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FROM THE DIRECTOR

We have had a busy and exciting few months in the RICE office. With our face-to-face board meeting in June giving opportunity for some staff to meet and join in Myers-Briggs training together. It was very interesting to see how we sit individually, as a team and how we can adapt ourselves to meet the needs of the other personalities in the group.

The past 6 months has seen a flurry of Activity Days, our Play Day program having a much needed restart and many Outback Childcare placements. Both the Hawker and Orroroo creche's continue to be in high demand.

Earlier in the year, we began the process of rebranding the RICE image. With the guidance and support of Crane Creative, we have increased our presence on social media, including a consistent branding approach. Whilst there is still a way to go, this process has been a great opportunity for staff input on our joint vision for the organisation and how we want our programs to evolve. Together we have transformed the face of RICE for the better.

The Orroroo Childcare Working Group have invited me to join their working party. With a variety of stakeholders, we are working together to problem solve the continued childcare crisis. Meeting regularly, there have been many discussions on how RICE can support the needs of the community and surrounding areas.

Recently we were advised that we have been provided a 2 year extension to our funding from the Australian Government Department of Education. Throughout this extension, the Department will be conducting an independent review, not just for RICE, but all recipients of the CCCFR funding. We look forward to sharing this review when it becomes available.

We are now in the process of preparing for our AGM in November and we look forward to welcoming new Board members to the team. Being a community based board, it is important to have people who are passionate about RICE and what we do, contribute to our ever evolving organisation.

The team is now in full swing organising our end of year members function and kindy graduation. Stay tuned to your emails and our socials about upcoming events and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

Chloe Hunter
Director



FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

The capacity to learn is a gift, the ability to learn is a skill, the willingness to learn is a choice (Brian Herbert). And how fortunate are we in outback SA, to have the services of RICE to provide our children with incredible learning opportunities and experiences. Moreso, the fact these opportunities are often provided to the children in their very own little rural and remote communities where they feel most comfortable is something we should not take for granted.

Recently we received communication regarding RICE's Federal funding. The Community Child Care Fund - Restricted (CCCFR) funding was implemented in 2018 for a 4-year period due to expire in June next year. Excitingly, RICE has had an extension granted for an additional two years. In this time, the Australian Government Department of Education (Department) feels an independent review is necessary to inform decisions around the funding. This is not site specific to RICE but will affect all CCCFR providers.

As I have often said, do not take for granted what an amazing service we have in RICE and how lucky we are. We will keep you, the RICE community updated as the review progresses in 2023. The Board has continued to meet regularly and has really worked hard alongside management to streamline policies and procedures. In June, the Board and a number of staff participated in a face-to-face Myer-Briggs Training. For anyone who has done something similar in the past would know how fascinating it can be, for those that have not heard of it I encourage you to do so if and when the chance arises to take part in a training. Myer-Briggs is personality test and assesses the different types of personalities and how we all perceive the world. It's important to understand that different people see/act/behave differently and how this can be used as an advantage, rather than the opposite.

Lastly, as we wind down toward the end of the year the AGM is fast approaching. If you have a couple of hours a month you could spare, want to meet and mix with a great group of people and learn new skills regarding governance and running and Not-for-Profit organisation then joining the RICE Board of Management will do just that. If interested, don't hesitate to chat to a current Board member or contact the office for more information regarding board vacancies. Remember, RICE is run by the community (people like you) for the community.

Cheers for now,

Kirsty Williams
Chairperson



WELLBEING

Wow... it's hard to believe we are in October already!

I've recently had to take some extended time off due to surgery but back on track now and been busy working "behind the scenes" to get a few projects underway, connecting with other services and finding out what they can offer our families.

I was very lucky to be able to travel to Adelaide for Kimochis Training - (KEY.MO.CHEE) means "feeling" in Japanese. This training focusses on feelings and emotions using plush character toys that children can relate too. From the Kimochis Team: Sometimes children (and adults) have strong feelings that can fuel challenging behaviours. Sometimes it's hard to know how to communicate when you are in an emotional moment. Kimochis are a playful way to help children (and adults!) learn how to identify and express feelings. When kids can communicate their feelings effectively, they develop positive social skills that lead to lasting friendships and success in all aspects of life. I look forward to sharing what I learnt with the team and using this wonderful training and resources with our families!

