

# NEWSLETTER

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of Glenelg Shire Council Children's Services

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHILDREN'S SERVICES MANAGER

I would like to thank all our families for their understanding and ongoing support. This year has presented us all with lots of challenges and changes to the way we work, live and play.

A vision for the future has been set for the Glenelg Shire, following the adoption of several key strategic documents. Councillors recently endorsed the Financial Plan 2021-2031, 2021 Annual Report, Council Plan 2021-2025 and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025.

These plans outline Council's financial commitments, key priorities, resources and strategies for enhancing and improving Glenelg communities over the next four to ten years.

- The Council Plan will drive the direction of Council over the next four years, which in practical terms, guides Council's decision making regarding where to invest time and resources.
- The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan sets out how Council, along with our community partners and agencies, will work towards improving the health and wellbeing of Glenelg communities.

These plans will all be available to view from Council's website from 29 October 2021.

As we move through term 4 and closer towards the end of 2021, I hope that all staff, families and children are able to enjoy at least a short break with their families over the holiday period.



# OUR SERVICES



Glenelg Shire Council Children's Services

✉ PO Box 152, Portland VIC 3305

☎ 1300 GLENELG (1300 453 635)

📧 [childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au](mailto:childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au)

🌐 [www.glenelg.vic.gov.au](http://www.glenelg.vic.gov.au)



# OFFICE NEWS

## THE BEST WAY TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US

Children's Services Customer Service Team

Tel: 1300 453 635

Email: [childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au](mailto:childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au)

Fee or Account Enquiries

For any enquiries regarding fees or accounts please contact:

Children's Services Accounts Team

Tel: (03) 5522 2515

Email: [csaccounts@glenelg.vic.gov.au](mailto:csaccounts@glenelg.vic.gov.au)



## CASUAL BOOKING REQUESTS

A reminder to families that when requesting a casual booking to please email [childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au](mailto:childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au) or phone 1300 453 635. Our team will then be in contact **if** they can offer you a position. Due to limited availability of casual places, we remind families to explore alternative options for additional care.

## IMMUNISATION HISTORY STATEMENT

A friendly reminder to please provide your child's service with an updated copy of their immunisation history statement once they have received their next round of immunisations. These can be handed in hard copy to your service or email to

[childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au](mailto:childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au)

Example AIR Immunisation History Statement – up to date

Schedule	Date given	Immunisation	Brand name given
2 months	16 Mar 2016	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib Hepatitis B Polio Pneumococcal Rotavirus	Inflanza Hexa Prevenar 13 Rotarix
4 months	16 May 2016	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib Hepatitis B Polio Pneumococcal Rotavirus	Inflanza Hexa Prevenar 13 Rotarix
6 months	16 Jul 2016	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Hib Hepatitis B Polio Pneumococcal	Inflanza Hexa Prevenar 13
12 months	16 Jan 2017	Measles Mumps Rubella Hib Meningococcal C	MMR1 II Menomix
18 months	16 Jul 2017	Diphtheria Tetanus Pertussis Measles Mumps Rubella Varicella	Inflanza Priorix-Tetra
Other	03 Sep 2016 01 Apr 2018	Influenza Influenza	Inflanza Influvac Tetra

Next immunisations due: Polio 16 Jan 2020



## FAMILY CONTACT DETAILS

A reminder to families to please ensure that your contact details are kept up to date at all times. If you need to update any details please email [childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au](mailto:childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au)

# IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

At Glenelg Shire Council, we take seriously the health and wellbeing of our staff and families, and we are continually reviewing the way we provide education and care to ensure that health risks are minimised as much as possible. We acknowledge that some of these measures are not ideal and change is occurring regularly, and we thank you for your continued understanding and patience. One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

Any child who presents with COVID-19 like symptoms including the following will not be able to attend our services:

- Mild cold symptoms (e.g., cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose or loss of sense of smell)
- Fever or chills
- Shortness of breath

If your child has signs of coronavirus (COVID-19), you should take your child to get tested.

