

Kicking goals in childhood reading

This week Story and Rhyme Time & Mini Tots Soccer kicked off for another term with over 40 children aged three to five years old participating.

Story and Rhyme Time & Mini Tots Soccer provides opportunities for parents and service providers to establish relationships whilst working in partnership to meet the needs of local children and families. Both programs are an extension of the Thrive@5 initiative.

During Story and Rhyme Time, children listen to stories and rhymes which introduces them to reading. It also highlights to parents the importance of reading to their children. Mini Tots Soccer creates a fun environment for children to improve their social and motor skills and a platform for parental social interaction. Feedback indicates that parents are more aware of the benefits that physical activity and reading has on their children and are actively encouraging this at home.

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) identifies that a high proportion of children residing in Doonside are vulnerable, putting at risk their transition to school and subsequent health and social wellbeing. Programs such as these not only provide a soft entry point for parents and children to access key services, they also provide an opportunity to identify developmental before children start school.

Western Sydney Primary Health Network (WSPHN) has been funding and supporting these programs in Doonside since 2014.

Relationships Australia also offer these programs in Blacktown North and Quakers Hill.

Contact Relationships Australia for more details on 8811 0000.



Events

It's time to act on the obesity epidemic now!

Tuesday 22nd May 2018

5:30pm - 8:20pm

Practical fracture management in general practice

Monday 28th May 2018

6:30pm - 9:30pm

Mental health professional network event

Tuesday 29th May 2018

6:00pm - 8:30pm

Update on type 2 diabetes management: integrated care in western Sydney

Tuesday 29th May 2018

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Other News

Lung Health Awareness Month

May is Lung Health Awareness Month, a Lung Foundation Australia national campaign which aims to raise awareness about the importance of lung health and how to recognise and act upon the symptoms of lung disease. During the month, people are encouraged to take two minutes to check their lungs by completing Lung Foundation Australia's online lung health check at lungfoundation.com.au/checkin

Diabetic seniors urged to get the flu shot

Diabetes Australia and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) have joined forces to encourage more than 650,000 Australians with diabetes aged over 65 to receive a flu vaccination.

More information is available on the Diabetes Australia website.

Medication management with the aged care team redevelopment

WSPHN has partnered with Western Sydney Local Health District to create an opportunity for consumers to participate in a new program to design innovative patient-centred models of care that integrate with primary health care providers such as GPs.

Please notify any patients that may be interested in participating. RSVPs can be sent to Luke Smith at luke.smith@wentwest.com.au by Friday 18th May.

Genomics in general practice

RACGP have released a new guide to assist GPs in the fields of genetics and genomics for patients and their families. In the past decade the fields of genetics and genomics have developed rapidly and offer great potential for identifying patients at risk of disease and targeting treatment.

Access the Genomics in General Practice guide on the RACGP website.

GP Association meetings

The below GP Association meetings are coming up in western Sydney:

Blacktown: Treating type 2 diabetes - reducing CV risk, Wednesday 16 May.

Westmead: Haematology GP updates, Wednesday 23rd May.

Hills: Ready, set, go - a new era in cervical cancer prevention for Australian GPs, Saturday 2nd June.

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