



2015 Quarterly Newsletter No.2

Farming For Kids received a strong response from the community after calling for applications for funding through notices in the local paper and in school newsletters. The committee was very pleased to accept a large number of these applications. The following grants were made in line with the group's core goal, which is to support the health and wellbeing of children in the Liverpool Plains.

- Wallabadah School has been given a \$5000 grant towards renovating an existing room to create a classroom kitchen and canteen. With a similar intent and practice to the successful Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, the school plans to use the space for fortnightly cooking classes. These will not only educate children about healthy eating and the preparation of food, but also teach them core curriculum subjects such as Maths, English and Science, which are embedded in the kitchen activities in a fun way. This can be very helpful for students who struggle at school, but also engages kids across the board to teach them valuable skills.
- The Quirindi Hospital Pediatric Ward has received a grant of \$2000 to enable them to purchase new pediatric monitoring equipment, replacing an old and unreliable system. The new equipment will provide more accurate medical observations of children, from babies under four weeks old to children up to 30kg, leading to better healthcare outcomes for these young patients.
- Farming For Kids is assisting a family in Werris Creek with a young, seriously ill child. The group is making a contribution to the cost of her care in an ongoing way.
- The Quirindi Preschool has received a grant of \$4000 to support their excursion program called 'Growing Great Kids'. These ongoing excursions have a number of important goals, including establishing strong community links through visiting schools, nursing homes and other groups to participate in special events, as well as regular trips to local

bush land to promote healthy activities and a connection to nature. The money will also fund visits from an exercise physiologist and an ephemeral artist.

- Eastside Daycare is expanding their garden and play area for the young children in their care, who age from 6 weeks to 12 years of age and come from Quirindi and surrounding areas. Farming For Kids has contributed \$4000 towards the construction of a garden pathway that will link to different learning areas and interactive structures, such as a 'mud kitchen', wind chimes and a 'yarning circle', transforming an additional block of bare land recently purchased by the centre.
- The Quirindi Basketball Club has received a grant of \$2000 to help purchase new uniforms and basketballs. The club is an important part of the lives of many young children in the community, including those at risk, offering exercise, teamwork and a sense of belonging. It is run on a shoestring by dedicated parents and community members, and Farming For Kids is very pleased offer their support.

Applications for funding are now closed, with another round occurring next year.

Melbourne Cup Lunch at The Hangar

Farming For Kids will hold another fantastic Melbourne Cup Luncheon in November. There will be a delicious lunch on offer from Hunted Gourmet, sweepstakes and a live viewing of the race. This year the lunch will be about raising awareness of the activities of the Farming For Kids group, and we will be encouraging recipients to join us to discuss the projects Farming For Kids has helped fund. It will also be a great opportunity to thank sponsors, encourage more members and have a great day out with friends. We hope to see you there!

A quick reminder...

As members you are more than welcome to contribute information, advice, opinions, time, services - anything you think that might add to the success of the organisation. We are still very much in the recruiting phase of our membership, so if you know of anyone who would like to be a member, please encourage them to join. Remember you can find us on Facebook - Farming 4 Kids Inc.