

ACT CHILDREN'S WEEK INC

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"<http://www.actchildrensweek.org.au>"
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ANNUAL REPORT 2023

ACT CHILDREN'S WEEK

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Patron
The Hon Margaret Reid AO

Children's Week Ambassador
Jackie French AM



President
Mike Payne
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The 2023 Children's Week National Theme was based on the United Nations Charter of the Rights of the Child, Article 31:

Children have the right to relax, play and take part in activities they enjoy.



ACT Children's Week acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Canberra region, and of Country throughout Australia. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they have made and continue to make to the life of this city and this region. We pay our respects to the people, their cultures and Elders past present and emerging.

ACT CHILDREN'S WEEK 2023 – ANNUAL REPORT (SUMMARY)

In 2023 the **ACT Children's Week Grants Programme** was able to support 121 community-based individuals and organisations to hold their Children's Week-related events / activities. We received Event Reports from 84% of Grant recipients, and participation data indicated engagement with more than 13,660 children and young people, and over 4,069 adults across the ACT. These data are valuable when acquitting funds, and presenting our case to existing and potential sponsors for funding.

A strong emphasis has been on events and activities focussed on STEM, intergenerational engagement (involving seniors, grandparents / friends, young people engaging with younger children), as well as other local-community engagement.

These activities result in considerable community engagement across and within many sectors of our community, resulting in increased connections and social capital - in times of complexity in the community, and when there is a need for communities to come together.

This year we expanded our programme to include the Indigenous sector in Grants and Awards categories. Almost 20% of grant applications specifically referenced Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander or Indigenous themes including on-country excursions, story-telling and cultural activities. Four Award nominations received for Contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Cultural Understanding were presented at Our Awards ceremony on Universal Children's Day. We are hoping this number will grow in the future.

The 2023 **ACT Children's Week Awards Programme** received 45 nominations in total, across the range of categories **AWARD CATEGORIES:**

- Exceptional Young Person
- Youth Commitment
- Community for Children
- Intergenerational Contribution
- Exceptional Senior
- Business Contribution
- Significant Support
- Exceptional STEM Volunteer

- Contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children

All nominees received an Award in their nominated categories - either at our Awards Ceremony, or at in-house events. Our committee members were also able to share in some of the latter.

Our Launch and Awards ceremony was attended by several ACT Government Ministers and senior representatives of our seven major partners. The ceremony also included the presentation of an international *Supporting Friend of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) MGA Award* to the Children’s Week Council of Australia, Region 10 (Australia) - acknowledging ACT Children’s Week’s “valuable and enduring contributions in the promotion of STEM in the Australian Capital Territory Region”.

Once again, the success of the ACT Children’s Week’s programme very much relies on the continued generosity of our sponsors, the support of our various VIPs and Patrons, and the commitment of our committee of hard-working volunteers. Particular thanks go to Treasurer, Matt Platt, Secretary, Nathan Young, Publicity Officer, Julie Long, Meetings Coordinator, Liliana Russell, and Past President, Vicki Brown, to whom I express my ongoing thanks and appreciation.

Mike Payne
14 March 2024



Theodore PS - Colour Explosion Fun Run



Latham PS – Happiness Hands



Ainslie School - Years 1/2 Looking Back at the Past



Garran Scouts - Electrical Engineering Halloween Decorations



Children's Book Council of Australia (ACT Branch) – Readers' Cup event



The amazing group of 2023 ACT Children's Week Awardees from Ainslie School, who received their awards as part of a whole-school CW fun day.





Alexandra McFadyen
Youth Awards Coordinator
ACT & SE NSW Region
Girl Guides NSW, ACT & NT
alexandra.mcfadyen@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au

1/3/2024

To the ACT Children's Week Committee

RE: Grant to Support Our Children's Week Activity

On behalf of Girl Guides in Canberra, I wanted to thank the ACT Children's Week Committee for the grant to support our Children's Week activity in 2023. The ACT & SE Region Girl Guides held their 2023 Youth Presentation Day at Government House, to celebrate Girl Guides who had earned a Peak Achievement Award in the last year, including the prestigious Queen's Guide Award.

Held on Friday 27th October 2023, a total of 19 girls were recognised for earning 20 awards. Girls from the awardees' districts were involved in the colour party, and leaders, friends and family were invited along as well. There were 85 people in attendance at the event.

We used the grant of \$150 to successfully run the event to acknowledge the hard work and achievements of each awardee. Every girl received a framed certificate, a letter, a memento, and her badges (not to mention blue cake!). The event ran smoothly and the families appreciated the acknowledgement from Their Excellencies, the Children's Week Committee and the wider Guiding community in the ACT.



It was a lovely day, and everyone had a good time. It was fantastic to have the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our youth members.

Kind regards

Alexandra McFadyen

Alexandra McFadyen
Youth Awards Coordinator

ACT CHILDREN'S WEEK INC – 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

OVERVIEW

2023 was another busy and exciting year for ACT Children's Week.

The role of the ACT Children's Week Committee is to promote involvement in Children's Week by supporting community organisations, groups and individuals who work for the benefit of children and young people in the ACT region.

We provide small seeding grants to encourage and assist organisations to hold events during Children's Week and we promote their work and activities by listing them on our Program of Events - see <https://www.actchildrensweek.org.au/events/>.

We also provide the opportunity for organisations or individuals to nominate individuals, groups, organisations and children/young people for Children's Week Awards. All those nominated receive an Award Certificate and congratulatory letter during Children's Week. This is a simple, yet powerful way to acknowledge the special work of individuals, groups and organisations who work with and for the children and young people in our community, and to recognise outstanding young people themselves.

A representative selection of award recipients is invited to receive their awards at our Launch and Awards Ceremony held on Universal Children's Day (the last Wednesday in October) during Children's Week.

PARTNERSHIPS

ACT Children's Week very much appreciates the continued financial support of:

- ☒ the ACT Government (through the Education Directorate, and the Community Services Directorate, including the Office for Seniors and Veterans),
- ☒ the Catholic Education Office (Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese),
- ☒ the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) ACT Section, and
- ☒ Canberra Southern Cross Club.

We also continued our successful partnership with Parentline ACT, who again assisted our volunteer committee with administration and social media.

ACT Children's Week Inc. is a member of the Children's Week Council of Australia which provides national governance and oversight of the state and territory Children's Week organisations.

Our successful partnership continued with the ACT Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), the world's largest professional association dedicated to advancing technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity. IEEE encourages students to develop their capabilities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education and we were delighted with the number of STEM related events held during Children's Week. As part of our partnership, we now have an award category, Exceptional STEM Volunteer which attracted several submissions.

We were delighted to be nominated for, and presented at our Launch and Awards Ceremony with, an international Organizational Supporting Friend of IEEE MGA Award acknowledging ACT CW's promotion of STEM-related events and activities. Our partnership with IEEE is proving to be mutually productive and rewarding and we look forward to it continuing.

Our VIPs also provided inspiring messages - including one from the Governor-General, National Patron of Children's Week, and Dr Anne Aly, federal Minister for Early Childhood Education & Minister for Youth - which can be found on our website: <https://www.actchildrensweek.org.au/>.

PARTICIPATION DATA

The characteristics of individuals/groups participating in Children's Week are diverse:

- Children and young people, aged 0 – 18 years;
- Youth up to 25 years
- Intergenerational – including grandparents / Grandfriends / seniors
- Families
- Cultural and linguistically diverse groups
- Schools and other community organisations involved with young people
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and groups.

Participants come from across the ACT.

GRANTS PROGRAMME - BUILDING SOCIAL CAPITAL

In 2023 the ACT Children's Week Committee offered small seeding Grants (between \$100 - \$150) to assist in organising Children's Week-related events and activities.

The eligible period for events in 2023 was the week prior to Children's Week through to the week after: Monday 14 October – Sunday 3 November.

Criteria for Grant Applications (from our website:
<https://www.actchildrensweek.org.au/apply-for-a-grant/>

- Grants are only available to organisations based in the ACT.
- Activities must be held within the eligible time period: 14 October – 3 November.
- Activities should assist in increasing awareness of the needs, interests, rights and achievements of children and/or young people.
- Activities should promote community involvement and cooperation.
- Activities must not be intended to promote commercial interests.
- Events / activities may fit in to more than one of the categories below, or have a different focus.
- As submitting a report is a requirement of a grant 2023 Grant recipients who did not submit an Event Report are not eligible to apply for a 2024 Grant.

