

Dear Nature School Parents, Educators and board members,

One of the outcomes of last year's survey was that parents needed more communication from The Nature School Team. So if you haven't joined The Nature School Parent Group on facebook please do because that's where you will get daily/weekly updates through photos and cross communication with other parents.

2017 has started with a lot of new projects for us at The Nature School. Term 1 started really well, with very happy children and parents on mostly dry and some very wet days.

We have had a great start to the playgroup as well, which we are running on Mondays from 9-11. There is a consistent group of parents with their little ones attending from 7 months up to 3 year olds. Quite exciting that we have some of these playgroup members growing up and joining the preschool aged program. Thank you so much to Jehni and Jacquie who have put hundreds of volunteering hours to get this going. It is still run on a volunteer basis.

Our website is getting used and there's so much information in there, be sure to stay posted on thenatureschool.org.au

As a follow up to the preschool program, the primary school plans are advancing well. Matt is volunteering an enormous amount of time to get the application in by end of March 2017. But...there is soooo much more to do before the primary school opens its doors in January 2018. Enrolment forms, prospectus, hiring a teacher etc etc...so if you are as passionate as we are on getting this primary school going, we need more help from the community, please email Matt on primary@thenatureschool.org.au There could be something for grandparents to help with too, so if your parents are in the area and not too busy why not ask them? Thank you!!! It takes a whole community to grow a community school, we cannot do this alone ;)

I am so excited to finally have hats available for the children!!! Yes, school hats in small and medium. The Nature School has been talking about it for ages and finally, we have them! With Clare's and Helen's help (thank you!) we got this moving. So if you would like one, make sure you mention it to Mirella and we will add it to your term 2 invoice (which you will receive soon). The hats are UPSF 50+, they have 7.5cm wide brim and they cost \$20. The explorers will finally have a real explorers/adventurers hat ☺



School Holidays

The end of term 1 is just around the corner and we are offering a 3hour school holiday program on Tuesdays and Thursdays of both weeks. (Please note that if there is enough interest on Tuesdays afternoons, we can run a full day, but you need to let us know!) The website has more information if you need. The program is advertised for children aged 5-12 years old, however, if you are receiving this your child is currently enrolled in the program and if your child is younger than 5 years old, we would love to have them on board as they know how it all works at The Nature School. We only have the minimum of 5 years old for children from outside of the program.



climbing trees * bush craft
* weaving *
map and compass reading
* exploring nature *



SCHOOL HOLIDAY
PROGRAM
Tue + Thu
APRIL 2017



info@thenatureschool.org.au
thenatureschool.org.au

Workshop

Another very exciting fundraising opportunity for The Nature School is the first workshop that we are holding in Port Macquarie on the 10th of April from 9-3! Please spread the word in your children's preschools and schools. The aim is to spread the knowledge we have acquired in the last year, to spread the love about the benefits for children learning outdoors and to motivate more people to do what we are doing around the country. If you know of any teachers, educators or interested people that would like to join please share the poster attached.

Wednesday

Enrolments for Wednesdays are going well but we still have a few vacancies, so again, word of mouth is the best way forward for The Nature School. In Term 1 we did not have enough children enrolled to run Wednesdays and now we are doing it! It will be a full day 9-3 and we love it that so many children are spending their days outdoors!!!

Well done in reading our first newsletter, hope you liked the news, please give us any feedback.

Natural Regards to all,

Sybil (and The Nature School Team)

Workshop for educators, teachers and interested learners



Monday 10th April 2017, 9-3

Port Macquarie, NSW

(Sunday optional nature time with The Nature School Team)

How we started, understanding the benefits of outdoor education, incorporating outdoor concepts into early childhood environments, motivating educators to think out of the box when nurturing tomorrow's Earth Warriors, collaboration and respect for nature, meeting like-minded people

EARLY BIRD PRICE (BEFORE 20th OF MARCH) \$250

FULL PRICE (FROM 21st OF MARCH) \$300

info@thenatureschool.org.au

thenatureschool.org.au