One of my recent wellbeing projects included working with our amazing Creche Educators and children at Orroroo and Hawker to make and deliver Kindness Trees to the Orroroo and Hawker Community Homes/Hospitals. My aim was to build Community Connection, not only did it brighten the residents and staff day - feedback is they absolutely love them, but the children enjoyed making the artwork and their families were eager to see the final product. * Thanks to our inhouse artist Renee who designed the tree stump for the children to add their "kindness hearts".

I've also been working on new "Welcome Packs" for RICE which will include factsheets of all our programs and an array of RICE promotional material to be sent to families. These will also be used when we are out and about in the community to promote our services. Stay tuned!

Preschool in conjunction with other RICE staff held Playday at the RICE office for existing and new Preschool families as a way of a meet and greet for families, children, and staff! A fun day had by all and was lovely to meet 2 new families.

Adele Broadbridge
Wellbeing Officer





Kindness Tree



RICE - Orroroo and Hawker Creche - Community connection - smile - love - kindness - thankful



Royal Flying Doctor Service
CENTRAL OPERATIONS

Healthy Mouths Initiative

Meet the Team



Dentists

The Oral Health Program's clinical work is overseen by our Senior Dentist. All RFDS Dentists are experienced in caring for patients of all ages, diverse cultures and needs. They are all passionate about ensuring remote patients receive the best evidence based care possible. Our aim is to provide a broad range of Dental services in community including Check ups, fillings, X-rays, extractions and advice.

Hygienists

Our Hygienists provide a prevention based patient centred approach to improving Oral Health and in particular Periodontal or gum health. Did you know gum health is very closely linked to your general health?

They offer Scale and Cleans, prevention based treatments, Oral Health education and screening.



Remote Area Oral Health Assistants and Support Staff

Every clinical trip is supported by our Remote Area Oral Health Assistants. They support our clinicians to do their work. They are also very helpful resources for information and finding out more information about the program. They help set-up clinics, chair side assisting, community outreach and education.



E: dentalbookings@flyingdoctor.net

P: 1800 370 793



Royal Flying Doctor Service
CENTRAL OPERATIONS

Healthy Mouths Initiative

Oral Health Promotion



Interactive and Educational

In addition to school screening the Oral Health Program provides interactive Oral Health Promotion. Our Team use audio-visual engagement, games and other fun activities to engage students in learning about good oral health.

Oral Health Promotion activities are modified to suit each age group.

What do we talk about?

Topics discussed include:

Toothbrushing and how to look after your gums

Importance of a good diet, exercise and healthy lifestyle

- Ensure every child feels comfortable and motivated about their own Oral Health

Introduction to the Dental team and what they do



E: dentalbookings@flyingdoctor.net

P: 1800 370 793

CRECHE

This term has been a busy one for the Educators and children at Creche. We have incorporated tough trays into our environment each week to create small work play activities, targeted on the children's interests.

Despite the cold weather, the children have enjoyed the outdoor environment. We have encouraged physical play to keep our bodies active! Bikes, scooters, hoops, balancing, swings balls and bats have been ever so popular all term!

For our crafty kids, we have done a lot of craft and painting, which they have really enjoyed! We created beautiful love hearts for our kindness tree, which was presented to the local nursing homes, covered with the children's craft hearts. We painted rocks for Father's Day, to incorporate nature into our crafting and finishing the term with decorated paper cups with flowers to introduce spring.

We are excited to have a few new children attending creche, who are all settling in well. Welcome to Adalyn & Patrick at Hawker and Harvey & Charlie at Orroroo.

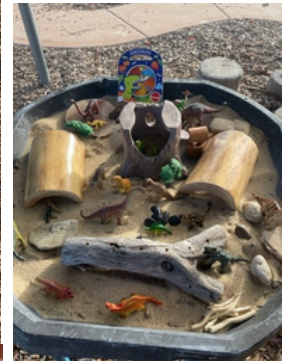
During group times, we have been learning the letter 'S' and what sound it makes. The children have been able to recognise the letter straight away and in recent weeks relating it to things that start with 'S' Sun, Superman, songs, Spiderman, sheep.