Each year the ACT Children's Week Committee offers small seeding Grants to individuals, groups, schools, and community organisations to assist in organising Children's Week-related activities across the ACT. These activities result in considerable community engagement across and within many sectors of our community, resulting in increased connections and social capital in times of complexity in the community, and when there is a need for communities to come together.

INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

ACT Children's Week encourages applications with a focus on grandparent and intergenerational activities (such as seniors or family members helping with school activities, younger children visiting local aged care homes, etc).

STEM-RELATED ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

ACT Children’s Week is partnered with the **Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) ACT Section**.

IEEE is an international organisation whose purpose is to promote and support the development of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) among children from a very young age. The ACT Section runs professional development programs, seminars, activities and events for students, young professionals, women in engineering, life members and professionals throughout the year. Their STEM outreach arm promotes STEM in schools and especially among girls.

IEEE provided funding to sponsor Children’s Week community- or school-based activities or events which focus on STEM.

INDIGENOUS-THEMED ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

ACT Children’s Week also supports activities and events which support and promote Cultural Integrity in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, people, and understanding.

Grant recipients are required to provide a brief report on their activity, including attendance numbers, which may be used for promotional purposes. Photographs, if appropriate, are also welcomed.

2023 Grants/Events Summary

TOTAL APPLICATIONS: 124
Event Reports received: 97 (80%)
Total participants: >16,391
Children / young people: 13660+ Adults: 4069+
GROUPS
Schools: 59
Government (including P&C Associations):
Yrs P-6: 28 Yrs P-10: 5 Yrs 7-10: 8 Yrs 11-12: 11
Non-Government:
Yrs P-6: 5 Yrs 7-10: 2
Communities@Work / School Aged Care / Playgroups / Early Childhood Centres: 15
Scouting ACT (Cubs / Scouts / Venturers / Guides): 5

THEMES specifically referenced in applications / Event Reports
- Intergenerational / Grandparents / Grandfriends / Seniors: 26
- STEM: 16
- Indigenous: 9
- Community interaction / engagement: 42
- Storytelling / books: 7

2023 Grants / Event Reports Summary – SEE APPENDIX 1

ACT CHILDREN’S WEEK AWARDS

Award Categories

- **EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG PERSON** for a person under 25 years for having shown courage, perseverance and generosity, **OR** for a person under 25 years who makes extraordinary contributions to other children and/or young people through voluntary work, advocacy or being a role model.
- **YOUTH COMMITMENT** for groups of children and/or young people who see a need in their community and work together to create a solution.
- **COMMUNITY FOR CHILDREN** for individuals, groups, or volunteers, who have made an outstanding contribution to children and/or young people in the community (may include programs, events, equipment, promotion or management)
- **INTERGENERATIONAL CONTRIBUTION** for older people who have made an outstanding contribution to the wellbeing of children and/or young people **OR** for children and/or young people who have enhanced the lives of older people, including:
 - **EXCEPTIONAL SENIOR** for a senior who has shown outstanding commitment and generosity to the development of children and/or young people
- **BUSINESS CONTRIBUTION** for businesses who have made extraordinary contributions to children and/or young people.
- **SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT** for individuals, groups, organisations whose contributions significantly improve opportunities for children and/or young people to learn and grow, including:
 - **EXCEPTIONAL STEM VOLUNTEER AWARD** – for an individual/organisation who has made a significant contribution to enriching the skills of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in children and young people.
- This year the Committee introduced an additional Award category - **CONTRIBUTION TO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN AWARD** for individuals, groups, or organisations who have worked to improve outcomes for Indigenous children and young people, or who have worked to improve understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous groups within the community.

In addition, the ACT Children’s Week Commissioner chooses someone from the nominations to receive an Exceptional Young Person Award, and the ACT Minister for Seniors and Veterans chooses someone from the nominations to receive an Exceptional Seniors Award.

Historical Awards Data

Award Category	2023	2022	2021	2020
Exceptional Young Person	6	3	9	5
Youth Commitment	-	10	0	5
Community For Children	10	7	21	13
Intergenerational Contribution / Exceptional Senior	4	3	5	3
Business Contribution	1	2	0	2
Significant Support	16	16	29	36
Exceptional STEM Volunteer	3	2	N/A	N/A
Contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children	3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Totals:	43	46	68	67

2023 Award Recipients – SEE FULL LIST IN APPENDIX 2

ACT CHILDREN’S WEEK LAUNCH AND AWARD CEREMONY - 25 October 2023

Our Launch and Awards Ceremony was again held in the Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre and was attended by approximately 110 adults and children - award recipients, their nominators, family and friends, plus representatives of sponsor government departments and organisations, official guests and ACT Children’s Week Committee members.

At our 2023 ceremony, we welcomed the following special guests to participate in this inspirational occasion:

- Ngunnawal Elder, Aunty Violet Sheridan,
- ACT Children’s Week Patron, the Hon. Margaret Reid AM,
- ACT Children’s Week Ambassador, Jackie French AM;
- ACT Minister for Education, Yvette Berry, MLA
- ACT Minister for Community Services, Rachel Steven-Smith MLA,
- ACT Minister for Veterans and Seniors, Emma Davidson MLA,
- Director of the Catholic Education Office (Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn), Ross Fox,
- Chairperson of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), ACT Section, Ambarish Natu,
- ACT Commissioner for Children and Young People, Jodie Griffiths-Cook,
- Chief Executive of the Canberra Southern Cross Club, Ian Mackay, and
- President of Parentline ACT, Cathi Moore.

The Ceremony was once again very effectively and confidently hosted by Jazmyn Michie and Ryan Jennings - ACT Children’s Week Youth Ambassadors and members of the Living Streets Association Youth Team.

Musical entertainment was provided by Grace Flanagan and Jesse Prince, from Daydream Machine, and by the St Edmund’s College Year 8 Choir and Drumming Group.

2023 Launch and Awards Ceremony Programme – see APPENDIX 3

Link to 2023 Launch and Awards Ceremony video: www.actchildrensweek.org.au

PROMOTION

Our Grants and Awards programmes were promoted through social media, our website, printed material, and school and community organisation networks.

Children's Week was also promoted through press releases, social media, our website, radio interviews and newspaper coverage. Committee members also attended various Children's Week events to present awards.

SPONSORSHIP

Once again, generous sponsorship was received from ACT Community Services Directorate (including Office for Seniors and Veterans), ACT Education Directorate, Catholic Education Office (Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn), Canberra Southern Cross Club Community Grants, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) ACT Section.

This sponsorship is acknowledged on our website, reports, publicity, letters / emails and other correspondence, and at our Launch and Awards Ceremony.

In an attempt to increase the total funding available to our Grants Program, and to help defray our annual operating costs, funding applications were also made to several community-based philanthropic organisations.



ACT
Government

Education Directorate

Community Services Directorate, including

- Office for Seniors and Veterans



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn



APPENDIX 1 - ACT Children's Week Event Reports 2023 (by organisation)

Event Reports were received from 101 (84%) of 2023 ACT Children's Week Grant Recipients:

Organisation	Event Title	Number of participants - adults	Number of participants - children / young people	Brief description of event highlights
ACT & SE NSW Region Girl Guides	Youth Presentation Day at Government House	85	19	<p>The ACT & SE Region Girl Guides held their 2023 Youth Presentation Day at Government House, to celebrate Girl Guides who had earned a Peak Achievement Award in the last year, including the prestigious Queen's Guide Award.</p> <p>Held on Friday 27th October 2023, a total of 19 girls were recognised for earning 20 awards. Girls from the awardees' districts were involved in the colour party, and leaders, friends and family were invited along as well. There were 85 people in attendance at the event.</p> <p>We used the grant of \$150 to successfully run the event to acknowledge the hard work and achievements of each awardee. Every girl received a framed certificate, a letter, a memento, and her badges (not to mention blue cake!). The event ran smoothly and the families appreciated the acknowledgement from Their Excellencies, the Children's Week Committee and the wider Guiding community in the ACT.</p> <p>It was a lovely day, and everyone had a good time. It was fantastic to have the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our youth members.</p>
Ainslie School	Cohort Picnics	50	480	Our school hosted cohort picnics, the children made muffins with our nutrition and wellbeing specialist and enjoyed time together relaxing.
Ainslie School	Reid Preschool Family Afternoon Tea	25	22	Our Reid Preschool Families came together to celebrate the first year of their children's learning. The families enjoyed time in the preschool learning space participating in activities and sharing time together
Ainslie School	Children's Week Forum	35	0	Ainslie School Staff attended a forum launching our Purposeful Play graphic. Staff listened to an expert panel share their thoughts about how it connects to their work, research and education philosophy
Ainslie School	Loose Parts Play	25	30	Ainslie School Kinder teaching team hosted a Loose Parts Play transition visit with our Preschool children. The children and their families spent time connecting to their next learning space and building connected relationships new educators.
Ainslie School P&C Association	Year 1/2 Looking Back at the Past	20	100	The Year 1/2 cohort enjoyed a morning of old school games to conclude their unit looking back at the past. The grant was used to purchase old school games. Games included hopscotch, skittles, elastics, quoits, jacks, jump rope, tin can stilts, sack racing, three legged racing, etc. Children and adults had a wonderful time.
Ainslie School P&C Association	Year 5/6 picnic	12	100	Families came together to celebrate the end of year and celebrated treats budgeted for by students as part of financial literacy learning.

