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# BUD'S TOYS NEWS

## Coordinators Column

Once again welcome to the latest Toy Library Newsletter. I hope everyone had enjoyable school holidays and that you managed to spend some quality time together as a family. As I have experienced this year, it is not always an easy achievement when working parents usually have four weeks of holidays per year compared to their children's twelve!

The last month has thrown some interesting challenges my way. I do apologise to anyone who missed out on toys as a result of our website problems. These caused quite a few headaches, but hopefully they are now a distant memory. Thanks to all of you for your patience and understanding during this time. (And thanks to the team at Flying Fox Multimedia for their assistance). Don't forget, if you do experience any problems with our website, I would

greatly appreciate it if you could try to contact me straight away. This will make them much quicker to resolve. I am often not aware there is a problem until a couple of weeks have passed, unless I happen to book toys for my own family.

### *Healthy Active Kids*

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, the toy library was fortunate enough to receive funding to run a new project called Healthy Active Kids. This project is now underway. I am currently purchasing equipment for the pedometer loan service and resource library, as well as planning the first few 'Outside and Active Play Days' for the remainder of this year.

I am interested to hear what sort of guest speakers our families would be interested in on these days. So far I have considered Occupational Therapist, Nutritionist, Baby Massage Trainer, Naturopath, Speech

Therapist and Child Health Nurse. If anyone has any other ideas or suggestions, then please let me know as soon as possible.

There will also be additional information available on the website like healthy recipes and links to a wide range of relevant websites.

This project is all about getting the community engaged and involved, so if you have any recipes to contribute or suggestions about potential website links then please drop me a quick email with the details.

We are hoping to have a couple of Play Days before the end of the year. I will let you know as soon as we have something planned. I look forward to seeing you at one of these events.

Until then, happy playing,  
*Kirsti.*

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## BUD's Toys

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## Position Vacant

Those of you who collect toys from the Bellingham agency have probably noticed my growing belly in recent months. Due to my pregnancy I am planning to take up to a year's maternity leave from BUD's, starting on 19th December 2008. During this time we need to find someone to run the toy library and Healthy Active Kids Project. We will be seeking Expressions of Interest for someone to fill the position in the near future. If you are interested in receiving an information pack, please call or email me (see details next page).



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## National Children's Week Celebration

BUD's Toys, Bellingen Family Day Care and Special Needs in Bellingen Shire invite all toy library members, their families and friends to attend the upcoming Teddy Bear's Picnic in celebration of National Children's Week and Universal Children's Day.

**Date: Wednesday 22nd October**

**Time: 10.00 –12.00**

**Venue: 1 Elliot Close, Bellingen**



*BUD's Toys is a project of Open Arms Care Inc. This project is funded by the NSW State Government, through an Area Assistance Scheme grant.*

## TOY FEATURES—It's time to get outside and active!



### Play Paracute

**Category:** Outside & Active  
**Price per fortnight:** \$4.50  
**Recommended age:** 3 years plus

Brightly coloured nylon "parachute", 350cm diameter with 8 handles. Parachutes teach teamwork, cooperation, strength, agility, body movements, coordination, and endurance. They also encourage positive cooperative group experiences. Perfect for your child's next birthday party!

### Wooden Walking Bike

**Category:** Outside & Active  
**Price per fortnight:** \$10  
**Recommended age:** 3 years plus

This is an ideal bike for pre-school aged children. Safe, educational and fun, Wooden Walking Bike offers a systematic approach to teaching young children to ride. Pedal-free and seated, the child can propel forward, brake and stabilise the bike using their feet on the ground. Its ease of use allows children to playfully develop vital balance and motor skills, well beyond their years.



### Reflex Soccer Swingball Set

**Category:** Outside & Active  
**Price per fortnight:** \$5  
**Recommended age:** 6 years plus

Ideal for exercising those budding talents, Reflex Soccer has a unique recoil action that enables you to play alone, or with others. Great for goal-keeping practice, Reflex Soccer is a brilliant way to take your game to a whole new level. Portable and compact, the tether coils into the handled base, so it can go wherever you do. (Base is filled with sand or water for stability).