

# Goolum Goolum Early Years May/June/July 2024



In this newsletter we have shared with you:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day – **"Strong in Culture, Stronger Together"**
  - Information about how you can celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day in your service, and a printable poster to display within your service
- Anniversary of William Barak's death and his significant contributions to social justice in the 19th century
- Delkaia Aboriginal Best Start update
- Look what's happening in – Bani Many 3yr old room
- Celebrating NAIDOC week at Goolum Goolum

## Goolum Goolum Early Years Team

<b>Michelle Cameron</b>	Early Years Manager <a href="mailto:michelle.cameron@goolumgoolum.org.au">michelle.cameron@goolumgoolum.org.au</a>
<b>Tori Power</b>	Delkaia Aboriginal Best Start Facilitator <a href="mailto:tori.power@goolumgoolum.org.au">tori.power@goolumgoolum.org.au</a>
<b>Renae Podolski</b>	wayipungitj & Black Cockatoos Playgroup <a href="mailto:renae.podolski@goolumgoolum.org.au">renae.podolski@goolumgoolum.org.au</a>
<b>Phoebe Tucker</b>	wayipungitj & Black Cockatoos Playgroup <a href="mailto:phoebe.tucker@goolumgoolum.org.au">phoebe.tucker@goolumgoolum.org.au</a>





- Ceremony - (1898) by William Barak

William Barak 1824 - 1903

- An influential spokesman for Aboriginal social justice
- Last traditional elder of Wurundjeri clan - the pre-colonial inhabitants of modern day Melbourne
- Last chief of the Yarra Yarra tribe
- A significant Aboriginal artist of the 19th century

*William Barak — 'Beruk' in the Woiwurrang language of his people — had leadership in his blood. At a time when Aboriginal people in Victoria were seen as, at best, a curiosity, at worst an obstruction to the colony's growth, Barak's diplomacy earned him genuine respect and support from white settlers. He also unified Aboriginal people, helping them to face an uncertain future in their irrevocably changed land.*

To learn more about the detailed and significant history of William head to the First Peoples Relations website

[Firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au](http://Firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au)



## Upcoming Dates of Importance July and August

- 7th - 14th July
  - **NAIDOC WEEK**
- 26th July
  - National Schools Tree Day
- 4th August
  - **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day**
- 9th August
  - International Day of The Worlds Indigenous People
- 10th - 18th August
  - National Science Week
- 15th August - Anniversary of William Barak's (Beruk Barak) Death in 1903

Victorian Aboriginal Education Association - VAEAI  
Is the peak Koorie community organisation for education and training in Victoria.  
They work for community to build success in education & training.

To find the latest VAEAI news, and access to the link for the Koorie Education Calendar head to their website:

[www.vaeai.org.au](http://www.vaeai.org.au)



# KEEP THE FIRE BURNING! BLAK, LOUD AND PROUD

**7-14 JULY 2024**

# National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day is a day dedicated to celebrating our Indigenous children.

The theme for 2024's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day is: Strong in Culture, Stronger Together.

This elevates the intention of Children's Day by focusing on the strength of our children that comes from their connection to culture and mob.