Amaroo School	Children, Grandparents and Special Friends reading and morning tea	250	922	We created an intergenerational event that encouraged reading in classrooms with students and Grandparents/Grandfriends in our community. It was highly successful and there were many students sharing reading with the older generation. We then invited the children and Grandfriends to a special morning tea in the library that was buzzing with conversation and excitement between the two generations. It was lovely to see the children so attentive to their older family members.
Arawang Preschool	Grandparents morning tea	100	60	This was a very well-received event (two morning teas were held on 23 October and 27 October for the two different preschool streams). The Preschool has not held a grandparents/special people event for some time and so it was well supported with many parents and grandparents. The children sang a song for their guests, shared morning tea, and decorated a rock to gift their guest.
Baker Gardens Preschool/ Ainslie School	Community Picnic	40	44	Bringing families into the Preschool space allowed the children to expand their sense of belonging to a wider community. The families could see and experience the children's learning with them. Families were able to meet and talk with other parents and extended family.
Bonython Primary School	Bonython Primary School Slow Start Morning	65	360	Students engaged in a slow start morning which was a culmination between ACT Ride Safely Week, World Teacher's Day and ACT Children's Week. Students began with a ride, walk or scooter to school morning, followed by fruit and games and activities in the playground.
Brindabella Venturer Unit at Southwell Scout Group	Venturer Led Joeys first overnight Hike	7	9	Our Venturers (Scouts aged 14-18) planned and led an over-night hike for our Joeys (Scouts aged 5-8). All the navigation, catering and risk management was done by the Venturers, in particular Benji. Then two Venturers led the hike. The Joeys ended up hiking 8.6km over the two days, carrying almost all of their gear, (we had Venturers and adults carry the heavy stuff). The Joeys helped put up their own tents, experienced dehydrated hiking food for the first time, learned how to purify water on the trail, and explored the area, finding many insects, spiders, birds and Kangaroos. At the end of the activity the 7 Joeys were asked, "Did you have fun, Would you do it again", to which all replied an energetic YES!
Calwell High School	Yakisoba and Matcha Aisu	3	18	Our students learned the vocab and methods for cooking Japanese style fried noodles (yakisoba) which we enjoyed with a dessert of green tea ice cream (matcha aisu). While enjoying the feast the students used appropriate language to express appreciation for the meal.
Calwell High School	Metal Work Technology Class Party	2	25	Great class party to celebrate the success they have had in this class this semester!!
Calwell High School	Business Class Party	3	25	A great class party to celebrate our successes of the class and celebrate ACT Children' s Week!
Calwell High School	Whole School Lunch	10	400	At lunchtime today we held a whole school lunch of sausage sandwiches! The kids were really excited that this was put on for them and many that I talked to felt appreciated and grateful that this was supplied for them.

Calwell High School	Indigenous Transition NRL School to Work Lunch	6	14	The Indigenous Students at our school met with the NRL School to Work program coordinators for a pizza lunch and yarn. The students learnt about the life journeys of the youth workers and that support programs exist for them in many facets of their lives, including education and training.
Calwell High School	Retirement Village afternoon tea / craft activity	4	14	Calwell High School made a visit to the Warrigal Retirement Village, and we had one on one conversations and discussed the terrariums and we look forward to having more interactions with the village as we foster this relationship with the older people in our community.
Canberra College	ACT Schools Mock Trial Competition	7	56	Four mock trial rounds over two days, with three moot courts concurrently hosting a total of 39 participants - students and adults.
Canberra High School	Big Breakfast Week	1	300	Over 3 days, 24/10 – 26/10/23 from 8am – 8:30am I was able to run the CHS Big Breakfast. It was a free offering to all students, including healthy food options of Fruit platters, Cereal, Fruit smoothies, Hot Milos & Breakfast Bars. The event also helped raise awareness of the need to start the day by having a healthy & nutritional breakfast for children & also help celebrate the 2023 ACT Children's Week.
CBCA ACT Branch	Reader's Cup	20	124	Twenty-nine teams of 4 students (and some with 1 extra substitute) read 5 chapter books and studied them in detail. They met up at St Monica's Primary school in Evatt from 1-4pm on Friday 27 October to answer 50 questions about those books. Three judges marked their responses. The first, second and third teams were presented with medallions and the Winning School's name is engraved on a trophy and held at the school until the next Reader's Cup event.
CCCaes at Canberra College	Family Fun Day	20	16	We had a fantastic picnic lunch and the children absolutely loved playing in the Arboretum playground. Especially the big slide and the bell walk and drums.
Charles Weston Preschool (Coomb's)	Preschool Art Show	31	45	An art gallery experience was created for families to share the preschool children's learning throughout the year. A collection of the preschool children's artwork was displayed in the playground for families to view with their children and a picnic morning tea followed the event. Three children from a family at the school provided musical accompaniment for the event (violin and cello players).
Children's Book Council of Australia ACT Branch	Annual Christmas Book Giving	7	860	Throughout the year, we collect and store new books to be given to children who are in crisis centres, refuges or hospital and donate them so that they have a new book for Christmas. This year we were able to use the Children's Week Grant money to purchase extra books to give. Seven volunteer members from our Branch packed 860 books for distribution to 11 different organisations.
Communities at Work Narrabundah Early Childhood Service	Grandparents Day family BBQ / picnic	15	30	We had many families come to the service and gather together to enjoy an afternoon tea. It was delightful to have parents and grandparents alike join together, socialize together, engage in play with their children.
Communities at work Taylor Childcare and Education Centre	Taylor CCEC Children's Week and Grandparents Day Event	100+	60	On October 27th, Taylor hosted an event to celebrate Children's Week, coinciding with Grandparents Day. This special occasion brought together our families for a memorable day. We had the privilege of hosting the President and Chairperson of the ACT Children's Week Awards Committee, who bestowed the

				<p>awards. It was a momentous occasion, and we were elated to have the opportunity to celebrate this achievement with all of you.</p> <p>During the opening ceremony, we paid tribute with the Acknowledgment of the Country and shared the joy of singing songs like "Taba-Naba" and "We are Australian" together.</p> <p>The event featured several engaging activities: At the Potting Table, grandparents and children had the opportunity to plant their chosen greenery, fostering a sense of connection with nature.</p> <p>The Art Table provided a creative outlet with various colors and printouts, allowing everyone to craft their unique artwork, which could be cherished at home or given as heartfelt gifts to grandparents.</p> <p>Playdough was set up on a table with a variety of colors and sensory exploration tools, promoting children's learning dispositions and helping them achieve their developmental goals.</p> <p>That's not it; Taylor CCEC team has achieved something truly extraordinary - our nomination for the award along with Tess and Sapna who also received the "Significant Support Award" for "Significantly improving opportunities for young people in ACT community to learn and grow." This recognition is a testament to the tireless commitment and diligence of our exceptional team, as well as the unwavering support from our extended Taylor CCEC community, which includes all of you.</p> <p>We also celebrated educator's years of service with Communities At Work.</p>
COTA ACT	Intergenerational exercise	25	20	The local preschool children joined one of our seniors exercise groups for a morning of fun at the Hughes Community Centre.
Cranleigh School	A Week of Celebrating our Children	70	94	Our school embraced Children's Week with a series of events over 5 days, including sensory play, reading and yoga clubs, a visit from a local musician, traditional games from around the world and culminating in a very exciting super hero dress up day.
Diamantina Scout Group	Group Family Sausage Sizzle	30	40	<p>Our Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts enthusiastically prepared delicious salads, sausages and dessert for everyone. They used the catering equipment purchased with Children's Week grant to do the preparation. Every youth member was involved and without the grant we wouldn't have had sufficient equipment to do so. Parents and Scout leaders supported the youth members with the preparation.</p> <p>Youth members also participated in parachute games and used their pioneering skills to build catapults using spars and ropes.</p> <p>It was a wonderful family night enjoyed by all.</p>
Erindale College	Dance Celebration	1	15	We played dance games, listened to music and enjoyed a pizza lunch

