

*You're invited*

# TRANSITION TO SCHOOL

*Community Initiative 2017*

This FREE event is open to Upper Hunter Shire parents/ caregivers, teachers and early childhood educators who are interested in the importance of preparing children for school and how we best support this transition.



**Thursday, 18 May 2017**

6.30pm - 8.30pm, with light refreshments served from 6.00pm

Upper Hunter Shire Council Administration Centre, Liverpool St Scone

**Bookings essential** - RSVP by Thursday, 11 May 2017 providing your name, email address and indication of whether you are a parent/school/service to Upper Hunter Family Day Care by email: [uhfdc@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au](mailto:uhfdc@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au) or phone: 6540 1151

**Guest Speaker:** Deb Kiem



*Deb Kiem is a former Upper Hunter resident who now teaches at a Long Day Care/ Preschool in Coonabarabran and at Mendooran Pre School.*

*Deb obtained her Diploma in Teaching at Armidale, Teaching casually in primary & infants schools in the Northern Territory and outback NSW for 10 years whilst raising 3 daughters. She spent another 10 years teaching at Sandy Hollow Public School, a 2 teacher school in the Upper Hunter.*

*Following a relocation to Aberdeen, Deb taught at Scone Grammar School, firstly on a Year 3 class and then 'promoted' to Kindergarten!*

*After 5yrs, Deb made a career change and dabbled in Cheese Making at Hunter Belle Cheese. But missing the children, and her drive to inspire curiosity and creativity, led her to completing a Certificate 3 in Children's Services and working as an Early Childhood Educator with the Upper Hunter Early Learning Centre. She was awarded a Diploma by ACECQA through recognition of her teaching experience.*

*"Children have taught me that to embrace their world they need to be confident, kind, brave, included, appreciated and happy. They need educators and teachers who allow them to become all this and more, to facilitate enquiry and discovery, to see their worth, to really listen to their words. It is this approach that will enables educators and parents to determine whether a child is ready for 'big school'".*

## Presenters:

**OT Just 4 Kids - Janet Brown, OT** and **All Areas Speech Pathology - Aimee Robinson** will outline information about typical skills children will have developed and need for school readiness, how to recognise if they may be having difficulties, and practical strategies for supporting their development.

**Upper Hunter Family Support - Kylee Mavin & Michelle Owen (Family Support Workers), Leanne Walklate (Aboriginal Family Worker), and Janelle Eades (Group Worker)** will share information on various support services available including playgroups, parenting programs and groups and school liaison.

**Local infants school teachers and early childhood educators will also be in attendance to answer any questions you may have.**



UPPER HUNTER COMMUNITY SERVICES Inc