We do a lot of singing and dancing at group time and encourage children to choose a song out of our card pile. The children have really loved this concept and will patiently sit and wait for their turn to pick a song. Ring-a-Rosie seems to be a favourite as well 'I'm a little teapot'.

With term 4 looming and the warm weather, when packing children's bags for creche, please ensure that they have a broad brimmed hat packed, ready for all of our outdoor play. Sunscreen will continue to be applied regularly.

We hope all of our creche families enjoy their break and we look forward to seeing everybody next term.

Deb Tuip
Creche Team Leader



FRIENDLY REMINDER

Creche operating hours are 8:45 am to 3:15 pm.

For insurance purposes, **children must not** be dropped off prior to 8:45 am, creche doors will remain locked until opening time.

Creche services are a **nut free** service, parents will be contacted in the event a child is sent with any nut products in their lunch boxes.



CRECHE



**Creche returns for
Term 4 on
Monday, 17th October 2022**

KINDY

Term 3 has been a super busy one. Children have engaged in a wide range of themed learning experiences - All About Me, Australia, Australian Animals, National Science Week, Farm Animals and Farming, Rhyme, Sea Creatures.

Week 5 was Kindy Experience Week here in Port Augusta and was full of music, science experiments, movie afternoon and a trip to Augusta Park Childhood Services Centre for shared relationship building.



I have been busy visiting children this term and hope to continue in Term 4. An absolute pleasure to be welcomed into family's home and share a day with them - Wintinna, Wooltana, Siam, Coondambo and Sturt Vale Stations.

Children met their teacher from SOTA for next year while at Kindy Experience Week - Miss Emma and will begin transition with Miss Emma in term 4.

Tania George
Preschool Teacher



**Kindy returns for
Term 4 on
Monday, 17th October 2022**



RESOURCE CENTRE

Well, it has been a massive few months for the Resource centre here at RICE. The girls that I work along side each and every day have helped, inspired and accomplished a vision for RICE and the changes that have been made are astronomical.

Introducing more sensory, fidget, tactile toys, and busy boards for children to enjoy. I have made pre packed sensory boxes to borrow out and have continued to redesign the way I do toy boxes, to make them engaging to children and provide unique activities for remote and isolated families.

The kindy STEM kits have been a priority this year, and we have made some positive changes to the contents of the 3 boxes that go out to the Preschool children.

The new in office creche room supports children's learning for Kindy experiences, playdays, creche and one on one learning. The room provides a safe place for children to come, play and learn with a wonderful home corner to explore real life experiences, a reading nook for children, a mat time area and a Cubbi Buddi to explore and come together to think of ways to make different types of unique creations.

We have made some amazing changes to the service and I hope that families now, and into the future, like what we have done and continue to do so into the future.

Teagan Karger
Resource Educator



ACTIVITY DAYS

March to October is the busiest time for the RICE team and attending Activity Days. It has been great to get to Innamincka after a short hiatus due to COVID, plus many other events all over South Australia.

Our program has had a much needed update to our resources and signage, so now there's no missing our displays!

Whilst we begin to wind up the Activity Day program for 2022, we still have the below upcoming events to attend and we can't wait to see you all there!

October

15th Blinman Gymkhana
15th Glendambo Races
29th & 30th Quorn Bronco Branding

November

12th Carrieton Gymkhana
26th Peterborough Reunion Cricket Match

Come and support RICE, as well as these wonderful community events!



Teagan Karger
Resource Educator



ACTIVITY DAYS





2023 ACTIVITY DAYS

Hosting a
community event
in 2023?

You can now place your
booking request through
our website!

<https://rice.org.au/programs/activity-days>

PLAY DAYS

Hi families!

What a term it has been for Play Days. We welcomed and farewelled Cate our Senior Play Day Educator for the term who has now gone off to continue her travels and adventures.

Term 3 has been super busy, and Cate has helped give Play Days a renewed kick start! The term started with a trip to Bulgunnia Station to visit River and Skylah. The next day we moved on to Oodnadatta and held a Play Day in the park for local families.