Erindale College	Canberra Reptile Zoo visit	6	12	Canberra Reptile Zoo visited The Erindale COMPASS Science class to teach students about behavioural and physical adaptations. The students learnt a lot, and were especially excited to have opportunities to hold snakes, a crocodile, lizards and a turtle.
Erindale College	Erindale College Year 12 Arts & Photo Exhibition	25	20	Exhibition of artworks hosted at Tuggeranong Arts Centre to celebrate Year 12 graduating students. Opening event was hosted 17th Nov (an unforeseen delay meant the official event was after official Children's Week). Flyers included Children's Week sponsorship logo.
Erindale college	Children's week 2023	Ongoing numbers of students and staff using the weighted toy but weighted toy has been very helpful and used a lot. Thank you.		I obtained a weighted toy (4.5kg lap dog) for my school psychology office. The weighted toy is for students to sit with who come to see the school psychologist for counselling.
Erindale College	Year 12 End of Year Exhibition	2	20	Our Friday 17th, we held the opening for our Year 12 Art and Photography Exhibition at Tuggeranong Arts Centre. We showcased and celebrated our wonderful year 12 students. The students were able to display their self-directed independent projects focusing on areas of personal interest and exploration. It was amazing to see the students' eyes light up as they hung their works on the gallery wall and as other members of the community and their families came to celebrate with them.
Erindale College Hospitality	Hospitality open day	20	150	My Hospitality students put on a "children's party" with food games and music nostalgic of childhood and classes came and participated in the party.
Evatt Primary School	Community Library Courtyard Opening	20	40	Parents and grandparents were invited to the opening of a new library courtyard space where they were able to play together in the nature playground and spend time reading in the new cubby shelters.
Fadden Preschool	End of Year Celebration	80	45	The preschool children performed songs they had learnt throughout the year and then shared morning tea with their grandparents/parents whilst playing with their friends in the preschool playground. The money from the Children's Week grant was used to purchase drinks, a fruit platter and other morning tea items.
Fadden primary school P&C	Spring disco	20	270	Disco at the school
Farrer P&C	Children's Week	150	300	Pastries and Paper planes. Childrens week activities combined with Grandparents Day.
Forrest out of school Hours Care	Family disco	42	150	A wonderful gathering bringing the community together to celebrate children's week. A professional disco was provided and offered the latest music accompanied by inclusive games to encourage families and children to participate. An inclusive bbq was also provided catering for all cultures with foods that represent their culture.

Forrest Primary School P&C	Ride or walk to school safely extravaganza	80	550	A morning event, organized by Mr Robson, our PE coordinator, designed to raise safety awareness around riding or walking to school safely and to bring together the school community. The \$150 grant from ACT Children's Week went directly to fund part of the bbq breakfast for the children, staff and families which was run by the Forrest Primary School P&C and volunteers. There were lots of activities and prizes for the best decorated bike, scooter and helmet.
Fraser After School Care	Children's Week Celebrations	23	118	We hosted a wide range of activities across the whole of children's week that were chosen and run by the children. This included a silent disco, face paint, cooking activities, giant board games, slime and so many more.
Garran Scout Group	Children's Week Halloween Electrical Engineering	4	17	The Scouts enjoyed learning about circuits and electrical circuits and components to build their own Halloween decoration with spooky LED eyes.
Gilmore Primary School	Children's Week Pancake Breakfast	25	147	At Gilmore our children love to cook and we are equipped with electric fry pans, utensils and aprons donated by Oz Food Harvest. To celebrate the 2023 theme we hosted a very special Breakfast Club where children cooked and ate pancakes.
Giralang Primary School	Caring Creations: a celebration of the arts	200	300	Fun filled afternoon with children's art from P-6 on display for families to come and view. Various music performances including singing, movement, band from students K-6 entertained the audience as they viewed the art show.
Girl Guides ACT & SE NSW Region	Operation Adventure 2023	25	141	Outdoor adventure event held at our Region Campsite. Girls took part in outdoor activities including - Obstacle Courses, Low Ropes, Mountain Biking, Virtual Reality, Archery, Orienteering and much more. 141 girls participated on the day.
Girl Guides Tuggeranong District	Girl Guides Camp - Fantasy Quest	8	19	Archery, fun water games, colour run, campfire and camp cooking. Plus hanging out with friends and sleeping in tents overnight. Photos at: https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0yDcRxGdV9FoVS8uPMkU3xPRnwUivMCjAZV4V9W9dLm3bDZ5oZ4dCuxg43rVHYLLol&id=100064915951289&mibextid=en6awd
Gungahlin Child and Family Centre	Tiddas Girls group baking and decorating afternoon tea	2	6	Tiddas' welcomed some new girls to our group this week! When the girls arrived, we had an afternoon tea and cookie decorating stations set up for the girls to design and decorate sugar cookies to take home with them. It was a lovely afternoon, and the girls were able to demonstrate their creativity and playfulness with their end products. The girls got to know each other better and enjoy a relaxing activity to wind down after school. The girls look forward to practicing their skills at home together with their families and were proud to show their parents what they had made at the end of the session to Celebrate ACT Children's Week.

Harrison School	Children's Week	30	1000	<p>A week of celebrations! Week 3 – Monday Sport Clinics run by the year 9/10 students.</p> <p>Week 3 – Tuesday Yoga in the hall</p> <p>Week 3 – Wednesday - World Children’s Day Wear blue! Gold coin donation – all money raised to go to Unicef Picnic lunch at 11am for all students</p> <p>Week 3 – Thursday Crazy sock day! All classes to organise a fun art activity for students to do during the day with the theme of Children’s Week.</p> <p>Week 3 – Friday Music and Dance afternoon from 2-3pm for P-4. Ice blocks will be provided for all students P-6 to celebrate the final day of Children’s Week.</p>
Hawker Primary School age care.	Children's week	7	50	We celebrated children's week for the whole week "23rd to 27th October. Children learned "Rights of the Child " and children made a poster of the Rights of the Child, explored their creativity by doing canvas paintings, and made a hair salon to show their pretending skills. Had a picnic afternoon tea and watched the movie "Rock Dog "with popcorn.
Hughes Community Garden	Visit from local school children	5	20	The local Hughes preschool children visited the community garden to have some morning tea and help feed the worms. A great time was had by all (with lots of hand-washing throughout).
Hughes Primary School P and C	Community Connection day	50	80	This was a great event that allowed families across the school community to come together for the afternoon in an informal setting, and get to know each other, while the children enjoyed afternoon tea and playing together. Lots of positive feedback was received and we hope to run these more regularly.
Kingsford Smith School	Grandfriend's Day	40	79	Kingsford Smith Preschool students planted seeds in the garden and participated in other associated activities with their Grand Friends to celebrate Children's Week. During the event, preschool children shared the learning and activities they have been doing in preschool.
Koala Playschool Inc	Grandparents & Children mindfulness / yoga session	90	55	Shine Om Yoga ran a beautiful multi-generational yoga session for our children and their grandparents in our Koala Playschool gardens. This was responsive to both the children's and grandparents interests. As it was Halloween week, many of the children wanted to do Halloween poses which was a lot of fun! We then had a beautiful morning tea together sharing plates of food that families had brought in. It was the most well attended event we have run at Koalas and we will definitely be doing this again in the future.

