# FNI NEWSLETTER

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## **Recent Activities:**

Earlier this month we attended the **History Teachers Association of Victoria Conference**, learning more about curriculum priorities and how we can help schools with their First Nations journey.

Although this is not specific to the Early Learning arena, these events allow us to build upon our knowledge base and better understand where your children will be headed in future years. It assists us to ensure our activities stay relevant to you and build upon them meaningfully for the primary right through to Secondary years.

We are committed to providing fun and immersive experiences that build through the ages to ensure Indigenous education does not become tokenistic.







## **Our 9th Birthday!**

First Nations Incursions was founded in 2016 as Didgeridoo Australia. Last year we changed the name to First Nations Incursions to better reflect the exclusive nature of our enterprise: providing cultural incursions to Early Learning Centres and Schools.

What a journey it has been! Over the years we have built over twenty different immersive cultural experiences for children between the ages of three and eighteen, have exhibited at several conferences, have worked with councils, Aboriginal organisations, amazing elders and passionate indigenous educators - to educate, entertain and inspire everyone along the way.

Thank you for your incredible feedback!
We really feel that we are all part of an important movement - improving the understanding and appreciation of Australia's First People in the next generation of leaders.

Thank you for being an important part of our journey!

To celebrate our anniversary we would like to offer you a **10% discount** on all bookings **for September activities!** 

# **Educator Spotlight**

#### Ronan Howard (Bidjara)

Some of you have already met our youngest team member Ronan.

However, you might not know that apart from being a great educator Ronan is also very talented when it comes to boomerang throwing!

He also practices traditional craft, making his own clap sticks and decorating possum skins with Aboriginal designs.

A truly multi-talented young man, who loves sharing his culture with your children!

Meet Ronan at Boomerang Painting, Didgeridoo & Beats and Aboriginal Culture experiences.



### **Term by Term bookings**

Multiple experiences throughout the year help children gain a deeper understanding of Aboriginal Cultures - and provide a lot of fun along the way!

How about starting the year with a tactile introduction to Aboriginal Culture followed by Didgeridoo & Beats, Boomerang Painting and a Whole Centre Culture Celebration in Term 4?

For more information see our ELC webpage or to book please email us:

bookings@firstnationsincursions.com.au

### Kulin Calendar Experience

Kulin Nation People define seven (or eight) seasons in the greater Melbourne area, based on environmental events and traditional cultural activities.

Our Kulin Calendar Experience is the perfect way to introduce your children and staff to the seasons and deliver learning modules that are building upon each other to facilitate comprehensive understanding of culture.

Stay tuned for further details of this exciting new experience beginning in 2026!

**Biderup** (Dry Season) *Fixing fish traps* 

Iuk (Eel Season)

Eel Harvest & Inter-Clan Business

Waring (Wombat Season)
Rug & Artefact Making

Guling (Orchid Season)

Bark Harvest

Poorneet (Tadpole Season)

Women's Business

Buath Gurru (Grass Flowering Season)

Yam Harvest

Garrawang (Kangaroo Apple Season)

Men's Business



# CHOKLITS CHILD CARE

NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATIONS IN RINGWOOD

We love it when we hear such amazing feedback from one of our returning ELCs. This kind of engagement truly shows the kind of kinship that develops from the enriching experiences we share in early learning environments. Thanks Chocklits for your wonderful praise for Sean and our immersive activity in your Kinder.

"In celebration of NAIDOC Week, we recently welcomed back Sean from <u>@didgeridooaustralia</u> for his incredible **Didge, Beats and Culture** incursion, now in its second year at Choklits Ringwood! From music and dancing to ochre and possum skin, Sean delivered an engaging and enriching learning experience for our kinder children.



Sean brought along two different didgeridoos, one for playing and one to showcase the incredible artworks and traditional designs. The children were amazed by the sounds a didgeridoo can make and listened intently as Sean demonstrated.

The children were particularly interested in how the paintings are created on the didgeridoo. Sean explained that the designs are made using natural ochre. To extend this learning, he brought some along and invited the children to paint their hands or faces with the ochre, a fun and sensory way to connect with Indigenous culture.

To accompany the beautiful music, Sean introduced a series of dance moves inspired by native Australian animals. These dances brought lots of laughter, movement, and joy to all the children!

The children also had the opportunity to touch and feel a variety of natural items including possum skins, kangaroo fur, and handmade balls, all while learning about the cultural significance and traditional uses of these materials.

To finish the incursion, everyone had a chance to pick up a pair of clapsticks and join in the rhythm, creating wonderful music alongside the didgeridoo.

Thank you, Sean from @didgeridooaustralia for another fantastic incursion. The children had an incredible, hands-on learning experience and deepened their understanding of the rich culture and land we live on." - Zoe Dooley

To view the Insta reel go to @choklitsearlylearning

#### In the next Issue:

An announcement about our new initiative for professional learning for educators in rural schools & ELCs.

For more information on our activities see our ELC webpage or to book please email us:

bookings@firstnationsincursions.com.au