Once your child has had a confirmed negative COVID-19 test and their symptoms have resolved, they can return. A medical certificate is not required, however may be helpful in the following circumstances:

- Children with persistent symptoms due to underlying conditions such as hay fever or asthma whose symptoms are clearly typical of their condition can continue to attend ECEC. They should be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms. Please provide a copy of the doctor's letter to the service stating that your child is fit to attend education and care along with the symptoms and treatment plan for your child's hay fever, asthma diagnosis or other circumstance.
- Younger children may have prolonged post viral symptoms such as a runny nose or cough and may return to ECEC following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. Where slight symptoms persist Council will require a medical certificate to confirm the child is otherwise well or has recovered from their acute illness. Written medical clearance for COVID-19 is not required. For information on the minimum period's children need to stay at home for other conditions, refer to the Department of Health school exclusion table.  
<https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/school-exclusion/school-exclusion-table>





# FINANCE NEWS



Xap have made changes to the way you view your invoice.

These changes are intended to improve the speed of the invoice generation process to ensure you receive your invoice in a timely fashion.

The following changes will be made:

1. PDF attachments will no longer be included in the invoice email templates.
2. A link to the invoice will be added to the invoice email templates to replace the PDF attachment. This invoice link functionality already exists within Xap when you download the invoice from the Guardian Portal.

You will now be able to view your invoice by clicking on the “view your invoice” button.

Hello {{payment\_account\_name}},

Please find attached a tax invoice which has been generated on {{invoice\_date}}.

Payment Account Name {{payment_account_name}}	Payment Method {{payment_method}}
Invoice Number {{invoice_number}}	Amount Due {{invoice_due_amount}}
Due Date {{invoice_due_date}}	

Click on the button below to view your invoice. Similarly you can also access your tax invoice from your guardian web portal or mobile app.

[View Your Invoice](#)

Please make the payment from your internet banking. Please do not forget to mention the invoice number in the reference field while making the payment. Once you make the payment, it may take upto three to four business days for it to appear in your statement.

Please find our account details below.

BSB {{bsb}}	Account {{account_number}}
Account Name {{account_name}}	

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

To access all the details please log in to [Xap Guardian App or Web Portal](#)  
[Log in to my Xap](#)

{{signature}}

# LONG DAY CARE NEWS

## Team Leader Integrated Early Years Services

Kate Lyons

### 2022 Enrolments

Our Long Day care Enrolment periods have closed, and services are currently working through allocation of placements. We are aware that some families may have booked additional care while waiting for 2022 work rosters. If you need to reduce your care, please email [childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au](mailto:childrenservicesenquiry@glenelg.vic.gov.au) at your earliest convenience.

### Hellos and Goodbyes

#### **Kylie Chapman**

Kylie has finished up with us after working across our services for the past two years, and this year at KPM PCFC. This was Kylie's second stint with Glenelg Shire Council after she also worked with us at Mitchell Park Children's Centre and Henry House. We hope to see Kylie again one day!

#### **Amber Davies**

Amber has had her last day at KPM PCFC as she prepares for a new addition to her family. Amber has worked at KPM PCFC for the past two years, working across multiple rooms.

#### **Kathryn Tait**

Kathryn has concluded her role at Kathleen Millikan Centre. Kathryn has been a big part of our team over many years. She had a long history at Heywood Kindergarten, then spent some time working across our services casually before most recently working at KMC. We wish Kylie, Amber and Kathryn all the very best for their next chapters.

#### **Karensa Smith**

We welcome Karensa to the team. Karensa has a wealth of experience in various aspects of Early Childhood. We are excited to see Karensa working across our services.

#### **Brit Parsons**

Brit joins our team while working in several children's settings. We look forward to getting to know Brit and welcoming her to our team. Brit will be working as a casual educator.

#### **Mikhaila Pendlebury**

Mikhaila joins the Karreeta Peeneeyt Mara Portland Child and Family Complex team. Having experience in a number of settings, it is great to see Mikhaila settling into the Kookaburra Room and we have loved getting to know her.

#### **Meg Fennell**

Meg is returning to our team, working at the Kathleen Millikan Centre. The KMC families will know Meg from her previous role with us. Welcome back Meg!