Lake Tuggeranong College	Literary Lunch	20	35	The Lake Tuggeranong College Library was pleased to host our largest Literary Lunch ever. Students from our Drama class presented excerpts from their upcoming production, The Little Prince, and captivated the audience instantly with their dynamic performances. Three students from Literature classes read from their original works with impressive poise and engaging language. The event was capped off with a gripping keynote from local author, James Knight, including an "Oh Captain, My Captain" moment when he leapt onto a chair. The nibbles may have been what got people in the door, but the speakers kept us all rapt for the duration of the afternoon.
Lake Tuggeranong College	Subway Lunch	1	10	Had a Subway lunch and chat
Lake Tuggeranong College (ACT Education)	The Little Prince Production	84	92	The Year 6 Matinee was a huge success with our Q&A session after the show demonstrating how positively the work had been received, and how differently each audience member had responded to the different characters. Students interacted with the hosts who led them through the production, and also had a chance to really chat with the older students about the production process, the play's meaning, and their characters.
Lanyon High School	Indigenous Students Year 6 Transitions Day	6	350	Students participating fully in all the fun opportunities there were to get involved in cultural arts, fun competitions, and activities.
Latham Primary School P&C Association	Happiness Hands	50	378	We provided Latham Primary School students and teachers with cardboard hand cut outs and decorations that they could write on and decorate in response to the question 'What makes you happy?'. Each class then returned the hands to the front office, and they are now on display as a wall of 'happiness hands'. The children's families will be invited to make a happiness hands. These will be added to the main display of hands. Our idea is to demonstrate how many hands make up our school community and different ways we can support each other. Some of the highlights from the response's included: family, friends, pets, helping. winning and potatoes make me happy.
LillyPilly Early Education Centre	Reading Adventure	36	175	Our Reading Adventure coincided with our Children's Week celebrations, where each child selected from a range of children's hardcover storybooks to take home, enjoy and add to their libraries. Each of the children with their families, explored the book titles and selected a book of their choice, taking it home to enjoy and share the magic of reading and literacy.
Lyneham High School	Zen Gardens	1	20	The students were able to share and get involved in the steps that they felt comfortable with. The gardens are now being used by the students during their break times and often while waiting for the photocopier.
Lyneham High School	Yarning Circle	2	12	The students were able to create prints to make into wall panels to make their yarning room more inviting. The students are very keen now to show off their room to their friends and are inviting others to come in and learn about their culture and stories.

<p>Lyons Early Childhood School and Woden Community Service</p>	<p>Playgroup @ Lyons Children's Week Celebration</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>Playgroup @ Lyons hosted two parent/carer and bubs yoga sessions to celebrate Children's week. Children's Week dates also coincided with the one year anniversary of the community playgroup.</p> <p>The sessions focused on mindfulness and how this can be achieved through breath and movement.</p> <p>Parents were taught a series of simple tools that are easily accessible and can make a big difference in shifting from negative feelings, like anxious, overwhelmed, nervous or scared to focusing on feelings of calm, present and clear.</p> <p>The first session was focused on sharing movements and techniques that they can use with children. The second session had more of a focus on parents. Offering time for them to stop and enjoy yoga.</p> <p>Families were also invited to join in in a healthy morning tea after each session.</p>
<p>Macquarie Primary School</p>	<p>Grandfriends and Outdoor learning day for children's week</p>	<p>40</p>	<p>330</p>	<p>Our students invited their Grand friends to join in a day of outdoor learning followed by Devonshire tea. Our students created activities including; jump rope, gardening, scavenger hunts, art works, bubbles and dancing. Watching our students share in multigenerational learning activities was incredible and our Grand friends were so grateful to share in the learning for the day. Having them join together for Devonshire tea was a great way for our Grand friends to network.</p>
<p>Maura Pierlot, Big Ideas Press</p>	<p>The Book Bench Project</p>	<p>Please see event summary</p>		<p>Funds were used to purchase children's books from Lifeline Australia. Over sixty books, including several from my own collections, were distributed via park benches throughout Canberra over a three-week period (14/10/23 - 5/11/23). The children's books catered to all ages and interests: picture books, junior fiction, middle grade and young adult novels, fiction and non-fiction. Approximately 20 books were distributed each week, with half the books promoted to designated suburbs on social media (Instagram and Facebook), the others dropped randomly in my travels.</p> <p>It's not possible to know exactly how many people interacted with the books. I would estimate 50-100 as usually the first to find the book/s, takes them home. But as there was a Book Bench card included with each book drop, perhaps the number was higher due to word of mouth.</p> <p>Penny Travers, a reporter for ABC News Canberra, accompanied me for one of the drops as part of her feature on The Book Bench Project in late October. Her article, which mentioned the ACT Children's Week Grant, received very positive feedback with a high number of shares, comments and likes across several ABC and personal social media accounts. You can find the article on Instagram @abccanberra (22 Oct post), @abc_arts (2 Nov) and Facebook @abccanberra (22 Oct) or online: https://ab.co/3tNW4tG. Photos of various book drops are available on Instagram (@thebookbenchproject).</p>
<p>Mother's group playgroup</p>	<p>Cardboard construction and waterplay</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Such a fun day for the kids of a range of ages. Toddlers enjoyed stacking and running through cardboard boxes, sitting in cardboard boxes singing row row row your boat and throwing balls in the boxes. Time was spent cutting and ripping the boxes and practising their hand eye coordination of screwing together pieces of cardboard.</p> <p>The little babies had fun in the sun laying on a playmat getting their hands and feet wet as the mums (and some dads) showed</p>

				<p>cause and effect of putting their wet hands on the magic canvas and then the big kids were fascinated when the canvas dried and the painted water faded.</p> <p>There were healthy snacks as we talking about how food gives us energy and the session ended with a play in the playground and going down the slides!</p> <p>A great day and a lot of excitement to our usual mothers playgroup!</p>
Namadgi School	Canberra Reptile park incursion	4	40	The Reptile Man presented a range of small reptiles for the preschool children to see, touch and learn about.
Ngunnawal Primary School	ACT Children's Week 2023	14	18	This event involved children and their parents and grandparents coming together and taking part in activities and enjoying a multicultural feast showcasing our families and celebrating where we come from.
O'Connor Cooperative School	Reptile Man Visit	15	75	Our school community had an absolutely fantastic day during the Reptile Man visit. It was truly special to witness families coming together to watch the show. The joy on the children's faces was simply beautiful, and their inquisitive questions added an extra lay of excitement to the show. On behalf of our entire school community, we extend a heartfelt thank you for providing our children with an extraordinary Children's Week experience this year.
Pearce Preschool Echidnas	First Nations Storytelling & Bookish Play	3	16	As part of our children's week celebrations, the Pearce Preschool Echidnas engaged in a First Nations bookish play, small world and storytelling experience using our new Felt Australian Playscape Mats, Australian Animal Finger Puppets and First Nations perspective picture books that we were able to purchase with the Children's Week Grant. The children spent lots of time using expressive language as they took on the roles of the different Australian animal finger puppets. They also engaged in rich storytelling as they created scenes for the animals in the Australian playscapes.
Pearce Preschool Kookaburra Group	Resources to support the exploration of our light table	2	18	The Children's week grant money was used to purchase new resources to support children's engagement in exploring our light table.
Richardson Primary School	Community BBQ & Games on the oval	40	200	This morning we celebrated ACT Children's Day with a community breakfast of bacon & eggs. Families joined with staff from the school to enjoy bacon & egg sandwiches. This event enables us to connect to children and their families. It also provides an opportunity to foster open and caring relationships. We also opened our oval at lunchtime for children to enjoy the space, playing soccer and other ball games.
Shine Om	Free family yoga to celebrate ACT children's week	10	9	To celebrate ACT children's week we held a 30 minute family yoga session for the community. We had an additional 5 families registered but unfortunately couldn't attend due to illness. The class theme was centred around 'birthdays' to acknowledge our individual ways of celebrating children. We had people from as young as 6 months old attending the class. The participants played an active role in creating the story and poses for the session. It was an absolute delight hosting this free event for the community and providing an opportunity for young and old to reap the benefits of mindfulness and yoga.

