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FROM THE DIRECTOR

What an amazing year we have had here at RICE. I feel as though the last few months have come around and passed quickly with it hard to believe Christmas is just a few days away!

Our recent AGM has seen a number of changes to the RICE Board of Management. After 10 years in various positions on the Board, Kirsty Williams has resigned as Chairperson. Kirsty could move mountains with her passion and dedication to RICE and ensuring that the service is viable for many years to come.

Anna Nunn steps into the Chairperson role after serving a number of years as a zone representative.

Joanne Ridsdale also departs the Board after many years contributing as the Treasurer. Jo has worked hard to streamline the role of the Treasurer and with the rest of the Board ensuring that RICE is in a strong financial position. Her hardwork has made it easy for Keziah Henery to move into the Treasurer position.

Joanna Gibson will also farewell the Board after completing her 2 year tenure. Joanna has been a wealth of knowledge and assistance with editing skills.

RICE Staff excitedly participated in the Port Augusta Christmas Pageant. Staff created an Aussie Bush Christmas float, to represent our members and the areas we service. A huge thanks to everyone that contributed, but also to the Gill family who travelled down to join in. It was so lovely and heart warming to have a family join us.

Our recent Family Fun Day and Preschool Graduation had a wonderful turnout. It's so lovely to be able to celebrate 2022 with members and the Preschool families. A visit from Santa had most of the children very excited!

As we wind down the 2022 year, I'd like to thank all of our members for supporting RICE.

As always, we thank Oz Minerals for their generous contribution to the RICE Activity Day Program. Their support has allowed the program to continue, as well as updating program equipment.

Wishing all of our members and their families a very happy and safe holiday season and we look forward to welcoming you all back in 2023.

Chloe Hunter
Director



FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

I'd like to start by thanking Kirsty Williams, departing chairperson of RICE. Kirsty's passion, dedication and knowledge has helped guide the organisation through changing and uncertain times. Kirsty's leadership and enthusiasm has ensured the board going forward is prepared to continue and better RICE for many years ahead.

On behalf of the board I would also like to thank Joanne Ridsdale for her years on the board and her knowledge and expertise while in the position of treasurer. Also, farewell to Joanna Gibson who joined us for a two-year stint and offered a fresh, but experienced point of view.

I (Anna Nunn) am excited about taking on the role of Chairperson. I believe that RICE is an essential part of life 'in the bush' in South Australia. It is an organisation that boasts 46 years of service. I look forward to helping shape and direct the service with the support of Louise Kohler (Vice Chairperson), Pamela Cuffe (Secretary & Public Officer) and Keziah Henrey (Treasurer), Jess Bell, Verity Ellery, Penny Rasheed and Franziska Seemann.

As a board, we collectively bring individual experience and ideas. It is an opportunity to volunteer to help keep rural and remote children serviced with the best activity days; crèche, preschool and so much more. We are currently seeking 2 more board members, so if you could spare a couple of hours a month and are looking for a rewarding way to contribute to your community, please do not hesitate to contact me or the RICE office to join or find out more.

It has been really fantastic to see, as restrictions were eased this year, RICE was back on the road hosting Activity Days at events, the Play Day program and Outback Childcare has been utilised by families.

The Preschool program is about to see 8 students graduate and they have all had a fun year. The Crèche service run at Hawker and Orroroo has also continued to be very successful.

The RICE staff have continued to better all the services RICE has on offer during 2022 and we thank them for their dedication and enthusiasm.

A thanks also to the sponsors Oz Minerals and the Gymkhana and motorkhanas who help keep RICE's programs running.

Wishing you all a safe and Merry Christmas and I look forward to an exciting 2023 for RICE.

Anna Nunn
Chairperson



WELLBEING

It's been a busy few months in the Wellbeing space, with organising of the Mobile Junkman, Glen to attend Orroroo and Hawker Creche – it was fantastic to see the kids imaginations come alive with bird eating spiders made from clay and sticks, cubbies from sticks, rope and tarps and the multiple uses the kids came up with for the old tyres! Lots of fun was had by all!

I also jumped on board with Renee and Rachael, new Occupational Therapist at RFDS to attend the Nonning Playday, it was such a great space for the families and children to come together to join in water play, arts and crafts and the favourite activity of the day was the shop set up with cash register, with each child taking in turns role playing the shop assistant and customer. RICE looks forward to more joint collaboration events with RFDS in 2023!

I'm excited to announce the roll out of our new Welcome Pack, which will include our new promotional items and factsheets. Moving forward, all new and existing members will receive a Welcome Pack on receipt of registration – keep watch in the post for yours!

RICE staff members finished the year with a 2-day Mental Health First Aid accredited training workshop delivered by Justine and Helen, from RFDS, a very worthwhile and valuable training session.

