

The Junction Works

Holsworthy OOSH News

For parents and carers

Issue 9 ■ February 2016

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome all our new and returning families to The Junction Works Holsworthy OOSH for 2016. We look forward to working with all our families throughout the year.

It has been a busy start for 2016 with our After School Care at full capacity although we have a few vacancies in our Before School Care.

So far this year we have celebrated Shrove Tuesday with the children making and consuming pancakes, and Chinese New Year (Year of the Red Monkey) with the children making monkeys and creating Chinese New Year posters to display. The children have been very helpful in assisting in the preparation of our Afternoon Tea's.

National Quality Framework

In September 2015 the NSW Department of Education Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate conducted its first assessment and rating visit of Holsworthy OOSH and Vacation Care under the new National Quality Framework (NQF) requirements.

The NQF is the result of an agreement between all Australian governments to work together to provide better educational and developmental outcomes for children using education and care services.

The NQF introduces a new quality standard to improve education and care across long day care, family day care, preschool/kindergarten, and outside school hours care.

Our NQF Standards and Ratings report advised that we met five of the seven quality areas but were working towards National Quality Standards in two areas: curriculum and learning development outcomes and the understanding of child protection law and relevant obligations by all staff. Nevertheless, the report acknowledged our...

DATES & REMINDERS

April Vacation Care

Monday 11 April
to
Tuesday 26 April 2016



PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Good Friday 25 March

Easter Monday 28
March

ANZAC Day 25 April



PLEASE CHECK OUR LOST PROPERTY BASKET FOR MISSING ITEMS.

The lost property basket is emptied at the end of each month and unclaimed items are disposed of.



Preparing apricot balls
for afternoon tea

"...efforts to provide quality outcomes for children. The achievements in relationships with children and the leadership and management of the service are commended.

It is recommended that the Quality Improvement Planning notes throughout this report be used to update your service's Quality Improvement Plan and to prioritise plans for meeting the National Quality Standard. In particular plan for improved outcomes in educational program and practice."

Car Park Etiquette

We have had some issues with parents blocking the driveway to the carpark when dropping off or picking up their children. The carpark is a dangerous place for children and great care and respect is required at all times

When using the carpark Parents are urged to:

- park their vehicle in the parking spaces provided before dropping off or picking up their child(ren)
- refrain from parking in or blocking the driveway
- be observant of vehicles entering and exiting the carpark while walking to and from the car park, especially with children in tow

Vacation Care News

Considering the unpredictable weather, our **Summer Vacation Care** program ran well. The activities that seemed to rate the highest with the children were the Social Skills Drama class, Water Play Day (yes, the children enjoyed having the opportunity to get the staff wet as well as themselves!) and the Make-over Pamper Fun Day which was as popular with the boys as the girls.

The Crazy Scientist proved to be an interesting activity with the children having the opportunity to experiment with cannons and rockets.

We are currently in the process of organising the **April School Holiday** plan.

Some of the activities we are considering include OOSH in the Bush run by Centennial Parklands; Boot Camp Army where we send the children on a fitness frenzy and Plaster Making Day where the children can let their creative side take over to make their own plaster master pieces.

We are always interested in hearing what our families have to say about our programming so if you have any ideas, suggestions, feedback please feel free to discuss this with staff.

Did you know that our weekly programs are displayed on the notice board for families to have a look at?



We also display a daily activity book in the foyer. The children select photos which staff have taken and create a display page of activities which have taken place during that day.

Medical Information and Your Child

If your child has an allergy or health condition, it is your responsibility to obtain a letter from your doctor that outlines the diagnosis, symptoms and ways in which the staff at Holsworthy OOSH and Vacation Care can effectively assist your child in managing their condition/allergy.

All self-medicating children must sign the appropriate form.

Children with anaphylaxis, severe allergies and asthma must also have a written plan with a current photo attached. Please see staff if requiring assistance with this.

Your Child's Diet

When developing our menus we take into consideration a range of food allergies. Our menus are displayed on parent board.

If you find that your child cannot eat the food, is a fussy eater or you do not want them consuming certain foods on offer, then you are also welcome to pack extra food for your child. Please don't hesitate to talk with staff about our menus, food ideas or foods your child is not able to eat.

What our OOSH Kids Think

Each newsletter we would like to include comments and articles from the children who attend The Junction Works Holsworthy OOSH and Vacation Care.

As part of our on-going NQF Improvement Plan we see the opinion of the children we care for as the most important aspect of maintaining a quality service. The kid's section is letting you know just what your children *really think*.

Q. What do you like about OOSH?

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Angelina T | I like how there is different activities every day. |
| Bella- Rose C | I like playing with my friends and trying new foods and activities |
| Joshua G | I like playing sharks |
| Charlotte S | I like playing outside in the playground, playing Monopoly and dancing |
| Everest P | I love playing on the computers and playing Lego |
| Brianna G | I like when we paint, playing on the monkey bars and playing outside. |
| Skye M | I get to play outside and I like all different afternoon teas |



Being creative with paint

Liam O

I like playing outside with my friends. We play sharks and the computer. The best thing I like is the whole centre.

Kareem O

I like playing outside with my friends Liam, playing bull rush, playing on the monkey bars, playing army, playing on the computer

Thinking about the Autumn School Holidays?

Holsworthy OOSH and Vacation Care provides a cost effective, stimulating vacation care program for primary school children on either a daily or weekly basis.

With a great range of indoor and outdoor activities, incursions and excursions, Holsworthy Vacation Care will ensure your children enjoy the holidays.

April Vacation Care

11 April to 26 April 2016

Vacation Care Fees are required to be paid in full by 11 April 2016.

Call Amanda Scerri on 9825 3080 for further details.

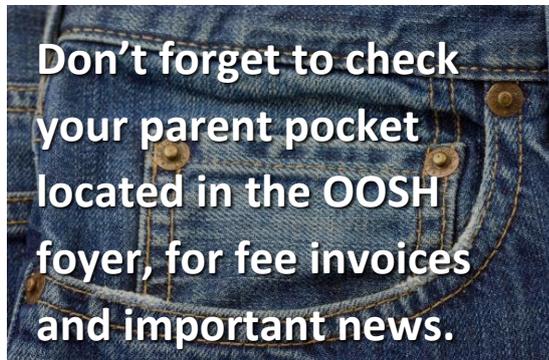
Have you seen the Raising Children website?

There are a number of great resources for parents relating to behaviour, health and wellbeing, communicating, development, technology and school.

It covers all early life stages from pregnancy to teens.

Take a look at

<http://raisingchildren.net.au/>



Forgotten to pay your OOSH Fees?

Our Child Care fees cover the cost of staff, consumables, utilities and other costs incurred in the provision of the service. Late fees severely impacts on our cash flow.

Fees need to be paid two weeks' in advance.

THE LAST WORD!

Feedback, feedback, feedback!!!

If there is something about our centre, or if you have a great idea, great afternoon tea idea or would like to see something changed or added to the program...don't hesitate to tell us or write it down and pop it in the Parents' Suggestion Box on the Sign in Counter.

All suggestions are welcome and appreciated.

You can also provide feedback through our dedicated email address at feedback@thejunctionworks.org