Southern Cross Early Childhood School	Community Gathering: Bike and Kite Day	300	400	Our whole community (past, current and present) were invited to a twilight evening event to celebrate Children's Week. Children rode bikes on our bike track, flew kites, had their faces painted, engaged in circus skills and played large outdoor games. Our P&C ran a BBQ. The highlight was all of our families and children connecting and celebrating.
St Bedes SAC	Children have the right to relax, play and to take part in activities they enjoy.	4	26	St Bedes After School Care has observed Children's Week for a week on the theme "Children have the right to relax, play, and take part in activities they enjoy". To achieve the above-mentioned theme, we have organized various activities based on different areas such as the Right to Relax, the importance of play, and Participation in enjoyable activities. To meet the goals, children were engaged in indoor activities as well as outdoor activities based on their interests. For instance, children were fully engaged in reading a book, doing hammy beads, painting, drawing, loombands, and dressing up. Some of them danced to the music. In the same manner, children had fun playing soccer, skipping, and netball. The rationale behind organizing such activities is to create spaces and environments where children can find solace, peace, and tranquility. It is also to recognize and support children's right to participate in activities they enjoy and to enhance their personal growth and happiness. Overall, the program went very well, and the children had fun.
St Edmund's College	St Edmund's - Retirement Outreach	40	20	Students from St Edmund's College enjoyed sharing their music and time with their local retirement village where the common language of singing and music was shared.
St Edmund's College	Floriade and Children's Week Launch	60	100	Students from St Edmund's college were able to share their music with the local community enjoying inter-generational collaboration at Floraide and the Children's Week launch.
St John Vianney's Primary	Grand 'Friends' Day	75	140	SJV children joined their Grand friends and celebrated 'fun' by making and flying kites. Followed by a Pizza lunch with ELC children and then a market day.
St Jude's Primary School	Buddy walk and icecream treat!	10	125	We loved walking from St Jude's to That Gelato Place in Weston to enjoy a sweet treat on a hot day. This helped provide a local business with over \$500 worth of sales. We supplemented the grant with our excursion budget. It was great to explore the local area we had been learning about in such a fun and practical way. On the way back to school we stopped at a local park for some fun! Please follow link for pictures. Sorry there are none of us eating the icecream. It was all hands on deck!! https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid02YEvzctwHTL6N2NHXVPg1bnoL9bzoZjSnmtagR6EhGkSXUbeQYJo38VgKZ9qtLRDMI&id=100084439961012
St Monica's Primary School	Grandparents Day	550	390	The students had a wonderful hour sharing their letters and work with their grandparents. The grandparents watched the choir perform and then enjoyed morning tea in the hall.
St Thomas More's Primary School, Campbell	Mission Fete	20	165	Our Year 5 and 6 students organised a Mission Fete for our school community. Students for a small donation participated in STEM activities. Money raised was donated to Catholic Mission to help them provide for programs that benefit communities in Timor-Leste.

Teddybears Childcare Centre	Circle of Security Workshop for Educators	16	130	Our educators play a crucial role in shaping the lives of the children we work with. By attending the Circle of Security program, they have gained valuable insights and tools to facilitate stronger, healthier relationships between educators and children. This will not only improve the quality of our services but also contribute significantly to the overall well-being and development of the children under our care.
Theodore Primary School - Preschool	Preschool Community Gardening Day	7	26	Theodore preschool children participated in a day of outdoor sustainable gardening activities, they planted tomato, pea and zucchini seedlings in vegetable garden beds that were revitalised using funding from the Children's Week grant. The children learnt about the importance of using water sustainably and placed sugar cane mulch into the vegetable beds to retain the moisture. The children worked collaboratively to build a scarecrow for the gardens. The children also participated in weaving using recycled plastic bottles.
Theodore Primary School P&C Association	Colour Explosion Fun Run	150	300	<p>The Colour Explosion Fun Run was an absolute party at the school with music, dancing, cheering, chanting, sliming, and of course, running an obstacle course full of water and colour!</p> <p>Described by more than one student as 'the best day of my life', everyone had a blast.</p> <p>The event saw lots of parents, grandparents and younger siblings joining to watch and volunteer to spray chalk and water on the students.</p> <p>In addition, the event was supported by students from Calwell High School and Erindale College volunteering their time.</p> <p>All students were able to participate in this free event thanks to the help of the ACT Children's Week grant which covered the cost of the obstacle course.</p> <p>On top of this fantastic fun filled day - families were given the option to fundraise in the lead up to the event and our school raised over \$11,000 with the highest fundraising class receiving a pizza party and various students getting to slime a teacher.</p> <p>The fundraising funds will be spent purchasing junior bikes for the school's popular bike program, buddy benches, library resources, Play Club equipment, and sports jerseys. All items that fit perfectly with the theme for Children's Week 2023.</p>
Torrens Primary School	Grandparents Day - Read a Story, Share a Story	150	400	Grandparents reading stories with students. Grandparents connecting over morning tea.

Torrens primary School	Just 50 Words Celebration	60	400	<p>Just 50 Words competition was celebrated with a special assembly. This year's assembly was our seventh assembly celebrating the annual competition.</p> <p>Just 50 words is an annual writing/illustrating competition which involves all Torrens students from kindergarten to Year 6 as well as all students from our pre-schools. It is a time when we are able to celebrate and showcase all the wonderful writing that we do in our school.</p> <p>We were excited to welcome parents, friends and our preschoolers. We also enjoyed hearing from local special guest Journalist and Mix 106.4 radio host , Sammy Rose, who gave an entertaining talk about her writing journey and tips for being effective writers. Sammy loves bringing us the latest news on fashion, food and sport, especially the Canberra Raider men's and women's teams.</p> <p>Then, the Just 50 Words committee shortlisted six pieces of work from each year level. From the shortlist, runner(s) up and winners are selected for each year level.</p> <p>Over 100 children were honoured with honourable mentions, shortlisted certificates or announced as the runner up or winner on the day.</p> <p>All winning and runner up stories were published in a special compilation and given to the winners and runners up of each year level as part of their prize (along with a book chosen especially for them) and are also displayed in the library, front office and in principals' office proudly.</p> <p>We thank the Children's Week Grant again for their support.</p>
Tuggeranong Child and Family Centre	Tidbinbilla Excursion for families of the Learn Giggle Grow Playgroup	8	10	Families of the Learn Giggle Grow Playgroup had the opportunity to participate in an excursion and guided tour of Tidbinbilla. The children saw koalas and listened to a talk on other animals and also learnt about the customs and cultures of our First Nations People. Families enjoyed a barbeque lunch and a play on the playground. The excursion took up most of the day and the children were all exhausted by the time we returned to the Child and Family Centre.
Tuggeranong Child and Family Centre	Multicultural Playgroup - Children's week BBQ	16	20	On Thursday 26th October families from the Multicultural Playgroup met to celebrate Children's Week. We enjoyed a visit from CRCS and all participated in special activities such as glitter tattoos, toys, and a fishing game. We then shared a BBQ lunch in the sunshine.
Tuggeranong child and family centre	Koori Playgroup Zoo trip	9	10	Koori playgroup attended the National Zoo and Aquarium! The kids loved spotting their favourite animals. We started in the aquarium where we spotted some sharks and then some snakes, followed by visits to the bigger animals. The lions were a crowd favourite!
Tuggeranong Link Community Houses and Centres	Teddy Bears Picnic 24/10/23 and Mad hair day with cooking pizza 25/10/23	12	15	Playgroup was made up of Parents and children, babies to 3 years, Teddy Bear Picnic. The next day Playschool was mad hat/hair day with cooking their own Pizzas
Wanniassa School	Habitat Construction	8	14	Students planned and built sanctuary enclosures for endangered animals to highlight the necessity of biodiversity in our community

Wanniassa School	Crochet and Knitting Group	4	12	Students were inspired and educated by members of a local community group who shared their crochet and knitting expertise in a collaborative day celebrating wool!
Wanniassa SGP Maths	Pirate Day Treasure Hunt	4	32	Senior students designed a Treasure Hunt to encourage Year 2 students to get outside and have fun solving puzzles, looking for clues and finding treasure - of things to play with outside!
Wattle Early Childhood Centre	Grandfriends Stay and Play Spooky Halloween	30	40	Children have the right to play and that is exactly what we did. We invited our loved ones into the service for an afternoon of play and relationship building across our community. Our grant went to providing a beautiful afternoon tea for all to enjoy. It was such a hit, with a huge turnout Wattle was buzzing with excitement. Not only did all our children dress up, but so did the staff and the families that turned up! We played and played and played! We are so thankful for the grant that allowed for this afternoon to be possible.
Wesley Whippersnappers Playgroup	Halloween Morning Tea	15	19	A delicious spread of morning tea for everyone big and small. The children helped Franky put together his pasta body. Some made coloured window film with their favourite colours. The children also enjoyed digging around the coloured rice for dinosaurs with the help of dump trucks. Tattoos were a hit with older children. We sang some new songs that coincide with the event and the craft - Dem bones, Dino stomp. At the end of the party, the children got to choose a dinosaur to take home and a treat of chocolate or stickers at the discretion of their parents.
West Belconnen Child and Family Centre	Children's week - Friday Fun	11	13	<p>We celebrated children's week in one of our targeted playgroups - Friday Fun at West Belconnen Child and Family Centre. We had multiple activities focusing on all children's right to relax, play and take part in activities they enjoy. Families from other targeted playgroups at our centre also attended.</p> <p>These include; Large ball pit, slide and sand pit outside and Make your own button badges (Children's week themed) and DIY & craft activity (collaborated with Bunnings Belconnen) inside. We finished the session with morning tea where children decorated their own cupcakes with icing, sprinkles and Children's week cake flags.</p>
Weston Scout Group - Joeys	Visit to Mirinjani Nursing Home with Reptiles Inc	25	18	Joey Scouts sharing their favourite reptiles with the elderly residents - they were all very happy to engage and smiling for the whole activity
Woden Valley Early Learning Centre	Dinosaur Museum Excursion	40	75	It was an incredible day filled with dino-mite fun, laughter, and precious memories, all made possible by your enthusiastic participation! The joy on the children's faces as they explored the fascinating world of dinosaurs was truly priceless. We couldn't have asked for a better turnout, and it warmed our hearts to see the museum come alive with your energy and excitement. Your presence made this event a remarkable success. In the spirit of Children's Week, we hope that this event has not only provided a day of entertainment but also fostered a love for learning and sparked curiosity in the hearts and minds of our young explorers. Together, we celebrated the beauty of childhood and the importance of nurturing young minds.
PARTICIPATION / ENGAGEMENT TOTALS:		4069+	13660+	

