



Thornleigh West OOSH Newsletter

TERM 1
2025





Acknowledgement of Country

We'd like to acknowledge and pay respect to the Dharug nation as the traditional custodians of the land that we play, learn and work on, as well as pay respect to elder past, present and emerging.

Our Vision for Reconciliation

At Thornleigh West OOSH, we acknowledge the Dharug Nation, who have continued to nurture and care for the Land on which our service stands since long before the service was established. We wish to embrace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past, present and emerging.

We are a diverse community and want to respectfully respond to and care for Country by knowing that it is growing and changing. We aim to work collaboratively with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to learn from their knowledge and perspectives, and to respectfully share learnings among children, educators and the wider community.

Our vision is to meaningfully embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures into our everyday program and practices. We aim to plan and provide respectful experiences that explore fairness, justice and equity. We understand that our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is a living document, that is constantly growing, and we are committed to continuous learning throughout this process.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 1 Concludes
Friday 11th April



Vacation Care dates
Monday 14th - Tuesday 29th April



Term 2 Commences
Wednesday 30th April 2025

TWOOSH Committee Meeting
Tuesday 13th May 2025



Family FRY-DAY Breakfast
Friday 16th May 2025



Winter Vacation Care
Program out – Monday 2nd June 2025
Bookings open – Monday 9th June 2025



From the Director's Desk

What a great start it's been to 2025! We had a wonderful turn out to the AGM and have welcomed our new Parent Management Committee for 2025-26, both new and returning members.

We have some big changes, coming up for both the service and myself personally! As I am expecting my first baby, I will be heading off on maternity leave for 12 months as of the 9th of May. During my absence, our wonderful Assistant Directors Bec & Kodie will be stepping in as your point of contact and to guide the service through the next 12 months!

As we look ahead, we shift our focus to ensuring a smooth transition for TWOOSH throughout navigating the changes to OOSH license agreements. If you would like have your say or keep in the know with this transition, we strongly recommend you come along to the TWOOSH committee meetings or join/ become a financial/voting member of the Thornleigh west P&C.

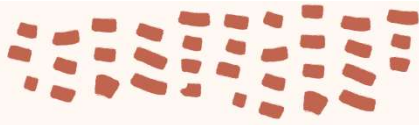
Our next TWOOSH committee meeting will take place on Tuesday the 13th of May in the school library, but we will also have a zoom link available.

I'm so grateful for the support and well wishes I have received, we are so lucky to have such an amazing community at Thornleigh West, I will miss you all during my time away and hope to see some of you if I pop in for visits, if not, I look forward to seeing you when I return!

If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please contact the team at any time! All the best!

Courtney





2025-26 TWOOSH Parent Management Committee

Thank you to all those families who attended our AGM. It was great to see so much support from our TWOOSH community. We would also like to thank those who nominated for positions, both new and returning members.

Welcome to the 2025-26 Parent Management Committee!

President: Jessica Sukkar

Vice President: Hannah Buckley-Duong

Secretary: Rebecca Mercieca-Bebber

Treasurer: Position Vacant

General members: Jo Prados-Valerio, Bernie Underwood, Suzanne Lewis, Rachelle Huynh, Nardi l'Anson & Taryn-Leigh Burgess

From the Educational Leader's Desk

Well didn't Term 1 just fly by!

Our new kindies have been so excited, participating across all areas of our program and have been settling in wonderfully! They have been engaging in educator led activities in the oosh room after roll call which has assisted in their transitions and built upon their confidence and social capabilities.

We have enjoyed the company of family and community members who have joined us in our programs, which is wonderful to see. The children love being apart of these experiences and we value our family connections so if you have a talent or wish to participate in any capacity, please let us know!

Other aspects of our programs this term have included Harmony week, celebrating cultural diversity and inclusion and Games week where the children had opportunities to build upon their sportsmanship, fairness and social aspects.

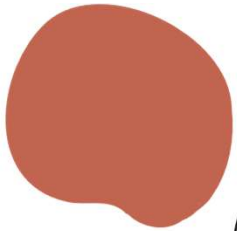
Upcoming events for Term 2

- *Star Wars Day – 4th May*
- *Mother's Day – 11th May*
- *Reconciliation Week - 27th May-3rd June*
- *World Environment Day – 5th June*
- *NAIDOC Week – 7th-14th July*

We love family feedback and involvement so, if you have any hidden talents (play a musical instrument, love cooking or painting for example) please reach out via email or pop in for a chat, the children absolutely love having visitors at OOSH!