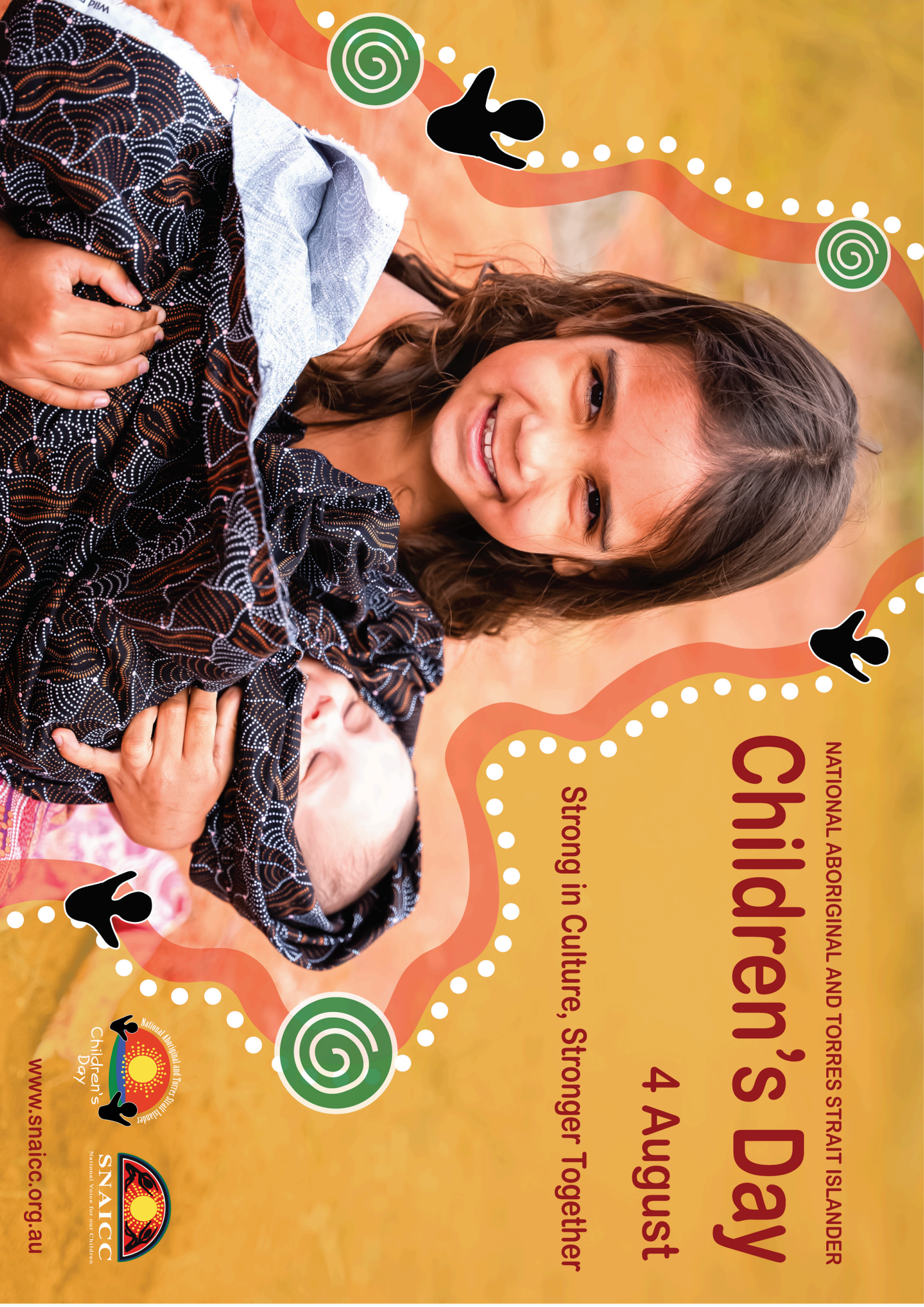
Because this year's Children's Day falls on a Sunday, SNAICC encourages services to hold their events on Friday 2nd August. It is important to hold Children's Day on a week day to ensure children, schools and early years services are able to celebrate.

You can find lots of information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day on the SNAICC website. [Please click here.](#)

[On this website you'll also be able to find some great Children's Day resources and ideas for celebrating the day!](#)







NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

# Children's Day

4 August

Strong in Culture, Stronger Together



[www.snaicc.org.au](http://www.snaicc.org.au)





# NAIDOC WEEK

## KEEP THE FIRE BURNING! BLAK, LOUD AND PROUD

**7-14 JULY 2024**

#NAIDOC2024  
#BLAKLOUDPROUD

 @naidocweek

 @naidocweek

 facebook.com/NAIDOC

Urapun Muiy by Deb Belyea  
SAMUWAGADHAIKAL, TORRES STRAIT

'Urapun Muiy', from the Kolaw Komaw Ya dialect of the Top Western Islands of the Torres Strait, means 'One Fire'. The title of this work pays homage to Torres Strait Islanders and Aboriginal people everywhere, as we all have that one fire: our passion for our culture. In this work, I have depicted the hands of our ancestors that have carefully dropped a burning ember on to a fire. This ember burns hot with intensity, stoking the flames, as it combines with the new fire. The linear detail shows the energy and power as cultural knowledge is transferred from our ancestors to us today. Culture is the fire that gives us knowledge, wisdom and purpose. It is our responsibility to maintain, practice, and pass on our fire to our future generations. Afterall, Culture keeps us Blak, Loud and Proud.

Aboriginal flag designed by Mr. Harold Thomas.  
Torres Strait Islander flag reproduced by kind  
permission of the Torres Strait Island Regional  
Council, designed by the late Mr Bernard Namok



[naidoc.org.au](http://naidoc.org.au)





Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-operative respectfully acknowledges that our NAIDOC Week events are based on unceded land of the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawajali, Wergaia and Jupagulk peoples. We pay our respects to their ancestors, and to Elders, both past and present, and to the future Elders and caretakers of this land.

**Always was, always will be, Aboriginal Land.**



**KEEP THE FIRE BURNING!  
BLAK, LOUD AND PROUD**  
**7-14 JULY 2024**

This year's theme celebrates the unyielding spirit of our communities and invites all to stand in solidarity, amplifying the voices that have long been silenced.

