Upcoming Events:

- Fri 24 July — NAIDOC Cup PSSA
- Mon 27 July — Cambridge Park Learning Community Performing Arts Festival - matinee & evening
- Tue 28 July — Parent/teacher interviews Stage 3
- Wed 29 July — Cambridge Park Learning Community Performing Arts Festival - evening Family Consultative Group Meeting 9.15am
- Thurs 30 July — Athletics Carnival
- Fri 31 July — PSSA PBL assembly - Paper Daisies
- Wed 5 August — Stage 1 Excursion
- Fri 7 August — PSSA
- Wed 12 August — Open Day
- Fri 14 August — PSSA PBL Assembly - Kangaroos

Review of Levels System

Teachers have started to have another look at how our levels system is working and what needs adjusting. As part of this work we’d like some feedback from you too. At the next consultative group meeting we will have a discussion about this. You are welcome to attend.

Review of Mobile Phone Policy

At the consultative group meeting we will also talk about how we manage mobile phones at the school. We recognise the need for students to carry phones for safety purposes, but we also need to respect the rights of other people in terms of phone use. Until the policy review is finalised our expectations about mobile phone use at school are as follows:

1. Students bring mobile phones and other digital devices to school at their own risk.
2. All mobile phones and digital devices are to be switched off and left in student’s school bags during the school day. They are not to be taken into the playground or classroom unless the class teachers want them to be used in the learning process.
3. If a student uses their mobile phone or digital device inappropriately, it will be confiscated and held by the Principal until the end of the day. There may be other disciplinary consequences for the student as well as confiscation, including school service.

Open Day change of Date

This year’s Open day date has been moved to Wednesday of week 5, 12th August. This has been made necessary because several teachers have committed to a Professional Learning Activity in Sydney and of course we want them to be at school on the day parents come to visit classrooms.

Deputy Principal

Mr Neil Bourke has been appointed to our school as Deputy Principal. He will take up this position from 17th of August. He comes to us from Llandilo Public School. I know you will all give him a very warm Cambridge Park welcome when he arrives.

OOSH Care Service Update

The tenders for our OOSH service closed on the 1st of July and the evaluation team will meet to consider the tenders next week. Hopefully this means we will have the service in place by next term.

Mrs C Binns
Principal
Working together to build quality relationships, engaging learning environments and life long learners

Stage 2 are awesome!!!

Camp

Camp is now on the count down, a note will go out shortly with a list of things they will need. There are very few spots left so if you haven’t got your space booked, please hurry.

Exciting English times for Stage 2

Stage 2 is really excited about this term’s English unit, we’re asking our students to invent a new kind of toy. To get our mind geared up into inventing we asked the students “Quick, find a cardboard box, a marker, scissors, one roll of tape, and three everyday objects on your desk. Your task: Build an intergalactically awesome spaceship using just these parts. You have five minutes to complete this mission”

The students rushed around working as a team and fun as it may have been, those five minutes have actually been quite educational (surprise!). They’ve been exercising a critical cognitive skill known as divergent thinking: the ability to see things not for what they are but for what they could be. A very important skill needed for inventing.

We are looking forward to more creative thinking taking place as the term progresses and I can’t wait to see what toys the students come up with.

Mrs Scott
Stage 2 Supervisor
Preschool News

Welcome back, we hope you enjoyed your school holidays.
The Frogs and Joeys have enjoyed seeing each other and playing together after the holidays.

The Frogs have been interested in making trains and some of the Joeys have made snowmen after telling the teachers about their visit to Disney on Ice during the holidays. We also enjoyed being able to wear our PJ’s or Onesies to preschool to help raise money for our performing artists in the big school.

Health and Illness

Please keep your child at home if any illness is suspected or your child complains of a sore throat, severe coughs, runny nose, nausea, diarrhea, fever, skin rash, inflamed eyes, ear discharge, enlarged glands, earache or has a flushed face or paleness. Children with vomiting or diarrhea should not attend preschool until symptoms have stopped for at least 24 hours.