Kodie



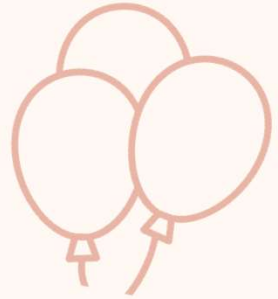
Term 1 Educators of the Month



Evie



February



Ashlin



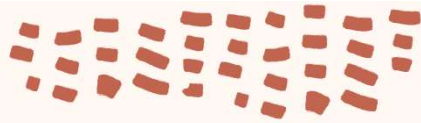
March

BSC Program



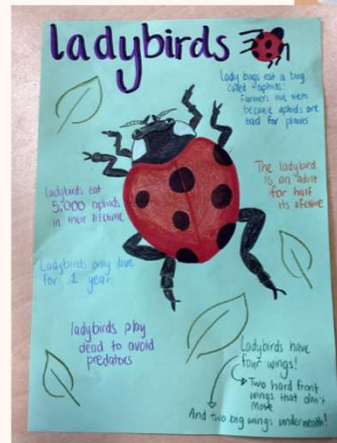
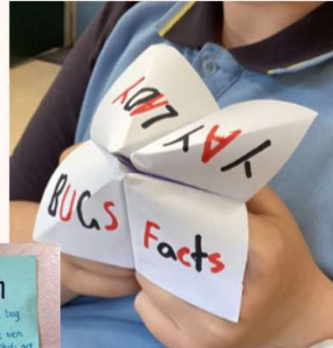
Welcome to OOSH

Creative freedom flowed with an array of resources to create a welcome banner for our new students. The children worked in partnership and expressed their positive outlook of what its like at oosh through their discussions and how we can make our new students feel welcome!



Lady Bug Research

Upon finding ladybugs in our garden, conversations arose and research began. Ladybug chatterboxes were created filled with ladybug facts. This was a very positive environment with great discussions and fun conversations about ladybugs, the environment, and various "buggy" topics!



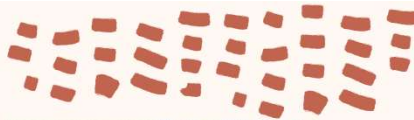
Family Flowers

In celebration of Harmony Week, and who belongs in our family we discussed our family structures so we could figure out how many petals we needed to make our family flower. We then wrote out each name on the paddle pop sticks and glued them down to complete our flower!

Junior Program

Dance Parties

The juniors loved to get their bodies moving during our arvo dance parties! They were able to shake out all their energy in a creative and collaborative way through their choreographed dances routines! The senior year groups also enjoyed watching the juniors perform their dances and even joined in!



Recycled Racetracks

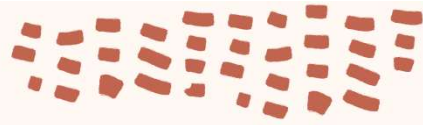
This term the juniors have been absolutely obsessed with our monster trucks and hot wheels cars! They even created a super impressive racetrack made from only recycled materials to add to their imaginative play! Everyone exhibited fantastic teamwork, sustainability and creativity skills, constructing, painting and then sharing their newest addition to their collection!



Homemade Orange Juice!

The juniors had a blast in the kitchen this term! They displayed amazing problem-solving skills & initiative, making homemade juice using our left-over oranges from the week!





Senior Program

Bubble Painting

The children have been loving sensory crafts and trying new things and bubble painting was no exception! The children engaged in a creative and sensory experience as they explored painting with bubbles. They eagerly mixed paint with dishwashing liquid, using straws to blow colorful bubbles onto paper, creating unique and unpredictable patterns.



Bounce!

The seniors really utilized the basketball court before construction began. A big favourite this term has been bounce, an activity which they will go out and play nearly every day!

Bliss Balls

Bliss balls is one of the forever favourites for our children, there is almost always enough for seconds and there are so many varieties! Making bliss balls is a gentle way for children to practise cooking skills such as measuring, mixing and forming dough into shape!





Family Involvement!

Jess, Kevin's mum, came in to share the art of Chinese Calligraphy with us. The children showed great interest and were eager to participate as Jess taught them how to write Australia, and numbers 1-10 in Chinese!





Community Engagement!

This sewing activity was led by Cohar's friend Hrip, who shared her knowledge and passion for sewing. Through this experience the children learned basic sewing techniques and the importance of following steps, creativity in design, and the value of making something by hand!





Family Involvement!

