

TERM 3 2017

FAMILY NEWSLETTER



Spring
is here!



Welcome

The little hints of summer are evident, we're having hot days now and then, but the wind is keeping the temperatures down. We are STILL waiting for rain. Summer uniform is in and hats are needed EVERYDAY please.



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Families

During Term 3 we welcomed a new senior staff member, Jacqui Bonser. Jacqui replaced Kardina Perera as our Educational Leader. Jacqui's 10 year background in childcare and a Degree in Early Childhood Education is an absolute asset to our Centre. We also welcome Cody Profaca to our Educator Team, Cody attended WPOOSC as a pupil and a Duke of Edinburgh Volunteer. I must also compliment all of our staff on their high performance in implementing new procedures.

We began a new community relationship with a remote Aboriginal Community in Tingha. Tingha is a small town on the Northern Tablelands, of NSW, 630 kms north east of Sydney. We have initiated a pen pal exchange programme, a valued collection of toy and clothing donations and are raising awareness for our children of the difference in lifestyles for aboriginal children in remote communities. Big thanks to our families for their generosity, we have received very grateful feedback.

On the topic of a closer community project, we are thrilled to be able to assist in the creation of the new West Pymble Public School Garden. The Centre donated \$1520 towards the purchasing of supplies and each day we watch with interest as the pupils, guided by their teachers, create a beautiful garden.

During Term 4 we will have a presentation from a Centre parent and Ku-ring Gai Wildflower Garden Ranger, Jenny Edyejones. Jenny will host an interactive session with our children and exhibit some small animals. We will publish the date once confirmed.

We have a General Meeting of our Parent Committee and a Presentation by our Educational Leader on 1st November, details are further on in this Newsletter.

Details of our annual Christmas Party can also be found further down this Newsletter.

LEARNING
OUTCOME
3



Children
have a
strong
sense of
wellbeing



CONT: DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I have a couple of important items to mention

- From our office we frequently see concerning activity on Apollo Avenue outside the school gates. This road can be very busy at times, so please be vigilant when you enter and exit WPPS. Stay together, don't allow your children to cross unattended, encourage your children to stay on the pavement or hold your hand when crossing and always remember to use the car door on the pavement side.
- Enrolments for 2018. Thank for submitting your Registration Forms. We have a large demand for sessions in 2018 and will unfortunately have to operate a wait-list for some new requests. but as we move through Term 4 and parent's commitments settle we should free up more sessions. We will release confirmation of places on 17 November 2017.
- On the topic of sessions, we are experiencing an increased amount of cancellations for Term 4. This was discussed at our last committee meeting and the decision was made to set commitment for Term 4 to rollover into next year. This means that should you cancel during the term, rebooking of cancelled sessions will be considered new bookings and will be allocated according to the chronological waitlist. Our standard 2-week notice period applies.



Kind Regards
Sonja de Jong

A LETTER FROM OUR EDUCATIONAL LEADER

Hi Families,

My name is Jacqui, I joined WPOOSC at the beginning of Term 3 as the new Educational Leader. It has been absolutely wonderful joining the community! With incredible Educators, children and families we have been able to base the program on the interests, hobbies and knowledge of each other to develop a fun, meaningful and engaging program. Please review our *Learning Stories* on the notice board.

Our World has been a huge focus over the last couple of months with such a variety of interpretations evident both in the outdoor and indoor environment. Lots of questions were asked about geography, climates, food, racial identity and cultures. Everyone shared their culture through dramatic play and showed their value of caring for their natural environments with gardening. They used creative arts to explore worldly concepts of our universe, space and volcanos. Encouraging the children further we asked about their world and planned a range of activities. We used a map to illustrate our travels and experiences around the world, using string and paper we created a space where children can write their names next to other children who have been



to the same locations. This sparked wonderful conversations and discussions about their experiences, observations and cultures of that part of the world. They were encouraged to consider others traditions, way of life and the needs of others around our world.

Our Community -This was the birth place of our Tingha Collection. It has turned into an amazing opportunity for the children. Through the collection and the offer of friendship through pen pal cards the children are able to recognise how they can play a part in the world and make a difference, what a wonderful verification of their identity. Next term we are looking forward to hosting culture days, engaging in a range of food and activities from all over the world. If you would like to share your traditions and culture, we would love you to share them with us. We are happy to work with you to make this happen. It would be a wonderful opportunity for the children to share their identity and learn from you as we are each experts in our own culture.

