

Over the Rainbow

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RAINBOW CHILDREN'S
CENTRE INC.

4 John Sharpe Street, East Ballina 2478



Welcome back in 2021! It is great to see

all of our Rainbow families after the holiday break in what we hope will be an easier and less complex year than 2020! We have very few new families this year as we have so many current families enrolled for additional days which is great, although it has been challenging to fit everyone in for the days they requested, apologies if we have had to reorganise enrolments with you and thank you for your co operation!

Child Care Fee Increase as advised last year our child care fees will increase from this week. The fee charges are as follows-

- Dependent fee \$108
- Intermediate fee \$105
- Independent fee \$98

Wash Hands on Arrival as we continue to manage the ongoing challenge of Covid-19, we would like to remind families to take children to the bathroom on arrival to wash hands each morning.

We have found this procedure, as well as taking temperatures each day has significantly reduced sickness and cross contamination levels overall. We would also like to remind families that only one adult is to come into the Centre at drop off or pick up to reduce the number of people coming in and out of the playrooms.



Staffing Changes there will be some role and room changes for staff in 2021. For ongoing staff development it is important that staff have opportunities to grow and develop their skills in a range of areas, with this in mind the following changes will be implemented from January.

Sharon will take on the role of REC Program Coordinator, this will allow her to support and mentor staff as the Educational Leader alongside Jayne. She will also be working closely with early intervention therapists and families to support children with inclusion needs.

Marion has been successful in securing the the role of Possum Room Leader. Marion has several years experience in the Possum room already and will bring some great knowledge and skills to this role.

Gemma moved into the Possum room towards the end of last year and will continue to work alongside Ellie, Vaughan and Colette to provide the learning and care program for the Possum room children.

Steph will move into the Pippi room, this is a great opportunity for Steph to support the transition of children from the Possum into the Pippi room as she is so familiar with them all. She will work alongside Peta, Olivia, Jodie and Rahneisha.

Rylee will move into the Kookaburra room where she will work alongside Shannon, Brett, Cathy and Espie.

Room Changes for Children we have been speaking with parents about room changes for children in 2021, we will begin the process of transitioning children into their new home rooms once the school children have gone off to school at the end of January. Staff will support these transitions to ensure this is a smooth process and children feel safe and secure with the change. Children at Rainbow have many opportunities to spend time in all of the play rooms, and establish relationships with all of the staff so we anticipate this will be a positive experience for all involved. If you have any concerns about this transition please let us know.



Invitation to Join the Parent Committee

As you are aware, Rainbow is a community based, not for profit organisation, which is overseen by a group of committed parents. We are seeking interest from new and current parents to join our committee. What is involved in joining the parent committee?

- Attendance at 6 meetings a year. We meet at Rainbow every 2nd month between 5.15-6.30pm on the last Wednesday of the month. Child care and an evening meal provided for children of parents attending the meeting.
- Opportunity to meet and enjoy a social catch up with other parents.
- As members of the association you have an opportunity to be actively involved in discussions and the decision making process of the organisation.
- Contribute ideas and suggestions to the educational program within the scope of Rainbow's Organisational and Educational Program Policies.
- Oversee the financial budgets and how money is spent. We don't engage in any fundraising for the service, we have a healthy budget for staff resources, play resources, and incursions, excursions etc.
- Ensure all legal and regulatory responsibilities are identified and upheld.

As a community based organisation we have additional flexibility to involve families in our service. We are also able to invest strongly in staff and children's resources as we do not have to set aside profits for corporate or private ownership. All and any profit made by Rainbow is invested back into the service to the benefit of your children.

If you would like to join us at the next committee meeting on Wednesday, 24th February 2021, please let Jayne know or put you name down at the front office, be sure to let us know if you need us to provide child care and an evening meal for your children. We look forward to seeing you there!!