

Welcome to our Community Chatter Newsletter!

Thank you for registering your interest in Connecting Community for Kids and we hope you enjoy this newsletter. Our team is back after a much needed and well deserved rest. We are looking forward to an action packed 2018! The year is already in full swing, with our Action Teams progressing their events and projects. The kids are now back to school, the routine is set and we are optimistic for what this year will bring!

Action Team Meetings

Our Action Teams have hit the ground running post Community Planning Days, commencing meetings in December 2017. All teams have now hosted their first meeting and are progressing to second and third get-togethers. Our Celebrate Culture Action Teams are already planning small events and stalls and our Building Neighbourhood Connections Team is getting ready to host various Street Party's. Closed Facebook Groups have been created for each Action Team, for volunteers to be able to communicate with each other outside of meeting times. Take a look at our main Facebook page and scroll to Groups to join your Action Team! Meeting minutes are also available on our website.

Building Neighbourhood Connections

Kwinana Meeting: Tue 27th Feb 9.30am to 11am

Cockburn Meeting: Thur 15th Mar 10am to 12noon

Celebrate Culture

Cockburn Meeting: Mon 19th Feb 10am to 11.30am

Kwinana Meeting: Wed 7th Mar 1pm to 2.30pm

Providing Peer to Peer Support for Dads

Kwinana Meeting: Tues 20th Feb 10am to 11.30am

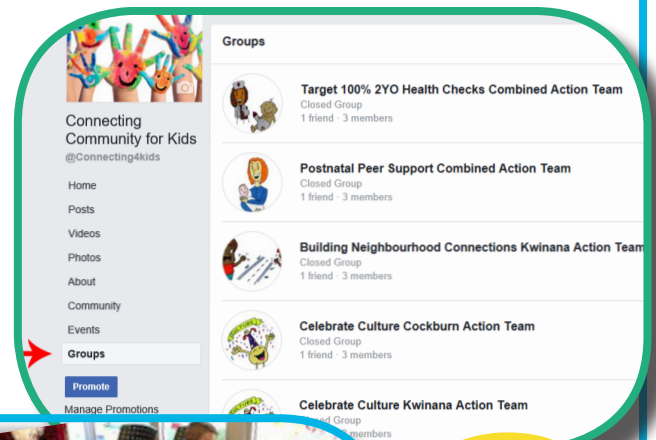
Cockburn Meeting: Mon 12th Mar 9.30am to 11am

Community Mothers Program

Combined Meeting: Thur 22nd Feb 10am to 12noon

Target 100% 2 year old health checks

Combined Meeting: Thu 1st Mar 10am to 11.30am



Disability Awareness Week 2017

Connecting Community for Kids, in conjunction with KEYS and Ngala; hosted a lunch on **Friday 8th December 2017** to celebrate Disability Awareness Week. Fifteen families, incorporating 20 children attended the event; coming together to raise awareness of disability issues and improve access and inclusion throughout the wider community. Students from Calista Primary School were invited to attend and participate in a creative art competition. The theme 'break down barriers and celebrate abilities' attracted some fantastic entries proving tough for the judges. There were 2 first prize winners and 2 second prize winners. A range of entertainment was enjoyed on the day, including Happy Feet Fitness and face painting by Amber's Party Entertainment. The yummy lunch was catered by Bindi Bindi Dreaming, again proving a hit with the community.

Froggy Fun with Fathers

Connecting Community for Kids had the pleasure of attending City of Cockburn's Froggy Fun with Fathers on **Saturday 20th January**. Held at Meller Park in Bibra Lake, the event was an opportunity to extend the Froggy's program with a school holiday session and invite Dads along for the fun! The snakes, frogs and lizards were a marvel thanks to Radical Reptiles. Children were able to paint, play with clay and build a fairy garden, along with enjoying the toddler play area. It was great to see so many Dads out and about with their kids, so we took the opportunity to hand out 'The Blue Book of Tips for Fathers and Father-Figures', kindly supplied by The Fathering Project; our partner in the Peer to Peer Support for Dads Action Team outcomes.



Happy Chinese New Year!

The Celebrate Culture Cockburn Action Team hosted their first event to celebrate Chinese New Year on **Thursday 8th February**. Held at Yangebup Family Centre, the festival was an opportunity for the whole community to come together and experience Chinese culture and traditions.

Over one hundred people came along to enjoy spring rolls, traditional love letter crepes and to find their luck in a fortune cookie. Children relished in making paper Chinese lanterns, crafting Chinese animal signs from playdoh, dressing in cultural attire and learning how to use chopsticks. A few kids braved the Chinese dragon and loved banging the drums and cymbals. Attendees were able to discover their own animal sign and learn of the character traits. Each family was handed a red envelope of lucky money (gold foil covered chocolate) as they departed to signify good fortune and positive wishes for the Lunar New Year.

This event was made possible thanks to our fantastic Action Team and the support and dedication of Yangebup Family Centre staff and members.



Let's Introduce Our Team

Introducing our Community Champions.

Surjeet Singh

Cockburn Community Member



Surjeet has been a Community Champion with us for some time now, first meeting the team at a pop-up cafe at Cockburn Integrated Health. Born in India; Surjeet has lived in Germany, Oman, Abu Dhabi and finally settled in Australia for the outdoor lifestyle it offers his young family. Residing in Success for eight years, Surjeet's aim is to build knowledge of his Sikh faith and teach others to understand the cultural significance of wearing a turban. Volunteering with Turbans and Trust has helped Surjeet breakdown cultural barriers, encourage equality and uphold the Sikh identity. Surjeet is involved in our Celebrate Culture and Peer to Peer Support for Dads Action Teams to help build community. Thank you for all your support Surjeet!

Neighbour Day

The Building Neighbourhood Connections Kwinana Action Team is ready to host some small local gatherings for Neighbour Day on **Sunday 25th March**. This year's theme '*The Importance of a Supportive Neighbourhood for Children and Young People*', encourages all people to build safe and welcoming communities for the benefit of our children. Our Action Team is focusing on gatherings in Parmelia, Calista and Wellard.

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