



# eKindy Queensland

Term Two. 2018



## eKindy News

eKindy Queensland continues to thrive throughout Term Two. Our children and their families are enjoying the immersion of the early learning opportunities that this fantastic program provides for children who would otherwise miss such vital early learning foundations. Newly revised eKindy materials are currently being developed by the team at the Brisbane School of Distance Education. This updated program will include the most current curriculum and teaching principles and practices that underpin quality education and care for young children.



## Out and About with eKindy

### Beef Week 2018

Early in May, staff from eKindy Queensland attended Beef Week in Rockhampton to provide activities and information for current and future eKindy families. Although the weather wasn't perfect, spirits couldn't be dampened and there was a constant buzz of excited children and teachers around the eKindy marquee all day long. Close to 100 show bags containing eKindy registration information and a tubs of playdough were handed out to interested parties. It was fantastic to hear first-hand stories of how so many children and families are enjoying and benefitting from working through the eKindy program.



Thank you to everyone who was involved and who came to visit our site during Beef Week 2018.

*David Saunders*

### LSODE Cluster Fun!

May has seen the eKindy children from the Longreach district get together for two days filled with fun and excitement! Pirate and princess adorned the campus to enjoy many and varied enriched learning opportunities. Children enjoyed Story Time, which led to an intrepid treasure hunt around the grounds to find a treasure chest full of treasures! Outdoor play allowed testing of the sinking and floating theory using a variety of materials, namely foil boat creations. Children also enjoyed walking the plank on the obstacle course, throwing wet sponges at a pirate wall mural and fishing using a magnetic fish game.

*Amanda Jones*



### Charters Towers Play Days

We were very pleased to welcome 10 children to the Term 2 Charters Towers Activity days, hosted by C&K Charters Towers Community Kindergarten. Thank you to our wonderful families who make such an effort to get into town - these days provide valuable opportunities for children to further develop their sense of belonging to their 'community' and to interact with their peers and teachers.

Both the indoor and outdoor environments were intentionally set up to encourage children to connect with one another in a variety of ways, and to explore a range of equipment and materials. *Megan Duigan*



## Student Connections

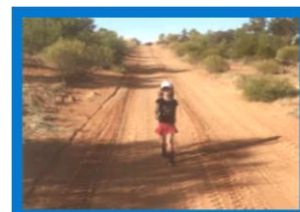
In the far west of our state, Maldon integrates his love for the outdoors with learning. Here is pictured at his 'favourite place' near a creek at 'Nickavilla Station', Quilpie, Queensland.



Wild "horsies" were spotted charging around the playground at CSDE's recent term two play days in Emerald, Queensland.



Erin from Bulloo Downs at Thargomindah, took her brother Conrad to explore the cattle yards. They were looking for animals tracks. They found tracks made by birds and cattle, plants, and lot of flies.



Senudi likes feeding birds. Senudi lives at Tangalooma Resort on Moreton Island.

This is how we roll in eKindy Queensland. Jett arrived by helicopter to attend his recent play day in Bell, Queensland



## Another New Role for eKindy Queensland

eKindy Queensland has been selected to trial the provision of Kindergarten in the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital and The Mater Children's Private Hospital in Brisbane. Two of our teachers – Di Ellwood and David Saunders - will be working on the wards from Term 3 with the kindergarten-aged children who have been hospitalized. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide rich learning experiences to allow children to continue their learning journey in hospital.

## eKindy Queensland Pod Pilot

The Department of Education has put in place a pilot until the end of 2018 for supporting our eKindy Queensland Pods. BushKids has been appointed as the third party provider to look after the business side of operations – employment of facilitators, insurances and risk assessments. Funds have been released to them and they will use it to pay the facilitators for 6.5 hours per week per pod of up to four children. The eKindy Queensland teachers are responsible for the pedagogical operation of the pods. There are currently 18 Pods in Central Queensland, Darling Downs and the South West.

## Upcoming Events

BSDE eKindy Teacher Annual PD Conference – 28/29<sup>th</sup> June, 2018

Brisbane's Out of the Box Festival, 26th June - 1st July, 2018

Longreach Kindergarten Partnership Team Meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2018

ECA National Conference, Sydney, 19<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2018

Ipswich Children's Festival – 3rd Nov, 2018, 3:00pm–8:00pm □