Keep an eye out on our Social Media and emails for 2 upcoming Projects the first one is Ricey Roo the Blue Kangaroo, that we'd love families to send us photos over the Christmas and Festive season of what they and Ricey Roo get up too (our Members will receive a Ricey Roo in the post with our end of year Christmas activity booklet)!!

The second one is we have Karen from Speech on Eyre offering a FREE Zoom session in January to all families – we are very grateful for Karen's time and expertise, please contact us for registration -one not to be missed!

Christmas Cheer and Holiday adventures to all!

Adele Broadbridge
Wellbeing Officer





RICE is excited to share...

Karen from Speech On Eyre
is offering RICE Families a **FREE**
Speech Information Session via Zoom
on the 24th of January, 2023 @ 11am!

To register please email:
wellbeing@rice.org.au

**SPEECH
ON EYRE**





The poster features a large sun in the top left with the 'rice' logo inside it. In the top right, there is a circular logo for 'Ricey Roo The Blue Kangaroo' showing a kangaroo. The background is decorated with red and blue dots. At the bottom, there are illustrations of palm trees on the left, a kangaroo running in the center, and a tree on the right.

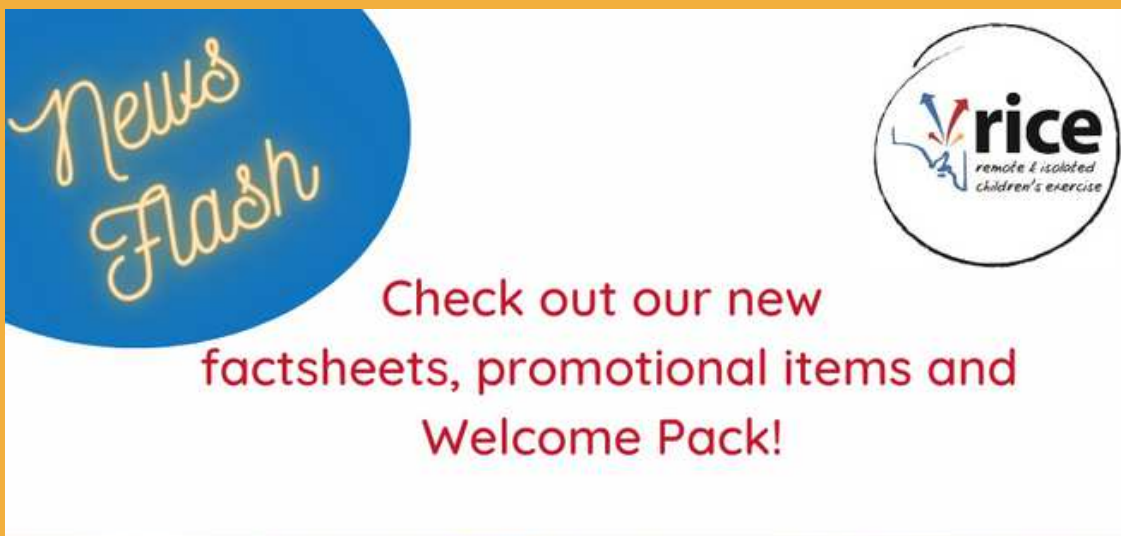
Ricey Roo the Blue Kangaroo

Watch out in the post for your very own Blue Kangaroo!

We'd love to see what you and Ricey Roo
get up to over the summer break.


Will you be by the sea, somewhere green
or
up a tree?

**Email your photos to:
wellbeing@rice.org.au**



The announcement features a blue circle on the left with the text 'News Flash' in a white, cursive font. On the right is the 'rice' logo. The background is white with a blue border.

News Flash



rice
remote & isolated
children's exercise

Check out our new
factsheets, promotional items and
Welcome Pack!



CRECHE

At creche in term 4 we have been super busy!

We have had Glen the junk man come to visit us which was a huge hit with all the children. Glen was very interactive, and all the kids would not leave his side all day. They made cubbies and played with mud. We had a water wall and rolled around in barrels. Glen helped to make an obstacle course and the kids made bridges out of sticks. It was soo much fun. We will definitely be bringing Glen back in the future.

Christmas has been a huge focus this term, with the kids making tree ornaments and Christmas cards for their families. We incorporated the Christmas pageant into creche by getting the kids to help design our banner which looked amazing on the day. The children have really loved the Christmas craft (especially the glitter) and have taken several different Christmas pieces home with them.

This term we have noticed some new friendships forming amongst our older children. Its great to see these social skills built over time at creche and children finding bonds and similarities amongst other children they normally wouldn't play with. Our newer children are also settling into creche and forming their own independence and their little personalitites are starting to come out.

