

A 'Big' Little Day Out

November 2012

Child Side School and Playgroup ended their tenth year celebrations in a big way with their Little Day Out on Sunday 25th November, attracting well over 500 people many of whom stayed for the whole day. There were numerous organisations who helped make the day a success, including Manea Senior College, Playgroup WA, ManKind, Dolphin Discovery Centre, Donnybrook craft, Bunbury Runners Club, Full of Beans Organic Kitchen Garden and more.

The focus of the day was very much on engaging the children and many positive comments were received on all of the free activities dotted around the school grounds. There were also special presentations and events every half hour. The mountain bike race attracted a lot of attention, but equally popular were the story telling and ultimate Frisbee. For those interested in kitchen garden there was a wicking garden bed and Thermomix demonstrations; or it was possible to just kick back and enjoy the home made cakes and fresh coffee.

While the day was full of activities and entertainment, there was also the opportunity to learn more about Child Side school. There were audio visual presentations from the educators and the opportunity to take a guided walk through the school. Child Side school pride themselves in remaining small by design, with intentional multi age groups to cater for the differences in each brain's unique timetable for development. Multi age grouping allows the children to develop long term working relationships with their educator and peers, whom they stay with over a number of years.

Not only was this the tenth year for Child Side school, but it was also the first year that children who have been in the community from the start will move on to study at Manea Senior College. Nicholas Lawler and Jaiden Lanigan, the sons of two of the schools founding families, will be continuing their studies in maths chemistry and physics and physical education and computer science respectively.

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With all the activities on the day many people stayed for the whole day:



Young and old had a go on the 700m mountain bike track:



There were plenty of varied activities to keep everyone entertained:



There were plenty of opportunities to try your hand at something new:



Nicholas Lawler & Jayden Lanigan moving on after ten years in the Child Side community:



For more information contact Karron McDonald (0410 646 542) or Leonie O'Connell (0419 511 133)
or visit our website: www.childsideschool.wa.edu.au