We have visited Carrieton, Wilmington, Cradock, Copley, Cowarie Station, and Blinman throughout the term. If you have attended one of our Play Days in the last few months, you may have contributed to our bunting project. Every Play Day has been given the opportunity to draw on a bunting triangle and all these have been added together to make a stream of colourful flags. The string of bunting is now several meters long and looks fantastic, so thank you to everyone who has contributed. We have also started a photo album of sorts, with a collection of images from every day.

Coming up in the next few weeks, we are making a trip along the Barrier Hwy to visit some of our eastern families. Not long after that we will be travelling west to Fowlers Bay.

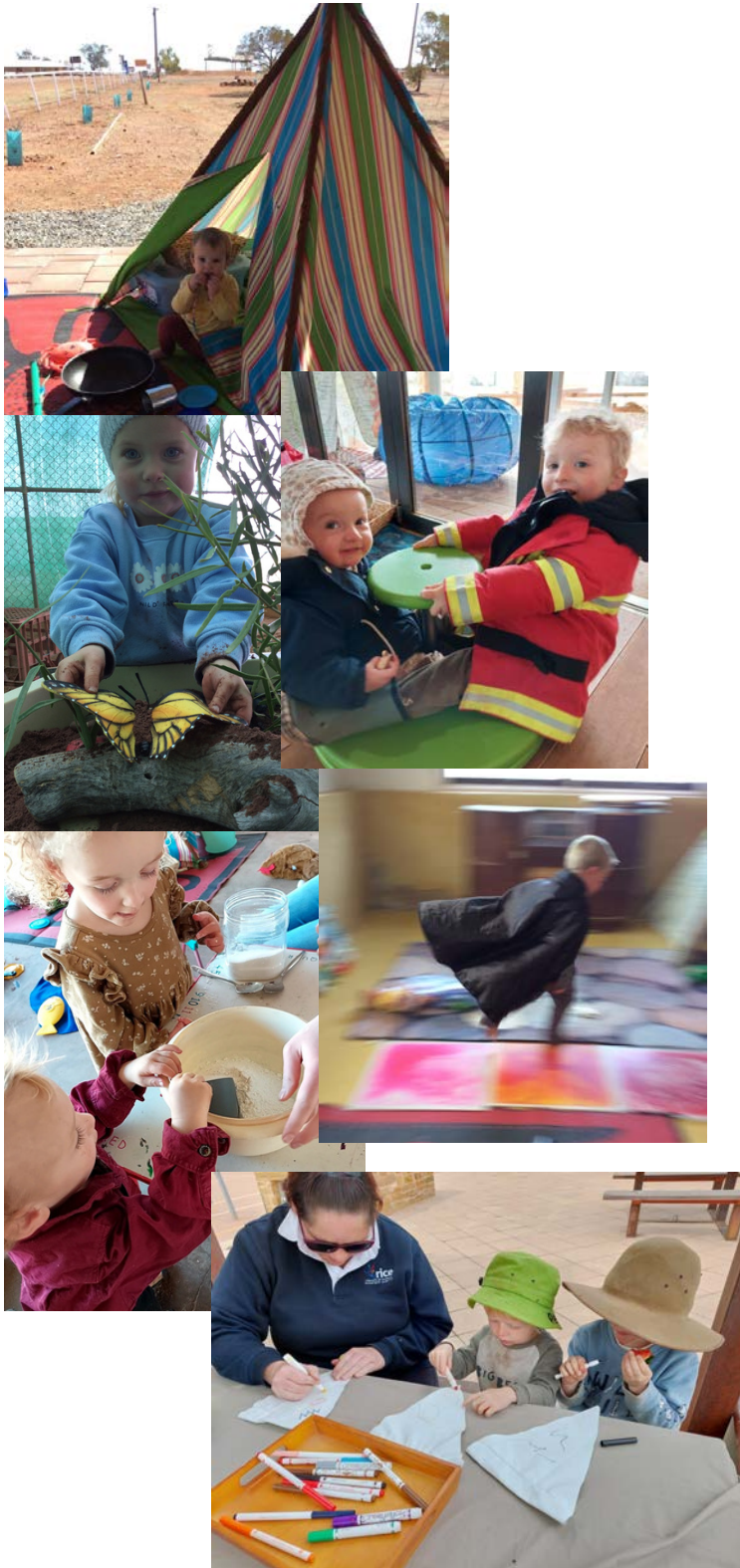
We are looking forward to coming out and seeing everyone soon!

