

Child Side Playgroup and School Update Term 3 July 2014

Hands on active learning:

Lisa's group engages in hands-on, practical learning as much as possible but in particular on Monday afternoons- 1:30-3pm. There is a sewing group and a group of farmers/gardeners who are seeking adults with skills to share. In particular adults who can teach them how to build a pizza oven (down in the Mulberry Patch) and work side by side with them over the weeks to see it become a reality. They are also seeking creative adults who can teach them to build 'bush' furniture for the Mulberry patch, create sculptures, scarecrows, a fun, funky and inspirational 'outdoor cafe' space to hang out, a wind garden.... Please spread the word within your own networks as you never know what amazing opportunities will arise. Traditional skills and creative skills need to be kept alive and flourishing from one generation to the next. We want to demonstrate resourcefulness and the ability to

create beauty out of up-cycling and recycling. We would love different adults to choose a 'project' to design and create with a team of children eg: wind garden, pizza oven, straw bale seats, pallet furniture... Please see Leonie and/or Lisa. We are open to inspiration. We want children to feel empowered that they can add to and create social and productive community spaces. **Fire, Friends, Food and Fun Festival (end of term):** This is our annual event to come together as a community to celebrate the turning of the seasons, to celebrate the 'turning of childhood' – the transition into young adolescents (Year 7 +) and into the wider community (Bryce, Jess and Caitlin off to Manea in 2015) and to acknowledge the spirit of community. Fire-twirling has become a symbolic 'rite of passage' for our older learners. We hope to 'christen' our outdoor pizza oven too.

"You have to expect things of yourself before you can do them." – Michael Jordan

We are collecting:

- Wood off cuts and scraps
- Pebbles
- River rocks
- Plain white china dinner plates
- Odd nuts and bolts
- Soft wire to manipulate for sculptures
- Soft toy animals for our 'vet'
- Straw bales and 'rendering'.
- Materials for pizza oven.