Things that Fly—Things that fly was another exciting and common interest for the children in Term 3. Experimenting with their own ideas, the children used recycled items to create a “flying machine”. We created origami aeroplanes, helicopters and birds, we built a vinegar and bi-carbonate of soda rocket and a balloon rocket. We were blessed to have a few windy days this term, taking advantage, we made kites, they flew surprisingly high. Play with flying balls was extremely engaging, the children loved racing to see whose ball flew the furthest

Photography. - It has been a blessing to have so many helpers in documenting our program. There is a passion and talent for photography and allowing the children to take photos and create the Day Book has encouraged the children to reflect and value the activities they engage in at WPOOSC. We were amazed at the quality of photos taken. To show of their skills we created a photo gallery of their pictures. We will continue to support the children in their interest and skills in photography as they take more photos as add them to the gallery. If you have any special photos from your school holiday we would love to see them. In addition, our family photo board is growing – please send in a standard sized photo (10x15cm) of your family, the more the merrier, the children take great delight in identifying and describing cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents.

Stories and Performances, Creative Writing, Story Making, Script Writing, Performances, Puppetry and Filming - As educators we are so proud to see how creative the children are. This has been evident through a joy in performances and creative writing. With our own strengths and interest, we have been able to work together, some creating stories as others turn them into scripts before performing the stories through puppetry and animation videos. We are in the middle of this exciting exploration and we look forward to the continued work and production of our stories.



All the Best
Jacqui Bonser



FAMILY PHOTO WALL



Allergies & Asthma

To comply with regulation you need to update Action Plans annually and inform us of changes in your child's medical needs. All medication (even Ventolin in bags) requires a Medication Authorisation

Notice is given that a General Meeting of the members of West Pymble Out of School Care will be held at West Pymble Out of School Care, Apollo Avenue West Pymble

Wednesday 1st November at 730pm

This will take place after the 7pm presentation on the Centre's programming and values by our Educational Leader, Jacqui Bonser

Please come along, learn about roles and consider joining our committee



Save the Date

Christmas Party & Disco

Friday 24th November

6-8pm

DROP-OFF, COLLECTION & NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE

Mornings

Parents must sign and add the arrival time. Staff perform a mid session roll call, and sign the children out to school and extra-curricular activities.

Afternoon

All children must come directly to the hall COLA when the school bell has rung, staff will sign the children in and begin afternoon tea. For extra-curricular activities we sign each child out to and check return to OOSC. Staff perform a mid session roll call. Parents must sign out and add a departure time. Please discuss this with your child.

A reminder—if a brother or sister under 18 yrs. is collecting your child we require a formal letter to hold in our files. Collection by anyone unknown to staff requires photo I.D.

Absence

We have mentioned absences in every newsletter but are still having *ongoing unexplained absences*. It is vitally important to notify our office in writing if your child will be absent in the afternoon, an email is preferred.

We will accept a phone call or a phone message if absolutely necessary.

Staff are spending a huge amount of time calling parents, leaving messages and waiting for a call back. We will apply a charge of \$10 **EVERYTIME** 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.**

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.

For consultation and notification of new medical conditions please ring for an appointment.

Please avoid coming in at 9.00am, We are busy with kindy group time before school and it is very distracting for the children.

And again, on the end of school bell at 3.10pm, we are focused on afternoon tea and checking arrivals.

KINDY ROUTINES

Throughout the term ,the kindys have come directly to OOSC in the afternoons, we supervise arrivals and supply the class teachers with daily attendance lists.

On days that your child attends After School Care please remind them to come straight to the Centre when the school bell rings.

In the morning, the kindys continue to meet for group time at 9.00 and then walk to class when the bell rings.



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 egg, meat or nut products.*

We would also like small recycled items for craft such as lids from soft drink and milk bottles , ribbons, cardboard tubes (no toilet paper) egg boxes and recycled paper is always needed.

If your office has any non-confidential paper for recycling or you have changed logos and have surplus stationary please bring it in.

ACCOUNTS

Please remember that all accounts are due in advance for the term. Invoices are sent out each term in WEEK 2 and payment expected in full by WEEK 4 at the latest.

Make sure we have your CRN numbers so that you can receive CentreLink rebates. We prefer that you nominate Pay to Service with CentreLink.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have received your account. We send accounts, and messages, out from our HUBWORKS processing system, so please check they don't end up in your junk mail folder. Let us know promptly if you don't receive an invoice.

ANNUAL FAMILY REGISTRATIONS will be billed in TERM 1 of each year, all families new to the Centre will be billed on enrolment.