

COMMUNITY UPDATE

January 19, 2023

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Pictured above: Hannah will continue as Sunshine Room leader at Mallee Minors.

Boosting our Early Years team

Mallee Minors is very excited that Hannah (above) and Leisa (below) have both been successful in gaining permanent, ongoing positions as Room Leaders.

Hannah will continue as the Sunshine Room Leader while Leisa will continue as Leader of the Waffle Room.

In addition, Hannah will also be the Educational Leader at Ouyen Child Care. Congratulations – 2023 will be another exciting year for our Early Years Services.



Pictured above: Leisa has gained a permanent role as leader of the Waffle Room.

More viruses on the move

Murray Valley encephalitis and Japanese encephalitis have been detected in northern Victoria, again highlighting the need to protect ourselves from mosquito bites.

Please wear long, loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing, and use mosquito repellents containing picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin.



Pictured above: Mosquito bites can lead to serious illnesses.

'Flying' visit to Ouyen clinic

We're really pleased to confirm the Royal Flying Doctor Service mobile eye care clinic is returning to the Mallee during February.

The RFDS optometrist will be seeing patients at our Britt Street clinic in Ouyen from Monday 20 February until Thursday 23 February.

The service will also be operating at our Gray Street facility in Murrayville on Thursday 23 February.

Appointments are to be made with the RFDS by calling (03) 8412 0444.

All appointments are bulk billed for Medicare card holders, while reduced cost glasses are available for:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people
- Health Care or Concession Card holders
- Dependents of Health Care or Concession Card holders
- DVA Gold Card holders

This is a very important service for our community, so please get in touch with the RFDS to book your appointment.

Fitting farewell for Sue

Staff were sad to say goodbye to Sue Willox, a member of the Hotel Services and Early Years teams for more than 20 years! Sue officially retired in November.

She was guest of honor at a lavish morning tea (with lots of food) hosted by the Hotel Services and Early Years teams, where many memories were shared of her long career at MTHCS.

Sue has a few grandchildren that she will enjoy spending more time with, and she said on her departure that she won't miss the early starts! Sue has been a wonderful staff member - loyal, innovative, compassionate and a wonderful example of MTHCS organisational values at work – especially Excellence: Setting high standards and continually striving to improve them.

We wish Sue all the best in her well-earned retirement.



Pictured above: Sue Willox (centre, with bouquet) and colleagues gather for her farewell.

Heat and COVID-19 protocols

The weather has certainly heated up since the start of the new year, with several days of extreme temperatures recorded.

Please note that Heat Health Alert days will impact Social Support Groups and some of MTHCS service delivery.

Staff will notify clients of cancellations resulting from Heat Health Alerts.

Meanwhile, COVID-19 measures remain in place at our aged care hostels.

Visitors need to wear an N95 mask, provide a negative RAT result and check-in by QR code.