During the year we have added the children's learning stories and artwork to their personal folders. At the end of this term these were given out to the children in their own bags designed by themselves with special Christmas gifts to keep. We hope everyone had an enjoyable year at creche and we can't wait to see everyone in the new year. To our kids that are leaving us and heading to school. We wish you all the best for your educational journey.

Farewell and Goodluck to
Archie Anderson
Rhys Morgan
Fin Bevan
Scarlett Blight-Higginson
Alex Latham
Harvey Jefferson
Annalise Luckcraft
Hamish Williams

Deb Tuip
Creche Team Leader



**Creche returns in 2023 on
Monday, 30th January 2023**

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Creche operating hours are 8:45 am to 3:15 pm.

For insurance purposes, **children must not** be dropped off prior to 8:45 am, creche doors will remain locked until opening time.

Creche services are a **nut free** service, parents will be contacted in the event a child is sent with any nut products in their lunch boxes.



CRECHE



KINDY

Term 4 has been a busy one for home visits, with trips to Leigh Creek, Mount Sarah, Siam, Wooltana and Sturt Vale.

This term home visits were based around sensory learning experiences such as clean mud, water play, small worlds, water beads, sound, construction, slime, bubbles and puzzles.

Sensory play provides exploration, experimentation, inquiry, hypothesising, curiosity, problem solving and creativity. Building nerve connections - neuropathways, in the brain and encouraging the development of language, motor skills, mathematical concepts and emotional regulation.

Children have continued their learning journey through the following topics – transport, reptiles, opposites, personal and water safety, pirates and of course Christmas celebrations.

Transition sessions to Reception with Miss Emma have been held in preparation for children to begin school next year with School of the Air.

Pre-entry sessions have also been held for the children entering the Preschool program in 2023.

For the grand finale there will be a splash day held at the Quorn pool to celebrate children's participation in the RICE Preschool Program.

Tania George
Preschool Teacher



**Kindy returns for
Term 1 on
Monday, 30th January 2023**

RESOURCE CENTRE

Let's start by saying that this year has been a big one!

We have accomplished a lot this year in terms of kindy kits, acquiring new resources that can be used with every age, that assist in a child's learning.

This year I have really tried to change and tidy up the resource centre and the RICE building. I've been working closely with the Kindy teacher to purchase more helpful resources that will assist her teachings and aid children that may require extra support.

We are currently sorting through the returned pre- entry kits, after a few months being out, preparing them for the new kindy children next year. I hope the 4 children liked what was shared with them and hope that the resources in there gave them the opportunity to express their creativity, learning and get excited for their first year of kindy! Toy boxes have been hugely popular this year! With the updates that have been made plus the input from parents and staff what should be included and personalising them for individual needs. I hope that parents have enjoyed what I have shared and will continue to utilise this service in 2023 and beyond.

This year was busy and fun all in one and I hope that I can do amazing things for the children, parents, and staff next year.

All the best everyone, I hope that all families and members have an amazing Christmas, and Santa has listened to each child and make their wishes come true.

See everyone next year

Teagan Karger
Resource Educator



Cure the holiday boredom with a toy
box from RICE

Order a personalised toy box today

ORDER TODAY



ACTIVITY DAYS

This year has been an amazing one, with new and existing events attended in 2022!

All staff have tried to bring as much creativity and magnetic energy to activity days as possible, creating some amazing tuff tray setups and really providing activities that allow children to express their creativity and imagination. We really focused on sensory, fidget, small world, and fine motor this year, which is something that remote and isolated children have limited experiences of.

We have also been lucky enough to have some new bookings for activity days this year, broadening our reach with remote families and hoping that our social media presence and our event exposure continues next year.

We are already taking bookings for next year and look forward to filling our calendar in 2023!

A big thank you to committee's and event holders this year, you have been amazing and extremely accommodating, you have all gone above and beyond to make us feel welcome and valued amongst the many people attending these events. You have helped us create a vision for RICE at these events and without your help we wouldn't have made such an lasting impression on children and parents at these events. Many thanks😊

Hope all event holders and committee members have a wonderful Christmas and a wonderful new year.



Teagan Karger
Resource Educator





2023 ACTIVITY DAYS

Hosting a
community event
in 2023?

You can now place your
booking request through
our website!

<https://rice.org.au/programs/activity-days>

PLAY DAYS

It has been wonderful to visit some of our more Western and Eastern Playday locations throughout the term. After working towards it for some time we were excited to take a Playday back to Fowlers Bay for the families in the area. This Playday was a huge success, and it was wonderful to meet some new families who have not attended a RICE event before.

