brushing the dog, dressing up in dog costumes,



physically exploring the exhibit and using sensory materials. They were also able to take part in an art-making workshop.

*The Kurri P2L Playgroup is held every Friday during school term, from 10am - 12pm at our premises at 131 Northcote St, Kurri.*



## *A little bit about who comes to playgroup.....Speech*

*Kaitlyn- 'I'm a paediatric speech pathologist, I have an interest in working with children with disabilities. I enjoy making therapy as fun as possible whilst doing work,*

*I will be available at the Woodberry and Tenambit playgroups to discuss any questions or concerns relating to speech, language and social skills. '*



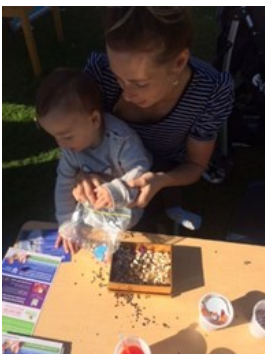
## Kurri Early Years Expo

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May Hunter Prelude joined other local services that support young children and families at the Kurri Early Years Expo.

This was a great opportunity for the wider community to make connections with local services, schools and early childhood and educational care settings.

Hunter Prelude and Family Insight held a sensory craft and information table.

Thank you to all the families that attended.



### Playgroup Locations

- Kurri Kurri
- Greta
- Cessnock West
- Tenambit
- Woodberry
- Singleton
- Scone
- Muswellbrook
- Merriwa

#### **Kurri Kurri**

131 Northcote Street  
PO Box 191  
Kurri Kurri NSW 2327  
Phone: (02) 4937 4549

#### **Singleton**

Civic Avenue  
PO Box 3001  
Singleton NSW 2330  
Phone: (02) 6571 4384

Visit us on the web at  
[www.hunterprelude.org.au](http://www.hunterprelude.org.au)  
Facebook: Hunter Prelude

