

ST. ANDREW'S
OSHC

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2012 Enrolments |

Xmas Closure |

Building Update |

Chocolate
Money 2

Policy Info 2

Halloween Party 3

Photos 4

Merry Christmas



The time this year has gone by so quickly and we are already into the last month of the year (and the second last day of school for the year).

With the end of each year we often say farewell to families who are leaving the school for various reasons, & this year we say goodbye to the Taylor & Kud families who are relocating back to the UK. We also say goodbye to the Martschinke, Davis & Rogalewski families. We wish them all the best & hope that the

children have an easy transition into their new schools. It is also time to say farewell to the year seven children, who have provided us with some wonderful performances at our concerts. We wish them the very best for the future.



As promised, I have included photos of the renovations to our building which is now almost completed. The completion date was to be tomorrow, however, as always, buildings & renovations have hiccups to delay schedules. On the bright side, it should certainly be finished by Christmas, so we should be starting the new school year in the revamped OSHC building.

A reminder to families to check our cancellation policy which is on our website.

Xmas Closure

A reminder that we are closed for 2 weeks from 6.00pm on Friday 23rd Dec and re-open at 7.00am on Monday, 9th January. Any cancellations for Vac Care bookings which have been made for the period leading up to Christmas, will be incur the normal fees charged. Any

cancellations to bookings for the Vac Care period after Christmas, need to be made by 6.00pm on 23rd December to avoid fees.

The program for the Xmas Vacation Care is available on our website.

We have sorted out the problems with Telstra, and all families should now be receiving their statements via email. If you are not receiving your statements, please let me know ASAP. I cannot fix it if I don't know about it.

Extra Curricular Activities

With the large amount of craft & equipment that we have here at OSHC, junk craft has always been the favourite activity with the children. We have a large red wheelie bin for our “junk”, so please bring in your old boxes, milk cartons & bottles, lids, butter containers, wine boxes, corks, take-away containers,, ice-cream containers, and anything else that you might throw in your recycling bin. Unfortunately, we cannot accept toilet roll tubes. You would be surprised at what the children can create out of these items.



When children are attending other activities before coming to Before or After School Care, parents must complete the Extra Curricular Activities Form which is on our website. This enables us to keep track of times

that children are attending keyboard lessons, or which children need to be taken to & collected from Auskick etc. The signature also gives us authorization to take the children to these activities.

A reminder to families that children must be signed in at Before School Care or signed out from After School Care by an authorized person over the age of 18yrs. We've had a few young children recently being dropped off in the car park & not brought in or signed in. It is a legal requirement that children are signed/in out.

OSHC Policies

A full copy of the OSHC Policies is kept at the centre for parent perusal. We have not listed them on the website as we have so many, however, if you would like to see a particular

policy, please ask at the centre, or, it can be emailed.

The Parent Handbook which is on our website, contains important information, please take some time to read it.

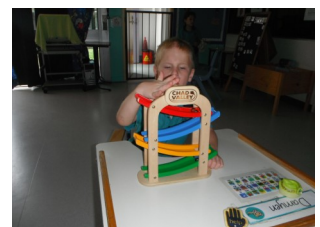
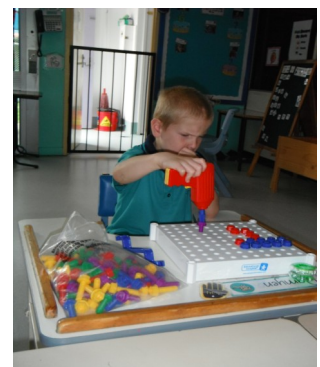
Parents/Guardians are welcome to make an appointment to discuss any issues or grievances in an appropriate manner, at a suitable time.

Chocolate Drive

We still have a number of families who have not brought in the money from chocolates sold. Unfortunately, this means that not only is the charity missing out on some much needed funding, but, OSHC has paid for

someone to have free chocolates.

Thankyou to the families who supported our chocolate drive . The Goodna Special School appreciates the funds to purchase much needed equipment for the children.





Snacks & Allergies



Although we try to offer as much variation as possible for healthy afternoon tea snacks, we are limited by the Child Care Act of 2003 as well as the Food Safety Act. Our menu is approved by Nutrition Australia, using the "Traffic Light" system which is used in school tuckshops. The Food Safety Act restricts us to cooking food to serve at meal/snack times, to a maximum of 12 times per year.

With the increasing number of children who are allergic to various foods, I would just like to remind everyone that we are a nut-free centre, & encourage the use of nut-free products when packing food for children. With the weather being so warm at present, we need to monitor the lunch box leftovers in the afternoons, particularly meat & egg sandwiches which have been packed in the mornings.

Copies of our weekly program are kept for evaluation & to ensure the variation of days on which we serve foods. A minimum of 5 varieties of fruit/veg are served daily. Second break at school is at approx 1.00pm, and children are served food again at 3.00pm at OSHC. A reminder that Afternoon Tea is a snack, (not a meal) & should not spoil the children's appetite.



Craft

Children's craft will be left on the trestle table near the attendance sheet. Please check with your child if they have any of the craft on the table so that they can take it home. The craft table will be cleared at the end of each week, & any craft not collected will go be disposed of.

Lost property

We do still have some lost property in our basket, so please check to see if anything may belong to your child. Everything left in the basket will be sent to the Lifeline Store at the end of next week.

If your children are attending Vac Care, please ensure that everything is marked so that we know who to return lost property to.



Halloween Party

Once again, our Halloween Party was a great success, with approximately 52 adults & 48 children attending. The children has a great time with some games, breaking the piñata & "trick or treating" safely.

There were some fantastic costumes & it was great to see some parents dressed for the occasion too.



**St. Andrew's
Outside School Hours Care**

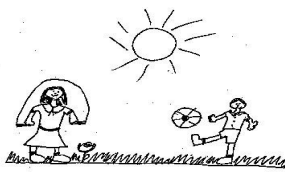
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Caring for Your Children



A reminder that children must wear closed in shoes and, shoulder length or longer hair must be tied up is children wish to participate in cooking activities.



**On behalf of the
OSHC staff, I
would like to
wish you all a
very Merry
Christmas & a
Safe & Happy
New Year.**



**Best Wishes,
Jayne**