We have also operated a few Playdays closer to home and held our biggest Playday of the year in Wilmington with 26 children in attendance along with their families. It has been important to witness the needs of families that live in rural communities that, although they may be closer to many child-related services, still have great difficulty accessing these services.

We were excited to have RFDS Occupational Therapist Rachael as well as our own Wellbeing officer Adele, attend our Playday in Nonning. This gave families an opportunity to interact with some of the services that are available to them. We hope to have Rachael and Adele attend some more Playdays in the new year.

We have also held our first Playday at Boolcoomatta Station for a handful of families living and working on the station. It was wonderful to interact with these children in their own space and see what they get up to in everyday life.

The Playday team wish everyone a Happy Christmas!



**Renee Bell
Educator**



If you'd like to host your own playday, head to our website to send an enquiry through today!

<https://rice.org.au/programs/playdays>

RICE Playdays 2023

Hi Families!!

RICE is looking for expressions of interest for Playdays in 2023.

Playdays are an opportunity to come together with other parents and children to socialise and get involved in your child's play and learning. Submit a form via our website and we will bring a Playday to you in remote South Australia!

Find out about Playdays or submit an expression of interest at www.rice.org.au/programs/playdays



Playdays are open to all families, FREE to all members and \$10 per non-member families

What we offer

- craft
- home corner
- construction
- water play
- small world play
- educational activities 6 months - 12 years
- Sensory activities
- outdoor equipment
- A fruit snack, tea and coffee

Contact us:

Email: admin@rice.org.au Phone: (08) 8642 4477





Outback Childcare

Outback Childcare is a program
*solely funded by RICE.

The program employs Educators to deliver
live-in care for families who are unable to
access
mainstream childcare programs.

Families can access up to 12 days at a time
(includes travel time for Educators to and from
the families home).

*Families are required to
contribute a daily fee



For more information
contact RICE on:
admin@rice.org.au
www.rice.org.au



Outback Childcare



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Kids

CORNER

Nutella twist Christmas tree

YOU WILL NEED:

2 sheets puff pastry

2 tbs Nutella

1 egg - lightly beaten

Joke time

Q: What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?

A: Claus-trophobia!



DIRECTIONS:

STEP 1:

Preheat oven to 180c. Place both sheets of puff pastry on top of each other, cut a tree shape through both sheets.

STEP 2:

Peel the top sheet off and set aside. Spread the bottom sheet with nutella, leaving space along the edges so it doesn't get too messy when you're twisting it later. Place the second sheet of pastry back on top.

STEP 3:

Gently score up the centre of the tree for a guide and cut horizontally through both sheets to create branches for your tree.

STEP 4:

Twist each 'branch' of the tree and brush the pastry with the egg. Place in the oven and cook until golden brown. Decorate with raspberries, or icing sugar.



Christmas Word Search



AN
 FR
 YJWZ
 KZ IY
 TWKPEY
 KFUDCV
 XJOLLYGJ
 GMYSJVSL
 GBUBLMJZSC
 DHVSLPXVIG
 TRQOPERHLHBA
 TFINTBCWPJNL
 RSYZOKIBMOSOIZ
 ETYLPWOAEURUUT
 CEJCYITTJLUHCLPP
 NDCVDUGKAIIVPFQBT
 OSNYLEDMSQWGYVBPSA
 PKIGFAI IWUSSQEHVVR
 TREEXSYESWZTPOBJGSLP
 LWVRELUCTELVESNDYUFC
 IQPNLFEKELEGGNOGFTMIX
 AYGSRZDJLEQVNTTOJGXSBBN
 PPTBOCXRZETNBIMUIEPJDMDY
 YYP SOHJBSBOMMPOBVCJNNHLH
 UNRUALIVMFREQVMQIXTWDHWXGP
 RFRMNBMSCHAXQSGNIKCOTSCTFE
 MLPEPTQNI IHTNGTGCOEXARMAZAKW
 CVXMQAYEOREERPRVNWXBBDLCKOYXR
 JGKFJZJHYNHHTAERWXBHMTUOHOQPFWO
 FWIVOGBINXKCOVXAYNOA IWZNPYOVL M

BELLS
STOCKINGS
WREATH
ELVES
SLED

CELEBRATE
EGGNOG
TREE
JOLLY
SANTA

MERRY
MISTLETOE
CHIMNEY
REINDEER

www.thetypicalmom.com

DID YOU KNOW ...

A crocodile **can't** stick its tongue out

It is physically impossible for a pig to look into the sky





2023 RICE
Family Membership

Now available to
join online!

Sign up today!



WISHING YOU A

*Merry
Christmas*

& HAPPY NEW YEAR

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

FROM THE

23RD DECEMBER 2022

AND WILL REOPEN ON

9TH JANUARY 2023

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

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