Colds: There are many different causes for nasal discharge or minor cough in children and with some children these symptoms may persist for many weeks. Our policy is that a child with heavy nasal discharge or secondary infection and cough, particularly accompanied by an elevation in temperature should be kept at home to protect other children in the preschool. Children should be able to successfully blow and wipe their nose at these times or should be kept at home.

Medication

If your child requires medication to be taken through the school day then parents need to deliver the medicine to an educator in your child’s classroom in the original packaging and complete a ‘permission to administer prescribed medication form’ with written instructions regarding dosage. Medication will not be administered to students unless such medication is accompanied by a prescription, written instructions and parental consent given.

For students requiring regular medication or intermittent or emergency medication, the parent must complete an indemnity form. Forms are available from the school office. Written instructions including dosage also need to be supplied by your child’s doctor.

Taken from Preschool Information Booklet

Thank you

Preschool Educators

Working together to build quality relationships, engaging learning environments and life long learners
Cambridge Park Preschool Rated Exceeding

On 6th May our preschool was observed for assessment and rating purposes by the authorised officer. Observations taken have been assessed and rated against the seven Quality Areas of the National Quality Standard and the Education and Care Services National Regulations. The observations led to our preschool being awarded the level of EXCEEDING. The following is a brief selection of supporting evidence observed. Evidence of our rating is available by following the link: http://ifp.mychild.gov.au/mvc/Preschool/Details/6750/

Quality Area 1: Educational program and practice

- Educators respond sensitively to children’s cues and signals and initiate one-to-one interactions throughout the session
- Educators observe, listen and talk with children for sustained periods of time and pay close attention to what they are saying, thinking and doing
- Children initiate and contribute to play experiences emerging from their own ideas and interests.

Therefore this Standard is rated at Exceeding NQS.

Quality Area 2: Children’s health and safety

- Educators sit with children during meals modelling and reinforcing healthy eating. Discussions are heard during meals which promote healthy lifestyles and good nutrition
- Children and educators have Munch & Sip at morning tea, in line with school procedures, to promote healthy eating and discussion.
- Educators create opportunities for children to participate in dance, creative movement and singing experiences both planned and spontaneously such as during group times

Therefore this Standard is rated at Meeting NQS.

Quality Area 3: Physical environment

- Resources and equipment are arranged enabling children to access and self-select them independently throughout the day from open shelves, learning centres and baskets
- Open ended learning centres are provided for children to meet a range of ages and abilities of children enabling them to participate at a level at which they are comfortable with and educators provide support and encouragement as required
- Resources, materials and equipment are organised in ways that extend every child’s participation in the program by using a range of real, natural and recycled materials to support children to use their imagination. For example, in the sensory garden there is a timber kitchen set with sink, oven which includes a range hood, real baskets and pots and plumbing pipes in the sand pit

Therefore this Standard is rated at Meeting NQS.

Quality Area 4: Staffing arrangements

- Educators willingly work with each other on implementing the National Quality Framework (NQF), and together attend professional development sessions to increase their knowledge and understanding of the framework. This is demonstrated in the professional language and dialogue used between educators throughout the day.
- Educators demonstrate a positive working relationship and there is an atmosphere of openness in the service
- Interactions consistently demonstrate mutual respect, equity and recognition of each other’s strengths and skills as educators are often heard acknowledging the skills and strengths of their peers and value the contribution each educator makes to the room, service and environment

Therefore this Standard is rated at Exceeding NQS.
Quality Area 5: Relationships with children

- Educators greet children and families by name on arrival and are genuinely interested in what the children are saying to them.
- The atmosphere throughout the day is relaxed and focused on what the children are interested in doing.
- Each child is consistently supported to manage their own behaviour and respond appropriately to the behaviour of others. When required disputes are resolved promptly and sensitively between children. Educators approached the children and together find a solution that all children are happy with.
- Educators are aware of individual children’s behaviours and pre-empt potential conflicts by arranging the environment and providing resources to reduce possible conflict. They also monitor children’s play and support interactions as required. Discussions and outcomes have been documented by the educators.
- Educators promote children’s sense of self-esteem and inclusion by spending quality time with each child consistently across the session. Educators actively supervise children, interact and listen to children at their level, engaging in experiences of choice with each child.