Arya's mum Katy, visited us to celebrate Nowruz with the children, introducing them to Persian culture through a special cooking activity. Together, they prepared a traditional biscuits dish, engaging their fine motor skills as they measured, mixed and shaped ingredients.



In The OOSH Kitchen

Baked Hash Browns



Ingredients

- 1 bag hash brown potatoes
- 100 g sliced green onions (optional)
- 50 g grated parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cracked pepper
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

•Note – we made ours with fresh grated potatoes!

Method:

1. Defrost the potatoes overnight in the fridge. This is a key step! If you forget, simply place the frozen bag of shredded potatoes into a bowl of cold water.
2. Spray your non-stick muffin tins with coconut oil non-stick spray.
3. Press potatoes really dry, this helps them crisp and avoids soggy hash browns. You can use a salad spinner to dry them, clean kitchen dish towels, paper towels, or a piece of cheese cloth. Squeeze to remove all the excess liquid. Dry them really well so you don't see much moisture. Again, the key to this recipe is you don't want much liquid in them.
4. Once defrosted and dry, transfer the potatoes into a large bowl, and add green onions, parmesan cheese, sea salt, cracked pepper, and olive oil. Stir until well combined.
5. Scoop into well-sprayed muffin tin and distribute the potato mixture in each in an even layer. Press down just a little bit, this helps them form their shape and bake.
6. Bake 45 minutes at 400 degrees until crispy.
7. Store leftovers (if any!) in the fridge and reheat in the microwave. These make a great on the go breakfast for school or work and can be served with dinner too!

In The OOSH Kitchen

Apple Turnovers

Ingredients

- 2 cups small diced (peeled) apples
- 1 Tablespoon brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 Tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 (17.3-oz.) package frozen puff pastry (2 sheets), thawed
- Flour, for dusting work surface
- 1 large egg, whisked



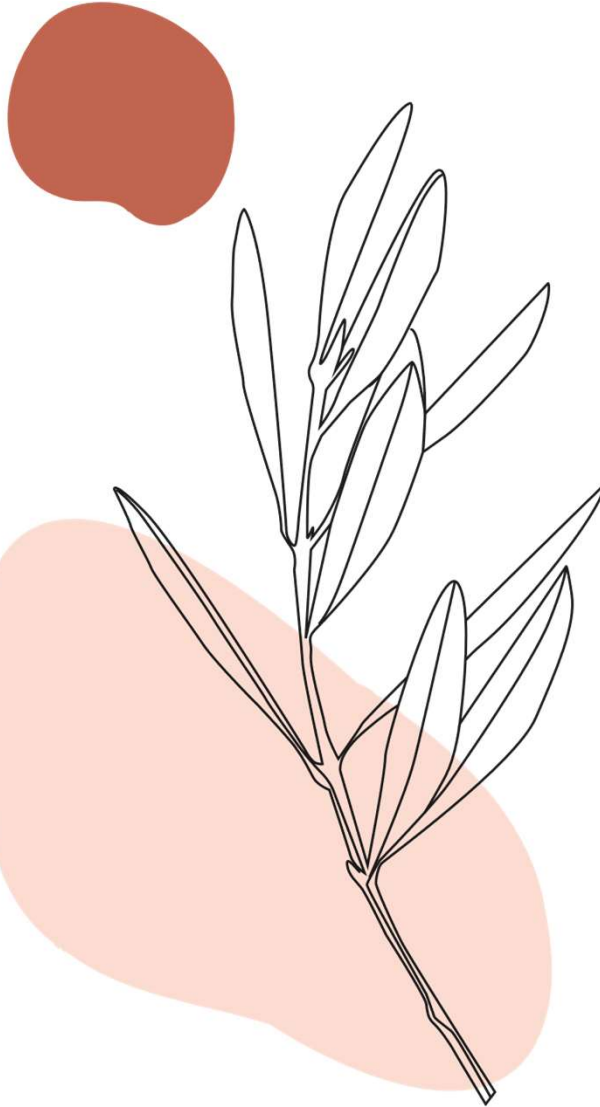
Method

1. Preheat the oven to 400°F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper
2. In a large bowl, stir together the apples, brown sugar, cinnamon and lemon juice
3. Unfold the puff pastry sheets onto a lightly floured work surface. Using a rolling pin, gently roll over the pastry to seal any perforations then cut each sheet into 4 squares
4. Using a slotted spoon, scoop a portion of the apple mixture into the center of each puff pastry square then fold the pastry across diagonally to form triangles. Using a fork, crimp together the edges then transfer the turnovers to the prepared baking sheets, spacing them at least 2 inches apart.
5. Cut three small slits in the tops of each turnover then brush them with the egg. Sprinkle the turnovers with the sanding sugar (optional).
6. Bake the turnovers for 17 to 20 minutes or until they're golden brown and puffed. Transfers the turnovers to a rack to cool then serve warm or at room temperature.