# KINDERGARTEN NEWS

## Team Leader Education and Care

Karen Meyrick

Over the course of 2021 we have seen many changes to the way we deliver Kindergarten programs, in a COVID safe way.

There has had to be continuous innovation to

- Stay connected with children and families during lockdowns
- Modify the experiences and educational activities provided to children for them to grow, learn and develop their skills
- Provide home learning activities and ideas, the use of our FB pages was a great tool for this
- To keep staff, children and families safe during a pandemic

We have achieved a lot during 2021 in the best interest of the children who attend our Kindergarten programs.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we see out the remainder of the year together.

## Kalbarri Kindergarten Assessment and Rating

Kalbarri Kindergarten Assessment and Rating visit occurred on 27 October 2021.

An Authorized Officer from the Department of Education and Training came to the service for the morning.

This was an opportunity for our highly skilled team at Kalbarri Kindergarten to showcase the high quality educational program they deliver to children on a daily basis, we look forward to seeing the outcome and rating of the service in the coming weeks.

## Transition Learning and Development Statements (TLDS)

Transition Learning and Development statements are currently being written by Kindergarten Teachers for each children who will be transitioning to School next year, these TLDS

- Summarises a child's learning and development
- Identifies their individual approaches to learning and their interests
- Indicates how the child can be supported to continue learning.

We look forward to families having input into their child's TLDS in Term 4

## End of Year

Services will be finalising end of year arrangements and communicating these with families later in the Term.



# CHILDREN'S HEALTH & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Maternal and Child Health Services

Maternal and Child Health's hours:

Portland – Julia St  
Monday to Friday

Heywood  
Tuesday

Casterton  
Thursday

Dartmoor  
By appointment only

Office Administration hours  
Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

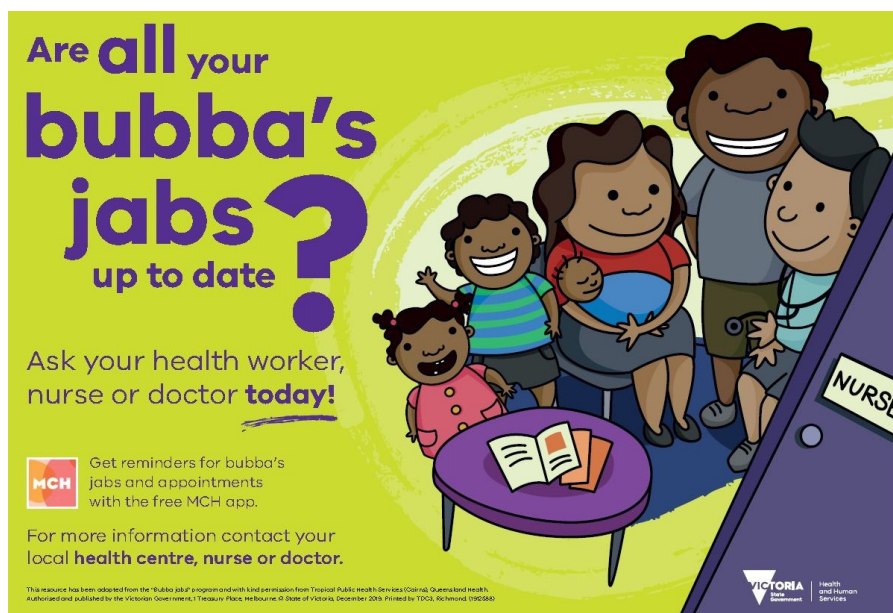
MCH can be contacted on the following:

Phone - 5521 0504

Email - [mch.pdh@swarh.vic.gov.au](mailto:mch.pdh@swarh.vic.gov.au)

Text msg - 0427 818 624

Website - [https://pdh.net.au/services\\_list/maternal-and-child-health-services/](https://pdh.net.au/services_list/maternal-and-child-health-services/)





# INTEGRATED SERVICES UPDATES

## Karreeta Peeneeyt Mara Portland Child and Family Complex

### Koala Room

The Koala Room have had a fun-filled few month with loads of learning, exploring, imagination, creating and heaps of laughs along the way. A warm welcome to our new families, which have started with us recently. We look forward to getting to know your children and forming bonds with them.