Therefore this Standard is rated at Exceeding NQS.

Quality Area 6: Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

- The service has established a culture of open communication, characterised by friendly conversations between the preschool supervisor, educators and families such as greeting siblings and grandparents by name during arrivals.
- During arrival and departure times families are greeted individually and during this time daily information is exchanged between families and educators, such as how the child’s night was and the visit to the Mother’s Day stall.
- Children with additional needs demonstrate a sense of belonging and comfort within the service and the routines of the day.
- If educators have concerns relating to a child’s development they work in consultation with families to obtain assessments and support for the child. Educators recognise family perspectives and reservations and work to plan goals that are mutually agreed upon.

Therefore this Standard is rated at Exceeding NQS.

Quality Area 7: Leadership and service management

- Rosters are set but flexible to cater for staff absence and planned leave so as educators have regular contact with children and families.
- The service uses a regular pool of relief educators and job share educators where needed to maintain consistency of care for educators, children and families. For example, educators who job share can replace each other in case of absence which was observed on the day of the visit providing continuity for children, families and educators.
- Effective processes are in place to consistently achieve continuity of educators which results in the establishment and maintenance of secure relationships with children. Many educators have worked at the service for many years which has resulted in many families remaining at or reconnecting with the service with the arrival of new additions to their families.

Therefore this Standard is rated at Meeting NQS.

Summary comments
Your service is commended on its achievements in providing quality outcomes for children. In particular, careful planning, reflective practice and willingness to collaborate with families and other community organisations to enhance children’s learning and wellbeing demonstrate the commitment to quality by educators at your service. It is recommended that management and educators continue to reflect on current practice to maintain the quality outcomes evident during this assessment and rating process.
DISCOVER THE WHAT, THE WHICH AND THE WHO OF THE NDIS AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU

* FREE ENTRY * FREE PARKING * FREE CHILDCARE

The Early Roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme for Young people aged between 0-17 years in the Nepean Blue Mountains Region.

Where: Penrith Panthers Jamison Room
       123 Mulgoa Road Penrith

When: 16th July 2015       6:30pm – 9:00pm
Repeats: 17th July 2015     10:00am – 12:30pm
Repeats: 13th August 2015   10:00am – 12:30pm
Repeats: 13th August 2015   6:30pm – 9:00pm

Refreshments will be served, everything FREE, but Registration Essential for catering purposes and childcare!

Register at: www.ndiscommunityforums.com.au
Phone for any query IDEAS 1800 029 904

YOU WILL HEAR:
What is the National Disability Insurance Scheme?
What does it mean for you and your family?

YOU WILL BE TOLD ABOUT:
- What is preplanning
- The Value of dreaming
- How to use mainstream options to maximise value and inclusion

Hear stories about what it is really like from a family member already accessing the scheme.
Get real about what to do when things go wrong, complaints process, know safeguards, and your right to access supports including advocacy.

Bring your own questions for the Q&A
Be advised by the facilitator about what steps to take next.
For your convenience when your child is absent from school please complete the note below and return to your child’s teacher.

**ABSENCE EXPLANATION NOTE**

STUDENT’S NAME ................................................................. CLASS .............................

DATES OF ABSENCE ............................................................

REASON ...................................................................................

..............................................................................................

PARENT/CAREGIVER’S NAME ..................................................

SIGNED ............................................................... DATE ........................................

---

Working together to build quality relationships, engaging learning environments and life long learners.