



Normanhurst West OOSH Newsletter

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From Fiona & Alex

We would like to welcome back all Normanhurst West OOSH families after the July school holidays, as well as welcome all new families starting at OOSH this term. We had a very fun, yet busy school holidays with excursions to Climb Fit Rock Climbing, the Australian Maritime Museum and Hornsby Westfield Cinemas. We also had some exciting visits from a Forensic Scientist, Samba extraordinaire 'Tom the Pom' and Puppetry making wiz Julie! We enjoyed spending quality time with all children and hoped they had some memorable and exciting experiences.

We have also been working hard on developing new policies and procedures in line with the new National Quality Framework and Regulations.



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New Purchases

We have made some exciting new purchases based on parent and child suggestions and in-line with the NQF. Over the next few weeks we will be trialing the use of two iPads at the centre. Time spent on the iPads will be monitored carefully and children will not have access to the internet or be able to add applications. Please speak to a staff member if you have any questions regarding the iPads.

Housekeeping

Staff News

We endeavor to speak to most parents as much as possible, but the nature of OOSH sometimes makes that hard. As we know that it is important for parents to know about the people that are looking after their children, we would like to focus on one of our staff members every month and let you know a little bit more about them. This will be starting in next month's newsletter.

We currently have 9 staff members who work regular shifts each week: Fiona (Coordinator), Alex (Coordinator), and casual staff members: Sam, Anna, Nick W., Alex H., Nick C., Katie and Madhu. We also have 4 relief staff members that generally come to us in vacation care and sometimes during the school term: Becky, Sophie, Lachy and Steve.

Notifications

We would like to remind all families that in the event of not notifying the centre if your child will be absent from a session, or not contacting the centre before sending your child to a session, a \$15 fee will be charged.

If your child attends an extra-curricular activity

before or after school on an OOSH day, parents must provide a letter giving permission for their child to attend. If the activity is directly after school, your child must come to OOSH and get their name marked off the roll before going to their activity. Upon returning, your child must let a staff member know they have arrived back at the centre.

Parents must inform a staff member if their child is to be picked up by someone who is not listed on their authorised collector's list.

Car Park

We would like to remind all families that the staff car park is only to be used before 8am and after 4:00pm. Between these hours the car park is used by school staff and can become quite congested. We appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

Internet Banking

We would also like to remind all parents that when making internet banking transfers, the payment description must include your parent code, parent surname, child(ren) names or initials. If your parent code is not included, your payment may not be allocated to your account. If you are unsure of your parent code, please see a staff member who will assist you.



New Website!

We are pleased to announce that we have a new website!

From the website you are able to access a range of helpful things, such as:

- Change of Booking Forms
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Payment Information
- Current Vacation Care Program plus Booking Form
- Monthly Newsletter

Please visit us at:
www.normanhurstwestoshc.com.au

AASC – Active Afterschool Communities

The Australian Government's Active After-school Communities (AASC) program is a national initiative that provides primary school children with access to free sport and other structured physical activity programs in the after-school time slot of 3.00pm to 5.30pm.

The program aims to engage traditionally inactive children in sport and other structured physical activities and through a positive and fun experience, develop a love of sport that inspires them to join a local sporting club.

So far this year we have had coaches in Rugby Union, Soccer, Frisbee and OzTag. We have been monitoring the children's participation in these activities and would like parents' assistance in encouraging children who normally would not engage in physical activity to have a go. We have found that children who participate really enjoy their time and are rewarded at the end of the term with a participation prize.

In term 3, we will be running AASC on Wednesday with T-ball and on Thursday with European Handball from 3:30 – 4:30pm. We like to encourage all children to participate during this time. If your child does not want to participate in AASC they will be allowed to engage in an alternative activity of either quiet reading or homework. We will continue to monitor this program to ensure the children are enjoying this time. If you or your child has an issue with participating in AASC or the alternate activities, please speak to staff at the centre.





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National Quality Framework

My Time, Our Place—Framework for School Age Care in Australia is part of the Council of Australian Government's reform agenda for childhood education and care and is a key component of the Australian Government's National Quality Framework for childhood education and care. It has been incorporated in the National Quality Standard in order to ensure delivery of nationally consistent and quality school age care across sectors and jurisdictions.

The Framework will ensure that children in school age care will have opportunities to engage in leisure and play-based experiences which are responsive to the needs, interests, and choices of the children attending the service and contribute fully to their ongoing development.

What does it mean for you?

For families at OOSH it means that you will notice some changes to our children's programs as well as policies and procedures. When making these changes we would love to include parent and child suggestions. We aim to have regular meetings with the children to gather suggestions and feedback on the important issues that include them, such as: afternoon tea, the buying of new equipment and our regular routines. Parents who wish to make suggestions or provide feedback can do so by submitting a form via the parent communication box located on the sign on table.



Party Ideas:

1 Big Red Fire Truck

Hire a Big Red Fire Truck for an amazing ride around town with John the Fireman. For more information go to www.bigredfireengerides.com.au

2 Cool Science

Love Science? Why not treat your friends to a science-themed party! A scientist will come to your house and show you all about robotics, space, forensics or dinosaurs. For more information go to www.fizzicseducation.com.au/Parties/children's-parties.html

3 Go Kart Party!

Want something different from a jumping castle? Go Kart's are your answer! An inflatable track can be set up in your own backyard and you will get hours and hours of riding fun! For more information go to www.gokartparty.com.au

4 Kids Go Crazy

Love to dance? Love to sing? A Kids Go Crazy Party is just for you! For more information go to www.kidzgokrazy.com.au/home.html