Renee Bell
Educator



If you'd like to host your own playday, head to our website to send an enquiry through today!

<https://rice.org.au/programs/playdays>



OUTBACK CHILDCARE

I am very grateful for the wonderful families and placements I have been lucky enough to experience so far with RICE. I have enjoyed making relationships with new families and travelling to their homes.

Seeing the children get excited and engage with the vast range of toys and resources I cater to each individual child is the reason I do, what I do. Craft, painting, and sensory activities have been very popular across all placements. Kids love to get messy! I would like to thank all the families that have booked this service and made me feel welcome and comfortable in their homes so far. Looking forward to continuing to travel and support our RICE community.

We have dates during the month of November available. Send an expression of interest through our online site to have someone contact you about booking care with me.

Lucy Nicholls
Outback Childcare Educator



Activity of the Month

What you'll need:

1 cup of rice

1/2 tablespoon vinegar

Your favourite food colouring

Wooden spoon - this may become stained

Mixing bowl or bucket


Utensils or gloves to mix

Mix the rice, vinegar and as much food colouring as you like in the mixing bowl, until you achieve the desired colour.


Allow the rice to dry/set before using to play. Use an open container or try & add some household utensils to create a fun learning experience!




OUTBACK CHILDCARE



"Thank you so much - We all really enjoyed having you here. The boys already miss you, as do I! You done an amazing job and I will certainly be getting you back."



"You made their eyes light up with your swag of fun and imaginative toys. The care, attention and dedication you gave to my children warms my heart."



"It was such a pleasure having you in our home, you have an easy going and gentle nature which make you perfect for the job you do so well."

Lucy Nicholls
Outback Childcare Educator

<https://rice.org.au/programs/outback-childcare/>



Kids

CORNER

Science at home

If you soak an egg in vinegar the eggshell will absorb the acid and break down, or dissolve.

What is left is the soft tissue that lined the inside of the eggshell. It will bounce!

YOU WILL NEED:

Raw Eggs

Vinegar

Jar or a Vase

Joke time

Q: How do you tell the difference between a bull and a cow?

A: It is either one or the udder!



DIRECTIONS:

STEP 1:

Place an egg in the jar and cover with vinegar.

Optional: You can color the vinegar with food coloring for rainbow-colored rubber eggs too!



STEP 2:

Wait and watch!

Notice the bubbles on the eggshell! This is the acid in the vinegar reacting with the calcium carbonate in the shell. This reaction is producing a gas called carbon dioxide!

STEP 3:

After 48 hours, remove the egg and rinse it off. The hard outer shell is gone and the egg white & yolk are surrounded by a thin membrane.

DID YOU KNOW ...

Most people **can't** lick their elbows

Human noses & ears never stop growing

CAR CRICKET

STEP 1

One person at a time is selected to 'bat', and they score 'runs' when certain cars are spotted. For cars to count as runs they must be moving and travelling in the opposite direction.

STEP 2

White, silver & grey cars are worth 1 run
Black & coloured cars (excluding red) are worth 2 runs
Motorbikes are worth 4 runs
Buses & trucks are worth 6 runs
Red cars are a 'wicket' & get you out

STEP 3

The person with the most runs wins. You may want to make a score limit so players have to retire if they make 100 runs.



Upcoming Events...

**Glendambo
Races**

Activity Day
15/10/22

**Blinman
Gymkhana**

Activity Day
15/10/22

Wilmington

Play Day
21/11/22

**Fowlers
Bay**

Play Day
26/10/22

**Quorn Bronco
Branding**

Activity Day
29-30/10/22

**Carrieton
Gymkhana**

Activity Day
12/11/22

**Dawson
cricket match**

Activity Day
26/11/22

**RICE
Family Fun Day**

Meet & Greet
08/12/22



Outback Childcare



SOUTH AUSTRALIA





SAVE THE DATE

**RICE
FAMILY FUN DAY
&
PRESCHOOL
GRADUATION**

Quorn Swimming Pool
Thursday, 8th December 2022

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