Children enjoyed participating in ‘Science Week’ where we learnt about different scientific concepts. We explored colour by conducted an experiment using milk, detergent and food dye creating amazing patterns and by colouring some white flowers. Children had fun exploring the concept of sinking and floating, manipulating ice and watching it melt to reveal animals frozen within. We ended the week by making a sand volcano erupt, which the children were extremely excited about.

We have recently also participated in ‘Book Week’. Some children dressed up, whilst others brought their favourite book from home to share. Reading together is always such a popular activity in our room and provides a lovely opportunity for bonding and developing trusting relationships with children. A highlight of the week was children’s engagement in doing the ‘Green Sheep Hunt’; searching the hallway for different coloured hidden sheep from the popular story ‘Where is the Green Sheep?’

Some of the children’s favourite experiences currently include painting, imaginative play in the kitchen home corner, sandpit or with the dolls, exploring the outdoor space and constructing towers with blocks.



## Wallaby Room

How time flies, it is already time for another Wallaby Room update. What an interesting few months it has been with things forever changing, including our wonderful children. We have seen amazing changes developmentally, in their social, physical and emotional growth. Over the past couple of months, the children have had the opportunity to be part of some wider community-based events.

In August the children took part in National Science Week from the 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> August. The theme for this year was 'Food: Different by Design', which honoured the United Nations International Year of Fruits and Vegetables and the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development. The Wallaby Room focused by using foods in experiments as well as taking the opportunity of talking about where food comes from and why it is important, we nourish our bodies. It also allowed us to talk about food wastage.



August also was the time we celebrated CBCA Book Week. From the 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August we encouraged the children to come dressed as their favourite characters as well as to bring in their favourite book for us to read to the group. We had a diverse range of books to pick from, with the children enjoying each, and everyone. The children participated in a hunt trying to find the characters from 'Where is the Green Sheep' by Mem Fox and Judy Horacek. After much seeking, the children were able to find all of the characters and recorded this on a specially printed chart. Book week is a wonderful way to celebrate the joy that reading can bring to young and old alike.

When September rolled over, we commenced our Spring Activities with a 'Spring Has Sprung' theme. Developed from the children's interest in watching plants changing and bird life returning to our outdoor area we created an art wall and a florist shop. They children creatively have made flowers, butterflies, beetles and ducks celebrating all that is Springtime. We have planted strawberry, parsley and thyme seedlings in a miniature garden for the children. This is so that they can observe and document the growth and change in living things. It is also a representation of how humans and plants are reliant on each other. From this, their interest has now extended into snails, tadpoles and all things insects. It will be interesting to watch where this leads over the coming weeks.

As we approach the end of the year, we still have some community events that we will be part of and hope the children enjoy these as much as our other events during the year.





## Platypus Room Update

Our little learners recently took part in the Annual Aussie Backyard Bird Count. We had a lot of fun counting and trying to identify the many bird species in our environment. By taking part in the count we are helping gather valuable data for Birdlife Australia, which helps them look at trends in our bird communities and overall health of our natural environment.

We also welcomed with great excitement our very own viewing window into the Community Garden, to watch gardeners that work hard in the Community Garden. The children in the Platypus room are extremely curious, and the sound of the machinery shed humming causes great delight! This is a wonderful opportunity to engage in many conversations about community, growing vegetables, sustainability and to enhance and strengthen relationships within our community.



## Dartmoor Children's Centre

We have been busy with a big start to Term 4. It is amazing to have everyone back at the Centre, and we hope that we can continue the term uninterrupted.

We have enjoyed a sports colour day and we made our own pies. They were delicious!

Now that the weather is starting to become warm, we are making sure that our vegetable garden is weeded and ready for planting our seeds.

We have been exploring various types of art and craft and have been eager to extend our fine motor and creative skills. There has been plenty of painting, using stencils, foam paint, watercolours, and wall painting.

Happy Birthday to Oliver and Alexander, we love singing happy birthday when the Birthday Bear comes to play.



