



Newsletter Term 1, 2018



OSHC Friends,

Welcome to all our new families for 2018! All the staff have really enjoyed getting to know you and look forward to continuing to support your childcare needs for years to come. In term 1 2018, we also welcomed a new educator to our team, Ned Rallings. Ned is an ex-student of Epping Heights, and it has been great getting to know him. His enthusiasm and dedication to the children and our centre has been wonderful. Welcome Ned!



Ned Rallings – New EHOSHC educator

It has been another eventful term and has included some great new additions to our program. Life-skills has been a focus with our younger children in particular, and they have enjoyed having some fun and educational lessons in things like: taking responsibility for their belongings, healthy eating & trying new food, learning important information about their parents (phone numbers etc), personal hygiene and breakfast preparation. Our centre has grown this year and we have been working closely with Mrs Bridekirk to accommodate the high demand. We once again apologise for any inconvenience this has caused in relation to availability of places, but would like to assure our families that both EHOSHC and Epping Heights Public school are working together to resolve this issue. We hope to release more places to our community over the coming months.

PROGRAM

Through regular evaluation, our program continues to change and support the out of school hours needs of our children. Our Term 1 2018 programmed activities were as follows:

AM:

- Monday: 'Together Time'
- Tuesday: Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban (read by Adam)
- Wednesday: All outside
- Thursday: Kids choice
- Friday: All about art

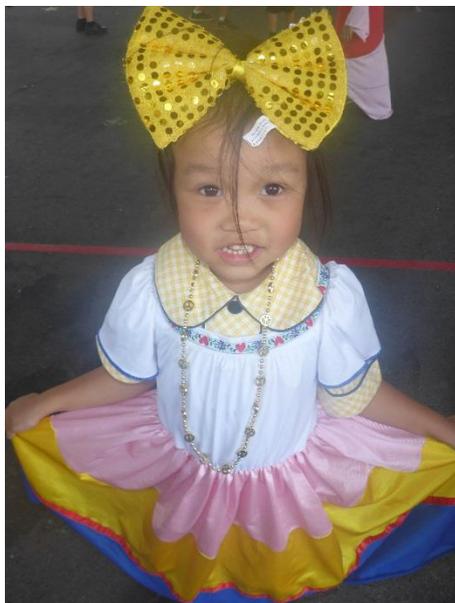
PM:

- Monday: 'Got Game' w/Zac
- Tuesday: Staff activity day
- Wednesday: Kids choice
- Thursday: Hip Hop Honey!
- Friday: Art with Tahlia & movie time

Our program at OSHC is a dynamic and ever changing one. The observations of your children and the identification of their needs (by our cohort of trained educators) assists in informing our program in order to best suit the children in our care. This term we have had some wonderful activities inspired by the children. Some of these were:

- Knitting
- Card games – 'Speed'
- Handball
- Kindy only time
- Imaginative play
- Yoga with Amy

Once a week, 2 members of staff work together to check all the notes made from previous weeks, suggestions from the children and notes from staff and children's meetings. From this information, we plan the following week's activities. This continues to be a great way to plan.



Evelyn enjoying the dress ups!



Raif meditating

The environment and our OSHC garden have been a focus this term with some very interesting things happening. Our garden did very well over the Summer and we had lots of produce available for our families. The veggies and herbs we grow are occasionally available at the sign on area, for a donation to our Nepalese sponsor child Sushila.

As a part of our commitment to the environment, our staff will all be attending a course in composting and worm-farming to complement our horticultural knowledge, in order to impart this to the children at our service. Further to this, recently in our environment week our children were lucky enough to receive a presentation from a representative at our local waste management service. Joshua Azzi from 'Suez' spoke to our children about managing household waste and natural ways to dispose of our rubbish. Josh will be coming back regularly to speak to the children about a variety of things relating to sustainability and the environment. The children have really enjoyed learning about the environment. Ask them what waste goes in which coloured bin at home!



Grace, Jesse, Josh, Anneliese, Maryann, Anthony & Luka

ADMINISTRATION

Staff have noted that there has been an increase in parents allowing their children to use the touchscreen to sign in and out. Please do not allow your child to use the touchscreen. This is important due to the safety of our technology, as well as the safety of your children. Children should not know your usernames and passwords, as this can compromise their welfare whilst in our care. We appreciate your assistance with this matter. Centre staff and our admin team are currently working together to tidy up our systems in preparation for the new childcare management system. As of the new financial year, CCB and CCR will no longer exist as the new Childcare Subsidy is introduced. This has significant ramifications across the childcare industry, as well as for the families that utilise childcare services. Please await further information as it comes to light.

If you are not receiving a fortnightly emailed statement from administration, please contact the centre to confirm your email address.

If your child is going to be away in before care, after care or vacation care, you MUST let us know to avoid additional charges. Please refer to our parent handbook available on our website: www.eppingheightshsc.com.au

VACATION CARE

The next Vacation Care will be during the April holiday period. It looks as though it will be another wonderful program. 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.

For information regarding the Vacation Care program, please check out our website.

IMPORTANT: Our V/Care program has proven to be extremely popular and days book out remarkably fast. We have restrictions regarding the number of children on buses and considerations relating to staff-to-child ratios which means our days have to be capped at certain numbers. Please ensure you book as quickly as possible to avoid disappointment.

If you are not on direct debit, it is expected that your v/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.

PLEASE ALSO RETURN YOUR SIGNED PERMISSION FORMS BEFORE VCARE STARTS!



Gabriel with a baby chick at Golden Ridge



COMMITTEE

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EHOSHSC- AGM: Tuesday 22nd May, 2018 – 6:30pm