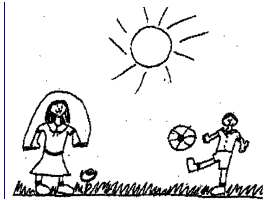




St. Andrew's OSHC Newsletter



Volume 5

12/10/09

Caring for Your
Children

Well, we're already into the last term for the year (and it's a short one). Next month, we will be celebrating 50 years of Centacare, with a number of activities happening, including a mass at St. Stephens Cathedral. As St. Andrew's OSHC is run by Centacare Child Care Services, we will be celebrating the occasion at our centre also.

The Pupil Free Day for this term will be held on Monday, 19th October. If you would like to make a booking for the day, please add your booking to the list which is beside the attendance sheet. Bookings will only be accepted via the booking sheet.

The annual Art & Craft Fair will be held in Toogoolawa on the week-end of 24th & 25th October. To assist the ladies in their huge job of setting up, we will be in the Yr 7 classroom for After School Care only, on Friday, 23rd.

We have received notification that the validator for the National Childcare Accreditation Council will be visiting for two days, anytime over the next 4 weeks. As part of our Accreditation Process, Families are asked to complete surveys & return them to the centre by 15th Oct. We have been trying to hand them out personally to parents, however, I'm sure that we have missed some, so please pick up a survey when you drop off, or collect your children. We need as much participation as possible.

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Nintendo D

On the last day of the September Vacation Care, a black nintendo DS in a white case with black trim, was mistakenly picked up when children were collecting their nintendos. The cover has black writing & a couple of black paw prints embossed on it & it does have a child's name. Could parents please check to see if their children have accidentally picked up the wrong one?

Notice Board

We know we have a new notice board for families & the community to access any information that we can provide.

I have also finally managed to put a variety of photos of the children onto the digital frame which can be found next to the attendance sheet. Please take a few minutes to have a look at them, & see them involved in some of the activities that we do here.

Emails

Emails are a fantastic & easy way to relay messages, however, there are times when gremlins move into the system and some emails don't arrive at the intended destination. To ensure that I have received your email, please ask for a read receipt.

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Family BBQ

Our annual Family Christmas BBQ will be held on Saturday, 16th November, at the OSHC area at Toogoolawa. Invitations will go out to all families by the end of the week. OSHC will provide rissoles, sausages & bread, & ask if parents could please bring a Salad or dessert to share. To avoid having too much of the same thing, there will be a list on the OSHC notice board for you to write down what you would like to bring. More details regarding Santa's visit will go out with the invitations, however, we need a volunteer Santa to give out gifts. We have a suit, so please let me know ASAP if you can help us out. The children get a lot of pleasure from Santa's visit.

Parent Handbook

As there have been numerous changes to the Centacare OSHC Parent Handbook, we have posted an updated version on our website to try to keep costs down. I strongly recommend that parents read it, & note changes from the existing one. If you do not have access to the internet, or have any queries, please contact me.

Xmas Holidays

For families who are trying to work out their holidays for the Christmas period, the school holidays commence on Monday, 7th December. We will be closed from 6.00pm on December 24th, for two weeks, and re-open on Monday, 10th January.

Hats & Head Lice

With the warmer weather upon us, we will be enforcing our rule of no hat, no outdoor play. It is the children's responsibility to bring their hats to OSHC, therefore, no hats will be lent to children from the lost property basket. This may also help to minimise the spread of the dreaded Head Lice of which we have had several cases reported last week. When we have head lice reported to us, a green sign will be on display near the attendance sheet to let families know about it.

Lost Property

We always seem to have an overflowing basket of lost property. Please name all clothing, hats etc. & check the basket regularly for any items that may belong to your child. At the end of term, anything left will go to Lifeline, however, we will return named items to their owners.

In the past, we have organised our excursions & incursions on set days of the week when ever possible. This was a request by parents, so that they may make other arrangements if they didn't want their children attending these activities, but still allowed for them to make early bookings for other days. If parents would like this system to change, allowing varied days for these activities, please let me know ASAP. If sufficient parents request the change, I can make the arrangements for the Xmas Vacation Care.

Break-up Day

For families who may be unaware of the procedure, the school breaks up at 11.00am on Friday, 4th December, for the Christmas Holidays. OSHC will operate Before School Care as normal on that day, however, we will be operating After School Care from 11.00am to 6.00pm. More details will be sent out at a later date, regarding fees & activities, however, as this isn't a regular school day, school bookings are essential.

Vacation Care

As this term is so short & busy, we are already planning the Xmas Vac Care Program. We would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions for us to make it more enjoyable for your children. We are thinking of doing some international days, & would love any recipes & activity ideas from other countries, or perhaps some parents may be able to come into the centre & show the children?

Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter and keeping up to date with events happening at OSHC. If your computer is unable to open the program newsletters or other information are on our OSHC Website.

Regards

Jayne Browne
Coordinator