# KINDERGARTEN SERVICES UPDATES

## Jaycee Kindergarten – Penguin Group

Over the past few weeks, the children have shown a keen interest in cooking experiences at Kindergarten, and each week ask what we will be cooking the following week.

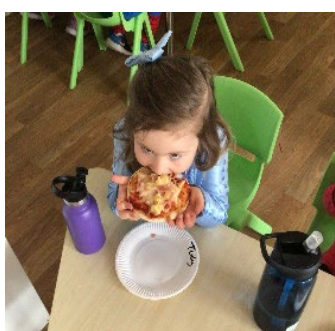
Cooking provides so many learning opportunities for children including:

- Talking about where the ingredients come from e.g., Milk comes from the cows and eggs come from chickens
- Discussing food hygiene - washing hands before cooking, not licking our fingers, wearing gloves if you are cooking for others
- Kitchen safety - not getting too close to the hot frypan
- Discussing foods - which ones are “healthy” foods and which ones are “sometimes” foods.
- Pre-numeracy, counting
- Science
- Language skills

Some very rich conversations occur during these cooking experiences where the children share stories about who cooks at home in their family and what they cook. Cooking experiences with their peers and educators allows the children to make a real connection between home and kinder while transferring what they have learnt between the two environments.

So far, we have enjoyed making pancakes and using fruit to make them into faces, banana muffins and mini pizzas for lunch.

We can't wait to jump back into the kitchen and cook something new soon.





## SANGA & OOPS

Sanga & Oops are helping children start to get ready for their big school adventure. What ideas for a smooth transition will they have? New episodes are posted each Wednesday.

Episode 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgQI0aZyMJs>

Episode 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkDXOAO5JDM>



# SUNSMART REMINDER

UV levels have started to rise over three. Whatever the weather, it's important for people of all skin types to use sun protection whenever UV levels are three or higher. We would like to reminder families to please pack a sunhat for your child to wear during outdoor play.



The poster features a blue background with yellow and white text. At the top left, it says 'Being SunSmart in Victoria'. To the right is the SunSmart logo. Below this, it says 'When UV is 3+'. A list of five items follows, each with an icon in a yellow circle: a t-shirt for 'Slip on covering clothing', a sunscreen bottle for 'Slap on SPF30 or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen', a hat for 'Slap on a broad-brimmed hat', a tree for 'Seek shade', and sunglasses for 'Slide on sunglasses (AS:1067)'. To the right of this list is a green circle containing the text 'Think UV, not heat! UV rays can't be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days.' Below the list is a smartphone showing the SunSmart app interface. To the right of the phone is a large orange circle with the text 'Download the SunSmart app to find sun protection times for your location in Australia.' At the bottom right, it says 'When UV is below 3 Sun protection isn't required unless you are outdoors for extended periods or near reflective surfaces, such as snow.'

## Being SunSmart in Victoria



### When UV is 3+

-  Slip on covering clothing
-  Slap on SPF30 or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
-  Slap on a broad-brimmed hat
-  Seek shade
-  Slide on sunglasses (AS:1067)

Think UV, not heat! UV rays can't be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days.

Download the SunSmart app to find sun protection times for your location in Australia.

When UV is below 3 Sun protection isn't required unless you are outdoors for extended periods or near reflective surfaces, such as snow.

[sunsmart.com.au/app](https://sunsmart.com.au/app)



# EASY VEGETABLE PACKED EGG SLICE

## Ingredients:

- 12 Eggs
- 2tsp Vegetable Stock Powder
- 1tsp Garlic Powder
- 1tsp Onion Powder
- 500g bag of Veggie Rice
- 125g Shredded Cheese

