This term our “Australian Focus” theme has given the children an in-depth look into the Australian environment. The children have learnt many names of the Australian Animals and can now identify them by picture, e.g. Echidna, Platypus, Tasmanian Devil, Koala and wombat. We have 2 wonderful display boards full of all the creative art work the children have produced. Come in and take a look.

One of the focus stories was Possum Magic by Mem Fox. Through this story the children learnt about the capital cities of Australia and some of the traditional Aussie foods. The children loved cooking and making Vegemite sandwiches, ANZAC biscuits, Lamingtons, Scones and a highlight was cooking toast around a real open fire.

“A great attitude becomes a great day which becomes a great month which becomes a great life” Quote from Kidsmatter

We are asking all our families to compile a A3 page of your child’s family life, maybe what you do together on the weekends. Our large Family Book/folder is in circulation at the moment. If you have OUR FAMILY BOOK, could you please return it to Rural Care. Thank you.
It has come to our attention that we have noticed that too many sweet packaged foods are coming in lunch boxes. Please supply more healthy alternatives. For example:

**Breads and Cereals:**
- Corn Thins (rice cakes) with Butter, honey or Vegemite
- Pikelets
- Scones
- Weetbix/Vitabrits with Cream Cheese
- Raisin bread/toast
- Toasted sandwiches
- Plain Cracker Biscuits with cheese and vegemite

**Fruit:**
- Small pieces/slices of fruit
- Frozen fruit pieces (orange segments, sliced banana, seedless grapes and watermelon)
- Banana slices coated in coconut
- Dried Fruit
- Tinned fruit

**Vegetable:**
- Vegetable pieces (celery, broccoli, cauliflower) with dip eg. Cream cheese or corn relish
- Celery sticks filled with cottage or cream cheese

**Low fat dairy foods:**
- Cheese/ cheese sticks/ cheese shapes
- Yoghurt
- Dairy desserts.
Partnerships with families

Excursion to Glen Forest Animal Park

Twelve families braved the cold, wet weather and ventured out to Glen Forest Animal Park last Sunday. A highlight being the baby rabbits and guinea pigs where the children could get up close and personal and gave them lots of cuddles. We saw lots of Australian Animals around the Park they were Cockatoos, Emus, Dingoes, 1 Wombat, 1 Koala that we all got to pat and lots of Kangaroos that would eat from our hands.

The sausage sizzle was enjoyed by all in the warmth of a log fire. Thanks to Wendy and Chris for cooking the BBQ and Chris for making a yummy pumpkin soup. A wonderful day was had by all.

Cooper’s favourite animals were the rabbits and the kangaroos

Jessica’s favourite animals were the cockatoo feeding the kangaroos and patting the koala.

Skyla: I did hold some rabbits. Liked the rabbits. I saw some kangaroos

Jasmine liked the baby rabbits.

I fed kangaroos, birds and rabbits. I seen a koala. By Thea
Favourite Songs
Baby Koala, Baby Koala
Cockatoo, Cockatoo
Wallabies and Wombats
Kangaroo, Kangaroo

Give Me a Home Among The Gum Trees
Give me a home among the gum trees
With lots of plum trees
A sheep or two a kangaroo
A clothesline out the back
Veranda out the front
And an old rocking chair.

Communicating
A Shared understanding grows when parents and carers communicate their concerns, stories, observations and questions about a child.

The Lap-a-thon was a huge success, we raised over $1000 as a centre. Thank you to everyone for your support it was great to see so many parents and children out supporting this great event that promotes a sense of health and physical wellbeing.

Tupperware Fundraiser
Thank you to all the families who supported the Tupperware Fundraiser. Total sales came to a whopping $2572. We received a Summer Pack and Baking pack. These items will be raffled off soon, to raise funds for the centre. Thanks to Corey Ann for all her efforts of organising this event.