



## Gosford Children's Services

Term 2 2018

### Welcome back to Term 2

After a great Vacation Care we are happy to see everyone's friendly face again. This term we will be doing a mini project on The Zoo/ Jungle. We will be focusing on some of the children's favourite animals, learning some interesting facts about those animals and then following up with animal related craft experiences. If you have visited the zoo or any kind of animal park and have some photos we would love to see them. So far we have had children visit, Singapore Zoo, Rome Zoo, Thailand Zoo, The Reptile Park, Taronga Zoo, Bali Safari & Marine Park and Hamilton Island Koala Park. We will be printing the photos that you send in colour and posting them on the wall at the service. We're hoping to build on the children's sense of belonging within the service by having their family photos on display.

### Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

The Biggest Morning Tea is an annual event that is run by Coast Community Connections at the Peninsula Community Centre, Woy Woy. This year it is being held on Thursday 24 May 10am-12.30pm. Come along for some fun activities, morning tea and raise some money for a great cause. There will be raffles happening all day and it's a good chance to relax and catch up with friends, maybe you could enter the cupcake challenge. Grab a flyer and check it out.

### Non Notification Fee

Please make sure that you notify staff when your child will not be at After School Care. We currently have approximately 5 families per day who we have to contact to locate missing children. This makes our transition from school to After School Care quite hectic as a staff member is taken off the floor to make these calls. You will be charged the Non Notification Fee if you have to be contacted in this regard.

### Staffing

Loren Sultana, our Children's Services Manager will be away this term as she celebrates her wedding and enjoys a relaxing honeymoon. Congratulations Loren and Ryan! While Loren is on leave Emma Shepherd will be stepping into this role. Emma will be replaced by staff from our pool of casual educators.

## Afternoon Snack Ideas

If you have any suggestions for our afternoon snack we would love to hear them, we love incorporating the children's suggestions and ideas into our weekly menu. Please see our Suggestion Box near our Sign in an out area. We will be uploading our menus each week to Appessment for you to review and give feedback.

## Feedback

Thank you to all the families who provide us with feedback whether it's via a conversation in the morning or afternoon or a more formal email, we really appreciate all forms of feedback. We take all feedback on board and use it to make positive improvements to our service

## Appessment

This app provides families the opportunity to be a part of their child's learning by viewing their documented development. Families are able to like and comment on our documentation, provide feedback through the forms we send out and are provided with notices relating to the care of your child/ren or upcoming parenting courses. (N.Q.F 6.1.2) We have noticed a large number of families who have not accepted our invites to access their child's account. Over the next two weeks we will be resending this invitation which is linked to your email address. Please advise our staff if you are having any issues with your invitation.

## Programs

We are looking at ideas for the next school holidays so please let staff know if your child has an interest in an activity and we will try to incorporate it into the program. Also if your child has a particular interest at school or home we would love share this with the other children and incorporate it into our Before and After School Care Program.

## Donations

We are always on the lookout for donations of any toys, games, dress ups. If you have unwanted toys or equipment we would be very grateful of the donation.

## Operating Hours

Just a friendly reminder that during the school term our Centre opens at 6.30am and closes at 6.30pm daily. We are not licensed to offer care before and after these hours.

## Child Care Subsidy Changes

As you should be aware, we have some changes coming to the way our Services receives your subsidy payments from Centrelink. As of July 2 both your Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate payments will be paid directly to your Child Care Service. Please check Appessment and your email inbox for regular updates on the steps you need to complete to be ready for the roll out on July 2. You will need to get on to the My Gov app and confirm your details and current bookings as well as complete the Activity Test to determine what percentage and how many hours of subsidy you are entitled to. Please note that if you do not accept your child's bookings on the My Gov app your eligibility will not be sent to your Child Care Service. Any family who do not accept their booking we will have their fees charged at the full rate need until this has been completed. Please visit their website (<https://www.education.gov.au/ChildCarePackage>) or talk to a supervisor on site for more information.

## Signing In and Out of the Service

All children must be signed in on the roll at entry to the Centre every time they arrive and must be signed out of the Centre as they leave each day. This is a Department of Education & Community requirement as well as necessary for the safety of all children in the event of an emergency evacuation drill or in the event of a necessary evacuation.