

TERM 2, 2018

FAMILY NEWSLETTER



TERM 2

hot?
cold?
windy?
wet?

Welcome

Time for a quick update
on how our second
term went.

In this issue:

- * Coordinators Message
- * New Routines
- * Drop-off & Collection
- * Allergies & Asthma
- * Recycling for Craft
- * New Child Care Subsidy
- * Term Fees & Account Info

COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

Good day to All our Families

Many thanks to our excellent Parent Committee for the support and assistance offered to our staff when I took an unplanned trip to England for a family emergency.

Our routine for the year is well established and our Kindy children are now very confident and involved. We continue to operate a wait-list for Monday to Thursday afternoons, we have space all mornings and Friday afternoons. As families change their requirements we offer sessions to the next family on the wait-list but unfortunately if we do not have a space available we cannot confirm a place. We are investigating expanding our place allocation but it is a slow process.

We are very excited to be starting a new program next term with Greg Taylor, a past pupil of WPPS. Greg is heading up EARTH STORY, he will be educating the children about growing edible native plants, taking care of our environment, observing and tracking birds and local Aboriginal culture in our area. The children will work in small groups with Greg and we hope that he will structure visits across the remainder of the year to give everyone a chance to be involved.

From the 2 July we began a massive structural change to our administrative process to meet the requirements of the New Child Care Subsidy (CCS). This process is ongoing and we expect some hiccups with the system so please contact us right away if you notice discrepancies on your account or you continue to struggle with your registration on mygov.

Once again we would like to note our thanks to our Parent Committee, after 5 years serving as volunteer treasurer Sam O'Donnell has stepped down. In early August Sam, Sophie, Manon and Lena are heading off to France for an extended stay. Steph Parker has very willingly stepped forward to take on the role as treasurer from the commencement of Term 3.

We're looking forward to an enjoyable Term 3 — **Sonja**

LEARNING OUTCOME 2

CHILDREN ARE CONNECTED TO THEIR WORLD



As children participate in their communities they develop their capacity for independence and self direction. Having a positive self identity and experiencing respectful, responsive relationships strengthens children's interest and skills in being and becoming active contributors to their world.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Our Term 2
Committee Meeting
was held on
Tuesday 19 June

Our next meeting is
scheduled for 7pm
on Wednesday 5th
September

If you would like any further
information please send us an
email.

Nature Diary

We have:

- * Created new flower beds at the school gate
- * Collected seeds for later use in the season
- * Used our vegs for afternoon tea and treats for the chickens



EDUCATIONAL LEADER'S REPORT

Hello

This is just a quick message about of plans for Term 3.

Our focus for this term is on the era of the dinosaurs, we'll be able to continue our space theme and tie in the impact that space had on the extinction and changes to the earth.

We aim to finish our patchwork of the children's individual squares showing the different artworks, additionally some of the older girls are thoroughly enjoying creating outfits for the art mannequins.

We will have another Trivia quiz, the children are very eager to host and add to the question list.

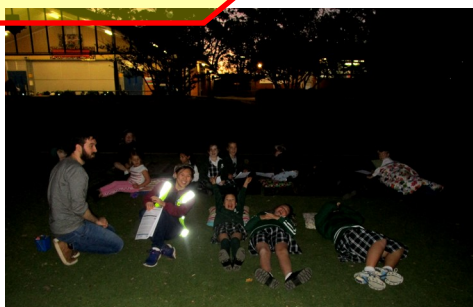
We still have more mod podge aboriginal stone designs to complete.

I'll be sending out a full report on activities in Term 2 and feedback from my presentation to families at the Committee Meeting on 19 June as a separate newsletter

*Thank You
Jacqui*

Allergies & Asthma

Remember to update and inform us of changes in your child's medical needs, and make sure your Action Plan and medications have not expired. We need a new Action Plan from your doctor every 12 months.



**We'll confirm
Dates for our
Christmas Party
later in the term**



DROP-OFF, COLLECTION & NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE



NEW ROUTINES

We have continued with our little snack at 5pm, usually a biscuit, cracker or piece of fruit bread.

The Kindergarten Stage Teachers have requested that from Term 3 we allow the kindies to come directly to OOSC in the afternoon. Please remind your child in the morning to come directly to the Centre, after the school bell, put their bag away and come inside.

