

**Staff news:** Congratulations to Ang who has been appointed as the Children's Services new Program Administrator.



Other changes are: Lucy is working Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, Kati will be working Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Bella is replacing Ashley and starts on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January. Katrina will be on leave from 24<sup>th</sup> until 31<sup>st</sup> January

### Assessment and Rating Report

We have received our A& R report and have been assessed as 'working towards'. Although this sounds disappointing, especially in the light of how hard everyone worked in ensuring that all their information was current and complied with the relevant standards, regulations and scheme policies, out of the 40 concepts assessed, we were meeting all but 2. These were in relation to safe sleep practices (Quality Area 2.2) and current medical risk minimisation and communication plans (Quality Area 7.1) Also mentioned was how educators respond to their own children when they are in care and whether practices are fair and consistent across the educator's group of children. These will be discussed at a scheme meeting where we can talk about the overall assessment and what strategies we can develop to try to overcome the issues raised. The 40 page report is available at the office for any educators who would like to read it. A big thank you to the 5 educators assessed and to Tosca and the play sessions educators who all interacted with the assessors in a professional, courteous and knowledgeable manner.



**Bushfire plans** - with the current fire situation and extreme weather conditions still with us, please be familiar with your evacuation procedures. Most of the Clarence municipality is classed as bushfire prone, so if you live near bushland please be prepared, have your emergency bags packed and know your nearest safe areas.



Have you seen the latest edition of the Jigsaw magazine? Sally Lovell (Stems Family Day Care) is featured with her Lids for Kids and Bread Tags for Wheelchairs programs. Sally is involving children, families, community organisations and other family day care educators in the collection of bread tags and plastic lids for two great causes. Congratulations Sally!



**2020 regular excursion consent forms and updated risk management forms.** These were sent out to educators in December. Any new regular excursions for 2020 must have a risk management plan and copies sent through to the office. Please check whether your current plans are still accurate, especially the route you take - don't just change the review date without actually reviewing them!