



Newsletter Term 2, 2019

OSHC Friends,

Winter is definitely here! Its been a great chance to rug up and huddle together as we farewell Term 2. Earlier this term, we held our Annual General Meeting which was a resounding success. We discussed some important topics as well as electing our Management Committee for 2019-20. Please see the end of this newsletter for a list of our management team. A thank you must also go to the members of our volunteer committee who will be standing down at the end of this year.

There have been lots of changes at EHOSHC this term regarding our team of educators. This is unusual for our service, as we are dedicated to ensuring a stable cohort of professionals to enhance the experience of the children in our care. This term we farewelled our Assistant Coordinator, Kirsty Hunt, Senior Staff member Molly O'Rourke, and Educator Tahlia Mills-Doyle. We wish all of them the very best and trust that our excellent Centre will help nurture our newer team members to succeed and thrive as they have. EHOSHC is notorious for mentoring incredible childcare educators and leaders, and sadly we must occasionally say goodbye to them as it comes time for them to take on leadership roles elsewhere and embrace their next adventure and challenge.



Our terrific team

It was this time last year that we were sending our congratulations to Laura McKenzie (a long-standing OSHC Educator) who had recently married... Now it's Congratulations to Laura on the birth of her first baby! Laura and her husband welcomed a healthy baby boy into their family in May. Best wishes!



PROGRAM

Through regular evaluation, our program continues to change and support the needs of our children. Our programmed activities for Term 2 were as follows:

AM:

- Monday: Mellow Monday
- Tuesday: International Morning
- Wednesday: "Big Fat Split!"
- Thursday: Hands-on
- Friday: Fro-bac Friday



PM:

- Monday: Got Game
- Tuesday: Educator Activity
- Wednesday: Educator Activity
- Thursday: FDO Mashup
- Friday: Art/Craft + Cartooning with Donna



This term, we have had some exciting activities going on, with a keen drive towards enhancing our connection to our wonderful community.

Amy-Louise Parsons organised our Bushcare event which was a terrific success.

In conjunction with Parramatta Council, families and children from Epping Heights gathered together in a little pocket of endangered forest just down the road from Epping Heights. We worked hard all morning and managed to pull lots of weeds as well as plant over 800 trees, shrubs and grasses!

Enhancing our children's awareness of the environment, as well as helping to instil a sense of responsibility and ownership of the land is a key part of our program at EHOSHC.

We are very much looking forward to the next event!



Enjoying the planting!

As we embrace our Winter months, Jess & Amy have started a great knitting project with our children and families. We are teaching and encouraging the children to knit, which is proving to be very enjoyable for the interested cohort. In collaboration with our families, we are busily knitting squares which will eventually be sewn together into a blanket to be gifted to our Nepalese sponsor child, Sushila. We are so blessed to have such generous and eager volunteers who have embraced this special project. Thank you to all who have contributed so far!



Some of our knitting crew!

In week 9 of this term, OSHC held our termly BBQ. This term we saw a lot more families attend, and it was a great opportunity for us all to get together, have a chat and share a meal. Our staff nominate themselves to take part in a series of special projects throughout the year that allow them to explore opportunities outside the usual scope of their role. Hannah Markwell embraced our termly BBQ as one of her special projects for the year, and did a fantastic job organising it. Thanks Hannah, and all who came along and braved the cold evening!



Is that thirds, Matti & Darun?

ADMINISTRATION

We have lots of families on our waiting list for after school places. When spaces become available for PM sessions, staff commence a process of contacting families from our waiting list to take these places. We have noted that many families, once contacted are turning down the place and requesting removal from the waiting list.

As we move into term 3, we are asking all families to please check their requirement for being on our waiting list and remove all unwanted booking requests via our webserver.

This will assist our team in efficiently managing our waiting list and giving families long-awaited after school care positions.

If you are unsure, please contact Adam.



VACATION CARE

The next vacation care will be during the July holiday period. Our capacity for Vacation Care has been increased by 10 places as a trial for July, so there may still be some places left. If you require any assistance regarding your Vacation Care bookings, please contact the Centre.

The July holiday program is looking as though it will be really exciting! As with all our programs we would love your feedback, please let us know how you and your kids enjoy our programs by emailing us at the centre.

If you are not on direct debit, it is expected that your vacation care fees are paid up prior to the commencement of the vacation care period.



IMPORTANT VACATION CARE INFORMATION

If you have enrolled in vacation care, please ensure you read all the information regarding the days you have booked. We also appreciate your patience and understanding when our program changes due to the weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

COMMITTEE

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General Committee:

Michelle Goodman
Tim Herridge
Deanna Mangan



Nikolaus, Misha and Alex enjoying some G/F Banana Bread!



Isabel & Edith – Skate Buddies!