

21 September 2009

Local children plant the seeds they harvested last season at Spiritus Early Parent Centre

In another successful initiative, the Spiritus Early Parent Centre (EPC) will share the success of its Community Garden at its annual Garden Gala event on Tuesday 22 September between 10am and 1.30pm at their premises at 105 Poinsettia Street, Inala, adjacent to St Hugh's Anglican Church.

Children who are part of the activities at the centre will plant vegetable seeds they harvested from last season. The Centre's Co-ordinator, Bernadette Pitman is delighted that the children are benefitting from their efforts in the garden.

"They have now seen their seeds grow, tended them carefully and have harvested both vegetables and seeds. Not only is it a great success educationally but it's fun and tasty!" she said.

Another highlight of the day will be a book-reading given by Margot Kornhonen, the author of *I Grow Vegetables*. Margot has had a long association with the work of EPC and her book tells the story of Elliott who learns the joys of planting and growing in his own garden.

Representing the Premier on the day will be

Ms Julie Atwood, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Disability Services and Multicultural Affairs and Member for Mt Ommaney.

Other guests include

Mr Milton Dick, Brisbane City Councillor for Richlands
Dr Shane Farmer, Manager Spiritus EPC,
Parents, children and friends.

All those present will be welcomed to Country by local Elder, Uncle Kev Bond.

Oxley Sherwood Lions Club has kindly donated their services to prepare and serve a barbecue for those attending.

Activities on the day will include making clay ornaments, face painting, cooking for kids and scarecrow making.

"Most important of all is the seed planting. The children will be able to take their seeds home for planting in their own home gardens as well as enjoying the community garden at the EPC – the broccoli and cabbage are looking particularly good at the moment. Many families and local community members assist in making the garden a true community asset. We have an African Men's Group which comes on weekends, a weekly visit from Richlands Primary school students and every month, our own St Hugh's community Garden Club helps with keeping the garden healthy, weeded and watered."

A family of newly-hatched chicks will be visiting for the day, kindly loaned by an EPC supporter.

On Thursday 1 October, all are encouraged to participate in the Spiritus EPC's Community Garden Working Bee between 1.30pm and 4.30pm.

For further information please contact Debbie Price, Spiritus Marketing & Communications Ph 3421 2916 or mobile 0410 578581

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