By mid-term we will allow the kindies to go to class by themselves in the morning while we supervise from the verandah.

The responsibility of going safely to and from class yourself is a huge step forward and a boost to confidence



Cardboard boxes are the basis of many a creation and we would like families to bring in (or bring back!) empty small boxes, please ensure that the boxes have not contained any nut products. We would also like small recycled items for craft such as lids from soft drink and milk bottles, ribbons, tubes (no toilet paper) and recycled paper is always needed. Birthday, Christmas cards, wrapping paper and tags are very popular as well and if your office has any non-confidential paper for recycling please bring it in.

Mornings

Many thanks for noting our start time of 7.30 and giving staff time to prepare rooms before entering in the morning. Remember—if your child is going to any activity, such as band, make sure they are sighted by a staff member who will then countersign the register. If your child is **NOT** attending OOSC but going straight to class you **may not** sign them in on our register., they must be marked as absent.

Do keep in mind that after 42 absences in the Financial Year, Centrelink may adjust your rebate.

Afternoon

All children must come directly to OOSC when the school bell has rung, please discuss this with your child. We countersign each child out to extra-curricular activities and check and sign their return to OOSC. Once again, if your child is going straight home and will not attend OOSC they **may not** be signed out on the register, but will be marked as absent.

A reminder—if a brother or sister under 18 yrs. is collecting your child we require a letter to hold in our files. Any person collecting from WPOOSC who is unknown to our staff will require photo I.D. and written or email notification from a parent. Please explain this to family and friends as we have had some unpleasant situations to deal with.

Absence

Unfortunately we repeat this point in every newsletter, but we are still having far too many unexplained absences. Please notify our office if your child will be absent. Staff are spending a huge amount of time calling parents. We will place a fine of \$10 on your account every time we have to call to check if a child has been taken home or was absent from school. We must also emphasize that **IT IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF WEST PYMBLE PUBLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION TO INFORM US OF ABSENCES.**

If your child is ill PLEASE keep them at home. It's too easy to spread germs.

Please remember that a full clear 24 hours is required after any vomiting or diarrhoea before returning to school.



The New Child Care Package

Starts 2 July 2018

THE NEW CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

On 2 July 2018 the Child Care Subsidy replaced the Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate.

- * The Child Care Subsidy is paid directly to services to be passed onto families.
- * There are also changes to the annual cap which will make child care more affordable for most families.
- * Three things determine a family's level of Child Care Subsidy:
 - * A family's annual adjusted taxable income determines the percentage of subsidy they are eligible for.
 - * An activity test determines how many hours of subsidised care families can access, up to a maximum of 100 per fortnight.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

APPLY FOR THE NEW CHILD CARE SUBSIDY

If you have been receiving CCB or CCR and haven't transitioned to the new subsidy yet, **you must do so now** by completing an online Child Care Subsidy assessment using your Centrelink online account through mygov.

Your information does not automatically rollover to the Child Care Subsidy and you may not receive any subsidy if your assessment is not completed.

Families who have yet to complete their Child Care Subsidy online assessment will have until **23 September 2018** to do so and subject to availability, your subsidy will be paid in arrears back to 2 July 2018.

What you need to do



Sign into your Centrelink online account through **myGov**



Select **Complete your Child Care Subsidy** assessment task.



Work through the steps to **provide new information** and **confirm** your current details.

ACCOUNTS

- All accounts are sent at the end of Week 2 of each term.
- Payment is due in full by Week 4.
- Term 3 accounts will be emailed by **Monday 6th August** with payment due by **Monday 20th August**.
- Emails come from our billing system **HUBWORKS**.
- If you have not received your emailed account please check your junk mail folder or come and see us, **please don't leave it until the account is overdue**.
- There are still some teething problems with the new Child Care Subsidy (CSS) so please email if you have any discrepancies on your account.
- If you need to prepare a payment plan please see Sonja de Jong.

OFFICE TIME & ENQUIRIES

We are generally happy to see you when you bring in and are collecting your child but at times we may be busy with other duties, so for a quick chat we can usually help you but for any issues that require a longer discussion please call and make an appointment.

Please avoid coming in the 10 minutes before school when we are busy with kindy group time as it is very distracting for the children and also just after the end of school bell we are focused on getting the children signed in and serving afternoon tea.