APPENDIX 2 – ACT Children’s Week 2023 Award Recipients

Award Category	Name	Position
Exceptional Young Person	Rebekah Wilkinson	Administration Officer, Communities at Work – Abacus CCEC
Exceptional Young Person	Zara Mann	Ainslie School
Exceptional Young Person	Grace Flanagan	Student, Daydream Machine
Exceptional Young Person	Jesse Prince	Student, Daydream Machine
Exceptional Young Person	Rebecca (Bec) Richards	ESL Kingsford Smith High School
Exceptional Young Person	Georgia Jones	Team Leader - Educator, Communities at Work
Community for Children	John House	Ainslie School
Community for Children	Anna Chu	Ainslie School
Community for Children	Niki Van den Heuvel	Ainslie School
Community for Children	Woden Valley Early Learning Centre	
Community For Children	Tess Gallagher	Educational Leader / Room Leader, Taylor Childcare and Education Centre
Community for Children	Alison O’Brien	Lead Educator, Mother Teresa ELC
Community For Children	Charlie Woolstencroft / Greta Hamilton	Lids4Kids Workshop
Community for Children	Kylie Keane,	Educational Leader, Forrest Out of Hours School Care

Community for Children	Kinley Gyem	Ainslie School
Community For Children	Taylor Childcare and Education Centre Team	
Intergenerational Contribution / Exceptional Senior	Paul Jukes	Cook, Communities at Work – Abacus CCEC
Intergenerational Contribution / Exceptional Senior	Helen Palethorpe	Ainslie School
Intergenerational Contribution / Exceptional Senior	Rosemary Howard	Relief Teacher, St John Vianney's Primary
Intergenerational Contribution / Exceptional Senior	Diane Bugg	Ainslie School
Business Contribution	Martin Lind	WaterWatch Coordinator, Southern ACT Catchment Group Inc
Significant Support	James Phillips	Educator, Communities at Work – Abacus
Significant Support	Kirsten Cross	Parentline / ACT Playgroups / COTA
Significant Support	Vicki Woods	CSA (classroom support)
Significant Support	Butterfly Team, St. Jude's Primary School	
Significant Support	Sapna Sapna	Room leader, Taylor Childcare and education centre
Significant Support	Lauren Ward	Administration Manager, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Archana Khadka	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Rachel Small	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Gennette Goldfinch	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT

Significant Support	Maggie Bennett	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Eunice Chin	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Marijke Henshaw	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Audrey Sarmiento	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Neil Flinn	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	John Forsey	Volunteer Counsellor, Parentline ACT
Significant Support	Ashlea Nicholson	Manager, Communities at Work – Abacus CCEC
Exceptional STEM Volunteer	Owen Fearn	Brindabella Venturers, Southwell Scout Group, Scouts ACT
Exceptional STEM Volunteer	April Barrett	Brindabella Venturers, Southwell Scout Group, Scouts ACT
Exceptional STEM Volunteer	Kirsten Verburg	Project Leader, CSIRO
Indigenous Contribution	Jasmin Hunter	Classroom Teacher, Gold Creek School
Indigenous Contribution	Jakki Kennedy and Eli Archer	Classroom Support, Cooperative School
Indigenous Contribution	Koori Butterflies	Richardson Preschool



ACT CHILDREN’S WEEK 2023

YOUTH AMBASSADORS - Jazmyn Michie / Ryan Jennings (Living Streets Association)

ACT CHILDREN’S WEEK COMMITTEE AND SUPPORT 2023

Mike Payne (President)

Vicki Brown (Past President / Community Representative))

Natasha Bunter (North Belconnen Community Association)

Julie Long OAM (Publicity / Children’s Book Council ACT / Scouts ACT)

Narelle Hargreaves AM JP FACEL

Fouad Kourata (IEE / Community Representative), Thien Truong (IEEE)

Kerrie Long (Community Representative)

Hilary Martin (Parentline)

Madison Mills (Community Representative)

Emma-Jayne Peard (Community Representative / Noah’s Ark)

Matthew Platt (Treasurer / Scouts ACT)

Liliana Russell (Catholic Education Office)

Yohan Ramasundara (Community Representative) Salinda Wong (Community Services)

Nathan Young (Secretary, O’Connor Cooperative School)

Rita Kritikos (ACT Community Services Directorate)

Sally Johnson (ACT Education Directorate)



**2023 Theme: *Children have the right to relax, play
and take part in activities they enjoy***

LAUNCH and AWARDS CEREMONY



**Children's Week Council of Australia Patron
His Excellency General David Hurley AC DSC (Rtd)**

WELCOME

Jazmyn Michie and Ryan Jennings – ACT Children's Week Youth Ambassadors,
Living Streets Association Youth Team

**WELCOME TO
COUNTRY**

Aunty Violet Sheridan - Ngunnawal Elder

LAUNCH

Margaret Reid AO - ACT Children's Week Patron

**AWARD
PRESENTATIONS**

Citations

Margaret Reid AO

Ross Fox – Director, Catholic Education Office

GRACE FLANAGAN **Exceptional Young Person Award**
ROSEMARY HOWARD **Intergenerational Contribution Award**
CHARLIE WOOLSTENCROFT **Community for Children and**
and GRETA HAMILTON **Intergenerational Contribution Award**

Grace Flanagan - Daydream Machine

Jesse Prince - Daydream Machine

MUSICAL ITEMS

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Citations

Margaret Reid AO

Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA - Minister for Families &
Community Services

Minister for Aboriginal & Torres
Strait Islander Affairs

PAUL JUKES **Intergenerational Contribution Award**
MARTIN LIND **Business Contribution Award**
OWEN FEARNS and **Exceptional STEM Volunteer Award**
APRIL BARRETT

MUSICAL ITEM

Drums - St Edmund's College Drum Band

**EXCEPTIONAL SENIOR AWARD
CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER'S
AWARD**

Emma Davidson MLA – Minister for Seniors & Veterans

Jodie Griffiths-Cook - Public Advocate and Children &
Young People's Commissioner

**CHILDREN'S WEEK
AMBASSADOR**

Jackie French AM (Video message)

MUSICAL ITEM

Choir - St Edmund's College

**AWARD
PRESENTATIONS**

Citations

Margaret Reid AO

Yvette Berry MLA - Minister for Early Childhood Development
Minister for Education & Youth Affairs

IEEE AWARD PRESENTATION

Ambarish Natu - Chair IEEE ACT Section

**AWARD
PRESENTATIONS**

Citations

Aunty Violet Sheridan

Mike Payne

JASMIN HUNTER
JAKKI KENNEDY and
EU ARCHER
KOORI BUTTERFLIES,
RICHARDSON PRESCHOOL

Intergenerational Contribution Award
Exceptional Young Person Award
Exceptional STEM Volunteer Award

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Contribution Awards**

CONCLUSION

Mike Payne - President, ACT Children's Week

AWARD CATEGORIES:

- Exceptional Young Person
- Youth Commitment
- Community for Children
- Intergenerational Contribution
- Exceptional Senior
- Business Contribution
- Significant Support
- Exceptional STEM Volunteer
- Contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children