The fire represents the enduring strength and vitality of Indigenous cultures, passed down through generations despite the challenges faced. It is a symbol of connection to the land, to each other, and to the rich tapestry of traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As we honour this flame, we kindle the sparks of pride and unity, igniting a renewed commitment to acknowledging, preserving, and sharing the cultural heritage that enriches our nation.

"Blak, Loud and Proud" encapsulates the unapologetic celebration of Indigenous identity, empowering us to stand tall in our heritage and assert our place in the modern world. This theme calls for a reclamation of narratives, an amplification of voices, and an unwavering commitment to justice and equality. It invites all Australians to listen, learn, and engage in meaningful dialogue, fostering a society where the wisdom and contributions of Indigenous peoples are fully valued and respected.

Through our collective efforts, we can forge a future where the stories, traditions, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are cherished and celebrated, enriching the fabric of the nation with the oldest living culture in the world.



# NAIDOC Week 2024

## 'Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud and Proud'



NAIDOC Week this year at Goolum Goolum was full of cultural events for the Community including:

- NAIDOC Opening Ceremony and family fun day in Dimboola with a Smoking Ceremony by Farren Branson, Flag raising, Cultural Dancing by the Dalki Murrip dance group led by BGLC's Tanisha Lovett, lots of children's activities, a big lunch and more.
- Rock Art Tour to Gulgurn Manja (meaning hands of young people), Bunjil's Shelter (the only known rock art painting of Bunjil), Ngamadjudj Shelter (known as the cave of ghosts) and Mudadgadjiin Shelter (artwork offering a window into the lives of the Jadawadjali People).
- NAIDOC Art Exhibition Opening Night - Where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Artists featured at the Regional Art Gallery to show their amazing artworks including paintings, clay art, digital art, photography, short films and more. This Exhibition is running until September and is definitely worth the look!

Overall it was a deadly week shared with Mob and we can't wait to celebrate again next year :)

Please feel free to let us know what you and other Educators did in your Services to celebrate NAIDOC Week with your children and families.

We would also love to see some photos of all your great ideas :)

More of our photos will be shared on the next page >>>







**KEEP THE FIRE  
BURNING!  
BLAK, LOUD  
AND PROUD**  
7-14 JULY 2024





# Delkaia Aboriginal Best Start

Dalki Muwill (Hi all)

I'm excited to share with you one of the most recent plans implemented in the Delkaia Aboriginal Best Start space.

I met with Mary-Ellen Lamont, teacher for the three-year-old groups at Bani Manya Kindergarten. The educators wanted to work together to build their confidence in pronouncing the names of the Traditional Owners for our region, and then share this with the children. The educators wanted the children to have an understanding that the lands the Kindergarten now exists upon, wasn't always called Horsham. And that by doing an Acknowledgement of Country, they're all being respectful towards our lands First Peoples and the care they have taken, and continue to take, of the lands.

The Educators also incorporated the Aboriginal Languages of Victoria map to show the children where they live and the lands the Kindergarten sits upon. You can access both the **Aboriginal languages of Victoria**, and the AIATSIS

**Map of Indigenous Australia** from the **VACCA** website, to learn more about the lands your services sit upon. You can also access the **BUNJILAKA Aboriginal Cultural Centre Website** from this same VACCA site. The site has sound bites that demonstrate the pronunciation of many of the Language groups across Victoria. In this case, Traditional Owners at Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Cooperative (GGAC) were able to provide a guide on how to pronounce the names of the five Traditional Owner groups for the Horsham region:

Wotjobaluk = wot-ja-bal-uk

Jaadwa = jard-wah

Jadawadjali =jard-wah-jar-li

Wergaia = wer-guy-a

Jupagulk = yup-a-gulk

When I spoke to Mary-Ellen at the end of term, she was excited to share that the children in her groups were doing the Acknowledgement of Country each week. She went on to report that the children were very confidently pronouncing the Traditional Owner group names after only a few weeks of practicing with the Educators. They use their fingers to count down the five Traditional Owner groups for our area. The children can now point to the map and show others where the kindergarten sits, as well as identifying the three flags of Australia. The children have learnt about the history of our area and that we weren't the first peoples on the lands now called Australia.

Mary-Ellen reported that it has really helped to make the Acknowledgement of Country feel authentic as the children know why their saying it and it puts it all into perspective.

A wonderful result! A huge thank you to Mary-Ellen and her co-educators, Michelle and Kirsty for sharing their work.

See attached picture on the next page!



### Traditional Owners in our Region

1. Wotjobaluk = Wotja-bal-uk
2. Jaadwa = Jard-wah
3. Jadawadjali = Jard-wah-jarli
4. Wergaia = Wer-guy-a
5. Jupagulk = Yup-a-gulk

ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES OF VICTORIA

