

Newsletter



Makuru, the coldest and wettest time of the year, has come to a close and Djilba has arrived!

Djilba season, generally spanning the August to September period, is a transitional time of the year and is considered by Noongar people as the season of conception, or the growing season. It is characterised by some very cold and clear days, along with warmer, rainy and windy days and the occasional sunny day or two. It is also a time to look out for masses of yellow and cream flowers appearing in the landscape across the South West. This starts with the yellow flowering plants such as the Acacias. You will also notice the white flowers of the wannang, or weeping peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*) emerging.

Kaya

I must say I am super glad to have entered Djilba, my poor toes this year have been so cold. We have a fabulous line up of action happening over the Djilba season, and I implore you to jump on board and book tickets for our state conference – Amazing value at \$45, and even for the non-member pricing to end up with a membership just in time for our national conference next year.

I would love to hear about what your plans are for Early Learning Matters week, I imagine the week to filled with Play, it would be great to advertise the wonderful work you are doing in our centres and services by inviting your local politician to remind them of the importance of early childhood education and care.

Stay true to Play and Take Care

Tanya

ECAWA recently hosted a captivating **Weaving Workshop led by Emma-Jane Hunt**, a Yindjibarndi and Djaru artist with deep roots in the Pilbara and Kimberley regions. Emma-Jane, who learned her craft from Martu Weavers in the East Pilbara, guided participants through the art and technique of basket weaving. Attendees left with their own completed baskets and newfound skills to share with their communities. The workshop was a wonderful blend of traditional craft and cultural education, enriching all who participated. Thank you to Emma-Jane and everyone who joined us!



Upcoming Calendar Days:

Upcoming calendar dates to consider acknowledging in your service. Click on the link for more details.

[Early Learning Matters Week](#) (5–9 August)

[Keep Australia Beautiful Week](#) (5 – 11 August)

[National Science Week](#) (10 – 18th August)

[Book Week](#) (17 – 23rd August)

ECA WA COMMITTEE

Chair: Tanya Steers

Admin: Jo Kapica

Committee Members

Rosina Smith

Jayne Kaiko

Sally Whitaker

Amelia Ruscoe

Amie Fabry

Olivia Long

Dimity Franks

Sally Griffiths

Linda Santangeli

Danielle Arrigoni

Wendy Gorman

Membership/Executive

• Tanya Steers (Chair)

• Amie Fabry

• Dani Arrigoni

Conference

- Dimity Franks
- Amelia Ruscoe
- Linda Santangeli
- Amie Fabry
- Tanya Steers

Pedagogy

- Sally Griffiths
- Jayne Kaiko
- Rosina Smith
- Marcelle Saratsis
- Lauren Ferguson

Reconciliation (RAG)

- Wendy Gorman
- Sally Whitaker
- Olivia Long
- Denise Clarke
- Leonie Cottam
- Pamela Chatfield
- Sandy Clarke

**EARLY-BIRD
TICKETS ON SALE**

ECAWA
STATE CONFERENCE
21 September '24



ECAWA STATE CONFERENCE

"Ready or not... Here I come!"

EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2024

Ticketing Information

Early Bird Tickets

(bookings made before 16th August 2024)

Members - \$45.00

Non Members - \$200.00 Including 1 year membership to ECA

Student - \$35 (including 1 year membership to ECA)

Regular Tickets

Members - \$60.00

Non Members - \$220.00

Student - \$50 (including 1 year membership to ECA)

No Group Bookings

Tickets on sale until 14th September or sold out

Ticket booking link:



Artist: Taimania Jones

The School of Education at Edith Cowan University are leaders in education and education research in WA and nationally. ECU produces graduates who are creative thinkers and profession-ready. They are the top university in Australia for skills development in undergraduate teacher education.

Calling all Early Childhood Education & Care (ECEC) Directors, Cooks and Educators - we want to hear from you!

To create a healthy, safe, and positive food environment at your ECEC, share your needs in our short survey.

Give us 5 minutes of your time and we will give you the chance to win 1 of 10 cookbooks from Leederville Early Childhood Centre.

Scan the QR code



**Your Input Needed:
Shape Healthy Eating Project**

Foodcore Nutrition Services is seeking feedback from ECECs across WA to tailor a new project that aligns with National Quality Standard Element 2.1.3, (healthy eating is promoted and appropriate for each child) while empowering your staff. Based on best practice evidence, they have proposed a range of services to help achieve healthy eating, food safety, menu planning and food culture goals. Share your insights by completing a brief survey—just scan the QR code or use [this link](#). It takes less than 5 minutes, and you could win 1 of 10 cookbooks!

(All responses are confidential and anonymous.)

Professional Development Opportunities for Early Childhood Workforce

Minister for Early Childhood Education, Dr Anne Aly MP has announced an expansion of the Early Childhood Workforce package to support early childhood education and care (ECEC) providers to offer professional development opportunities to staff.

Round 1 applications for 2024 are open and close on 20 September 2024. A second round of applications will open in January 2025.

There are 2 subsidies available under the expanded package. To find out more and apply, visit [Professional Development Opportunities](#)

Changes to the Child Care Subsidy Minister's Rules

From 22 July, changes to the Child Care Subsidy Minister's Rules 2017 (Minister's Rules) were made to provide families with preschool children with more options for affordable before-and-after hours care and help families make informed financial decisions about early childhood education and care.

Read more about the changes in the announcement [here](#).



The ECA app is for everyone in the early childhood sector. Educators can use the app to find inspiration from other centres, news about the sector, and tools to help their practice.

Engage in critical reflections, keep up to date with the latest blog posts from The Spoke, listen to the ECA Podcast, and stay informed about your membership information.

The ECA app includes a 'Today' section that shares the latest news, resources and upcoming events. You can also find the ECA Code of Ethics and the latest policy and advocacy documents.

The ECA app is available now from the Apple App Store and Google Play.