APPENDIX 4 – ACT CHILDREN’S WEEK 2023 FINANCIAL REPORTS

ACT CHILDREN'S WEEK PAYMENTS AND INCOME - 2023 SUMMARY									
PAYMENTS									
Date	Details / Inv.#	Incidentals	CWCOA membership	Auditor	Seeding Grants	Insurance	Parentline - Admin Costs	Internet - Beta Launch	TOTAL
16-Jan-23	UNICEF Donation	\$30.00							\$30.00
17-Jan-23	Beta Launch							\$297.00	\$297.00
24-Jan-23	2022 M'ship Inv: CW08/2022		\$350.00						\$350.00
23-Mar-23	2023 M'ship Inv: CWC 0002		\$350.00						\$350.00
24-Mar-23	Assurance Matters: Inv 1045			\$300.00					\$300.00
31-May-23	Parentline: inv 00011306						\$140.00		\$140.00
2-Jun-23	Beta launch: INV-0100							\$660.00	\$660.00
13-Jun-23	Parentline: inv 00011307						\$140.00		\$140.00
15-Jun-23	CWCOA Conference 2-3 March 2023, Vicki Brown	\$812.44							\$812.44
21-Jul-23	Flowers	\$165.95							\$165.95
22-Jul-23	Parentline: inv 11308						\$140.00		\$140.00
22-Jul-23	Parentline: inv 11309						\$280.00		\$280.00
7-Aug-23	Parentline: inv 11310						\$140.00		\$140.00
15-Aug-23	Guild insurance					\$857.92			\$857.92
4-Sep-23	Parentline: inv 11313						\$140.00		\$140.00
4-Sep-23	Parentline: inv 11311						\$140.00		\$140.00
10-Sep-23	Monaro Workwear	\$581.00							\$581.00
18-Sep-23	Parentline: inv 11314						\$140.00		\$140.00
24-Sep-23	Grants (35)				\$5,250				\$5,250.00
25-Sep-23	Grants (23)				\$3,450				\$3,450.00
26-Sep-23	Grants (37)				\$5,556				\$5,556.00
27-Sep-23	Grants (25)				\$3,758				\$3,758.00
27-Sep-23	Reject return fee	\$2.50							\$2.50
28-Sep-23	Grant				\$150.00				\$150.00
28-Sep-23	Reject return fee	\$2.50							\$2.50
5-Oct-23	Grant				\$150.00				\$150.00
9-Oct-23	Parentline: inv 11315						\$210.00		\$210.00
16-Oct-23	Parentline: inv 11316						\$770.00		\$770.00
16-Oct-23	Monaro Workwear	\$42.00							\$42.00
21-Oct-23	Natasha Bunter, frames	\$31.50							\$31.50
24-Oct-23	Salinda Wong, frames	\$11.25							\$11.25
26-Oct-23	Grant				\$150.00				\$150.00
31-Oct-23	Mike Payne, printing	\$45.00							\$45.00
1-Nov-23	Trent Houssenloge, video	\$1,850.00							\$1,850.00
31-Oct-23	Parentline: inv 11319						\$560.00		\$560.00
16-Nov-23	Parentline: Inv 11320						\$210.00		\$210.00
20-Nov-23	Grant				\$150.00				\$150.00
27-Nov-23	Parentline: inv 11321						\$490.00		\$490.00
4-Dec-23	Grant				\$150.00				\$150.00
	TOTALS (Payments):	\$3,574.14	\$700.00	\$300.00	\$18,764	\$857.92	\$3,500	\$957.00	\$28,653.06

INCOME									
	Details	Incidentals	ACT Education Directorate	ACT CSD	ACT CSD Office of Seniors & Veterans	Catholic Ed. Office	IEEE	CWCOA	Totals
21-Apr-23	Catholic Education Office					\$3,000			\$3,000
1-Jun-23	ACT ED		\$11,000						\$11,000
6-Jul-23	IEEE						\$1,000		\$1,000
14-Jul-23	ACT CSD			\$10,000					\$10,000
14-Jul-23	ACT CSD (OSV)				\$4,000				\$4,000
Various	CW Committee polos	\$288							\$288
27-Sep-23	Grant refund (Lanyon HS)	\$150							\$150
28-Sep-23	Grant refund	\$308							\$308
20-Oct-23	Grant refund (Ngunnawal PS)	\$150							\$150
26-Oct-23	Launch Donation (M Payne)	\$50							\$50
1-Nov-23	Grant refund (Calwell HS)	\$100							\$100
9-Nov-23	Grant refund (Lake Tugg Coll.)	\$300							\$300
5-Dec-23	Grant refund	\$150							\$150
	TOTALS (Income):	\$1,496.00	\$11,000	\$10,000	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$30,496
RECONCILIATION:									
	Opening balance - 1/1/23		\$2,051.22						
	Income		\$30,496.00						
	Total		\$32,547.22						
	Payments		\$28,653.06						
	Available Balance		\$3,894.16						
	Closing Bank Balance as per bank statement 31/12/23		\$3,894.16						
		Discrepancy	\$0.00						



Chief Minister; Treasury and Economic

Development Directorate

Reviewer's Report Small Associations

Associations Incorporation Act 1991

The reviewer can be any person who is not an officer of the association or have prepared or assisted with the preparation of the accounts. They do not need to hold any qualifications.

I, **Christopher Long**, have reviewed the accounts of the **ACT Children's Week Committee Incorporated for the 2023 calendar year**. I confirm that, on the basis of the review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe the accounting records are misleading and that they give a true and fair account of-

- (a) the income and expenditure of the association during the year under review; and
- (b) the assets and liabilities of the association at the end of that year; and
- (c) any mortgages, charges or other securities of any description affecting any property of the association at the end of that year; and
- (d) for each trust of which the association was the trustee during a period in that year, being part or all of that year -
 - (i) the income and expenditure of the trust during that period;
 - (ii) the assets and liabilities of the trust at the end of that period;
 - (iii) any mortgages, charges or other securities of any description affecting any of the property of the trust during that period; and
- (e) any prescribed matters.

Signed: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Long', written over a horizontal line.

Date: 09 FEB 24

Phone: 0433 293 258

ACT Children's Week Committee Inc thanks Chris Long for his time and expertise in reviewing the 2023 Financial Statements.

ACT CHILDREN'S WEEK INC – HISTORIC BUDGETS

ACT CWC - RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
RECEIPTS:										
ACT Community Services Directorate	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,400	\$10,328	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
ACT CSD - Office of Seniors & Vets	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000			
ACT Education Directorate	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000
Catholic Education Office	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Southern Cross Club (In Kind?)	\$1,000	In Kind [\$1,000]	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,200	\$2,000	\$2,400
IEEE	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$591
Children's Week Council of Australia	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Interest	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7	\$6
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$30,000	\$29,000	\$31,900	\$28,828	\$34,000	\$34,000	\$30,000	\$26,200	\$26,007	\$26,997
PAYMENTS:										
Incidentals	\$500	\$794	\$0			ACT Reg. Gen:		\$41	\$39	\$38
Auditor	\$0	\$300	\$150	\$100	*100	\$100	\$100	\$150	\$125	\$120
Website / Internet - BetaLaunch	\$1,000	\$957	\$800	\$600	*389	\$249	\$389	\$249	\$389	\$225
UNICEF Donation/Gift	\$0	\$30	\$360	\$360	\$360	\$360	\$360	\$360	\$615	\$560
Insurance	\$900	\$858	\$875	\$875	\$850	\$840	\$832	\$823	\$815	\$776
CWCOA Membership	\$700	\$700	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$300
CWCOA Conference	\$812	\$812								
Launch~Events	\$0	\$1,850	\$4,500	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$2,913	\$3,074	\$2,965	\$2,735	\$2,528
National Conference	\$0	\$0	\$0		*893.53	\$866	\$1,101	\$1,157	\$1,043	\$1,028
Admin, Postage (Parentline)	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,300	\$5,200	\$5,327	\$5,721	\$4,948	\$4,005
Bank Fees	\$0	\$5	\$0			\$3	\$2			
Badges, Tattoos, DL Cards, Stationery	\$150	\$88	\$0			\$457			\$716	
Posters, Programs,	\$0	\$0	\$600	\$600			\$589	\$342		
Seeding Grants	\$20,000	\$18,864	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$23,250	\$22,000	\$18,920	\$15,000	\$12,500
TOTAL PAYMENTS	\$27,562	\$28,753	\$39,635	\$38,885	\$39,243	\$34,587	\$34,124	\$31,078	\$26,775	\$22,080
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$2,438	\$247	-\$8,735	-\$10,057	-\$5,243	-\$587	-\$4,124	-\$4,878	-\$768	\$4,917
Bank Balance B/F (1 Jan.)	\$3,894	\$3,894	\$15,603	\$16,534	\$4,621	\$9,684	\$10,271	\$14,394	\$19,272	\$20,040
Anticipated end of year balance (31 Dec.)	\$6,332	\$3,894	\$6,868	\$6,477	\$16,534	\$9,684				