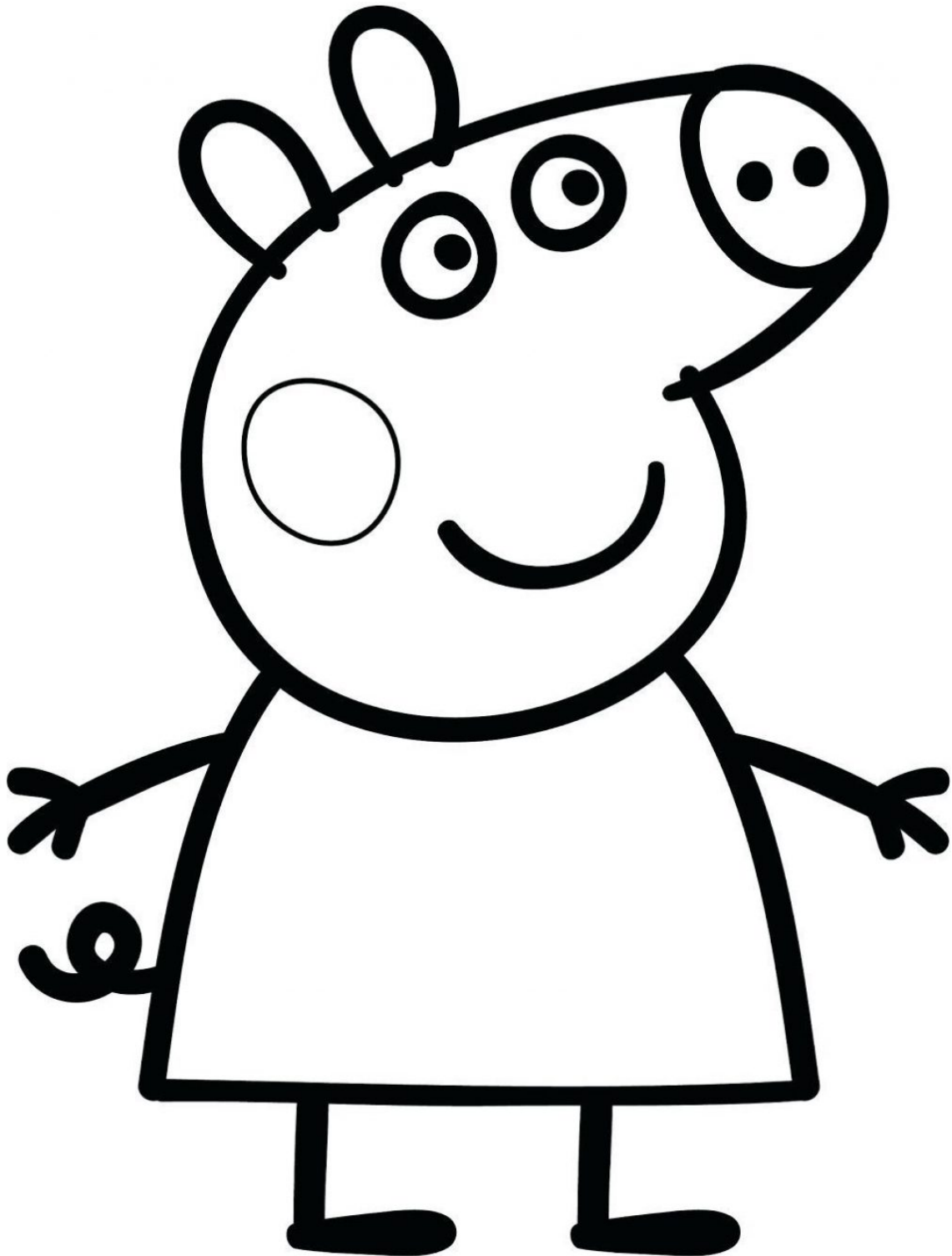
## Method:

1. Put the eggs, stock powder, garlic powder and onion powder in a bowl and whisk together until well combined. Add the veggie rice and cheese and stir to combine.
2. Grease a baking dish and line with baking paper.
3. Pour the egg mixture into the baking dish and cook in a pre-heated 160°C oven for 45 minutes, or until set and egg is cooked through.
4. Allow to the slice to cool for 10 minutes before slicing, or place in the refrigerator and cool completely to serve cold.





# COLOUR ME IN!



Peppa Pig





**THANK YOU FOR  
READING.  
WE HOPE YOU HAVE  
ENJOYED THIS EDITION.**

**GLENELG SHIRE  
COUNCIL CHILDREN'S  
SERVICES**

