In recognition of National Reconciliation Week and National Families Week, Balaklava Community Children’s Centre and Our Community Our Children, supported by Wakefield Regional Council hosted a Nature Play Family Fun Day at The Rocks Reserve on 29th May 2016.

Over 100 people relished in the beautiful environment, made even more significant by the presence of Claudine Buckskin, a Kaurna Elder, who welcomed us to Country.

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians, the Kaurna people, whose ancestral lands we are meeting upon today.

We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Kaurna people to country and their cultural and heritage beliefs are still important to the living Kaurna people today.

We pay our respects to the elders past and present and future for they hold the memories, the hopes, the traditions, the culture and hopes of our young Aboriginal Australians.

We also pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people visiting/attending from other areas of South Australia/Australia that are present here today.

MAY THEIR SPIRITS WATCH OVER US TODAY.

Whilst at The Rocks, the children personalised the Acknowledgement of Country by drawing around these significant words spoken by Mrs Gathercole (Dale) on the day:

‘I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Kaurna people and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia’.

Reconciliation is everyone’s responsibility and starts with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians talking, walking, working and playing together, to overcome the reasons why division and inequality in Australia exists. Relationships matter and therefore families and communities are the perfect place for Reconciliation to grow.

National Families Week –

a reminder to celebrate families as central building blocks to a vibrant community.

Nature

Play

National Families Week provided us with a reminder to celebrate family as the central building block to a vibrant community.