Autumn/Winter MENU

MENU – Autumn/Winter 2025

Breakfast	Wholemeal toast, raisin toast, oats, cereal or yoghurt.		On occasion: fresh fruit, pancakes			
Drinks	Water or milk will be available, on occasion milo milk in the mornings					
Fruit	4.30pm - mixed platter of fruit. Including apples, pears, melons, oranges, and other seasonal fruit					
Afternoon Menu						
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week A	3-3.30pm Afternoon tea	Wholemeal cheese toasties & fruit	Meat free Bolognese scrolls and veggie sticks	Anzac biscuits and fruit	Gozleme melts and veggie sticks	Meat free lasagne and veggie sticks
	5.30pm Late snack	Food from cooking activity	Food from cooking activity	Food from cooking activity	French onion dip and carrot sticks	Popcorn and capsicum sticks
Week B	3-3.30pm Afternoon tea	Wholemeal apple and peach crumble and fruit	Pizza scrolls and veggie sticks	Veggie pasta bake & veggie sticks	Wholemeal scones with jam/ cream, and fruit	Wholemeal cheese toasties, veggie sticks
	5.30pm Late snack	Jatz and cheese	Food from cooking activity	Popcorn and cucumber sticks	Food from cooking activity	Food from cooking activity
Week C	3-3.30pm Afternoon tea	Blueberry muffins and fruit	Muesli slice and fruit	Butter chickpeas & Veggie sticks	Mixed berry crumble bars and fruit	Savoury popcorn & veggie sticks
	5.30pm Late snack	Food from cooking activity	Popcorn and dried fruit	Food from cooking activity	Food from cooking activity	Jatz and cheese
Week D	3-3.30pm Afternoon tea	Brown fried rice, spring rolls, veggie sticks	Banana, apricot and date oat bars	Herb/garlic bread with hummus and veggie sticks	Meat free Bolognese bake and tomato wedges	Spinach & cheese scrolls with veggie sticks
	5.30pm Late snack	Mexican dip & Sakatas	Food from cooking activity	Food from cooking activity	Hummus & Sakatas	Food from cooking activity





RAP- Reconciliation Action Plan

Why we have a RAP:

The TWOOSH RAP has recently been republished through Narragunnawali, this is a 'living document' which outlines our actions and goals for reconciliation.

Reconciliation is a complex term that means different things to many people. It can be considered a contestable term as it implies an inherent or initial 'conciliation'. However, in acknowledging the truths of colonial Australia's relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, it becomes clear that this relationship has been historically characterised by a number of injustices, such as physical violence, forced dispossession of traditional lands, separations of families and over and unapologetic racism.

Drawing from diverse perspectives around reconciliation and drawing on both national and international research, the landmark The State of Reconciliation in Australia report found that, at its core, reconciliation comprises five integral and interrelated dimensions: historical acceptance, race relations, equality and equity, institutional integrity and unity. Engaging with Narragunnawali and working with our RAP provides an opportunity for our centre and OOSH community to weave these dimensions together in positive and practical ways, and to harness the powerful role that education has to play within our reconciliation journey.

This term we have been learning about the 8ways learning pedagogy which originates from Western New South Wales and incorporates knowledges from the Baakindji, Ngiyampaa, Yuwaalaraay, Gamilaraay, Wiradjuri and Wangkumarra nations. We have incorporated this in our programming and taking it into account when we plan and reflect on activities and experiences.

To have a look at our published RAP you may go to Narragunnawali and search Thornleigh West OOSH!

Xplor Home

- View your child's participation in the program, photos, etc
- View any incident reports of health records for your child
- Sign in and out from OOSH – Contactless!
- Request casual places
- Mark absences
- View/update your billing details
- Add Pick up contacts so they can sign your child in/out
- Receive important communication from OOSH to your device. This includes VAC releases, changes, updates, closures, emergencies, etc



REMEMBER:

Turn on your notification settings for Xplor, so you don't miss any important notices that may affect your family/child

Please ensure privacy is maintained, please do not screen shot or share photos containing other children.