



Thornleigh West OOSH Newsletter

TERM 1
2023





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.



What a great start it's been to 2023! We had a wonderful turn out to the AGM and have welcomed out new Parent Management Committee. Both new and returning members.

Term 1 began with a bang as we received our Notice of Assessment & Rating and undertook that process throughout the term.

I'm personally very grateful to have been offered the role of the permanent director at TWOOSH, and I am very excited about the year ahead.

As we look ahead, we shift our focus to ensuring a smooth transition for TWOOSH throughout navigating the changes to OOSH license agreements.

Discussions will commence on this topic at the Special general meeting on Thursday the 27th of April at 8:00pm via zoom.

As always we have been so grateful for all your support, if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please contact us at any time!



Courtney

From the Director's Desk

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 1 commences:
Wednesday 26th April



TWOOSH Special General meeting:
Thursday 27th April - 8:00pm



Committee meetings:
Monday 22nd May
Monday 19th June



Last day of term:
Friday 30th June



July Vacation Care
Monday 3rd July

2023 Parent Management Committee

2023 TWOOSH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEET OUR TEAM



ADAM BIVIANO
PRESIDENT



MICHELLE KOO
VICE PRESIDENT



ANNE ROUGHLEY
TREASURER



HANNAH BUCKLEY-DUONG
SECRETARY

MEERA SEEMAMPILLAI
GENERAL MEMBER



JO PRADOS-VALERIO
GENERAL MEMBER



EMMA FENTON
GENERAL MEMBER



CONTACT THE COMMITTEE AT TWOOSHCOMMITTEE@OUTLOOK.COM

Thank you to all our families who attended our Annual AGM to select the incoming Parent Management Committee. This team of dedicated parents work alongside our TWOOSH team to ensure our service is a fun, safe and engaging place for all children.

From the Educational Leader's Desk

Well, 2023 is well and truly here! Term 1 is officially done and dusted and what an excellent term we had here at OOSH!

Theme weeks across the term included Science Week and our ever favourite, Senior's week, where the Seniors showed fantastic leadership skills guiding the younger children through a range of activities. Family FRY-Day was a hit as always and we absolutely love seeing all our wonderful families enjoy a slow start to the morning over breakfast.

We also had a great ongoing project with our Junior children making a papier mache volcano! Look out for this a little bit further in the newsletter!

A highlight from the Before School Care program this term was the development of the live NRL ladder in the OOSH room! This was due to increasing interest in the NRL and establishing who the best team is (the Rabbitohs) and is updated every Monday after each round of the comp. It has been a great way to engage the children and they've even started playing footy on the oval more frequently! Additionally, Science week had us experimenting with bridge building, potions and even making crystals! They were an energetic way to kick off the school day!

Upcoming events for Term 2:

- ANZAC Day – 25th April
- Star Wars Day – 4th May
- Cinco de Mayo – 5th May
- Mother's Day – 14th May
- Reconciliation Week 27th May-3rd June
- NAIDOC Week – 2nd-9th July

We love children and family suggestions, so if your children have anything that they would like to share with us during these weeks, please feel free to bring their show and tell in...or if there is a particular craft, sport or cooking activity that they would like to be involved in, please email us or come and have a chat.



Bec

Assessment & Rating (A&R) – We are “Exceeding”!

TWOOSH has just undergone the mandatory A&R process. In brief, this involved the team submitting a Self-Assessment document, followed by a visit from an authorised officer from the Department of Education where we were assessed against the National Quality Standards (NQS), set by ACECQA. NQS sets a national benchmark for the quality of children’s education and care services across Australia.

We are super excited and proud that TWOOSH has been rated as **Exceeding** National Quality Standard under the National Quality Framework. An overall rating of Exceeding NQS is given to services that go above and beyond the requirements of the NQS in at least four of the seven quality areas. TWOOSH was rated as going above and beyond in **six out of the seven** quality areas.

This is an exceptional achievement under the new rating system, demonstrating the high quality of care provided at TWOOSH. We are one of the rare OOSH services in the local area who has risen to meet the demands of the revised rating system, enabling us to maintain our Exceeding status – this is a phenomenal outcome definitely worth celebrating!

For more information on the assessment and rating process please see the link below
<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/assessment/assessment-and-rating-process>



Assessment & Rating

Assessor's Feedback

"Your service is acknowledged for its achievements in Exceeding the National Quality Standard and striving for quality outcomes for children. In particular, the positive and responsive relationships with children, their families and embedding a professional and collaborative team culture, focused on continued improvement. Educators are also acknowledged for their commitment to the inclusion of all children and the development of exceptional practices in this area."

'Your service really blew me away, your care and support for families is unmatched'

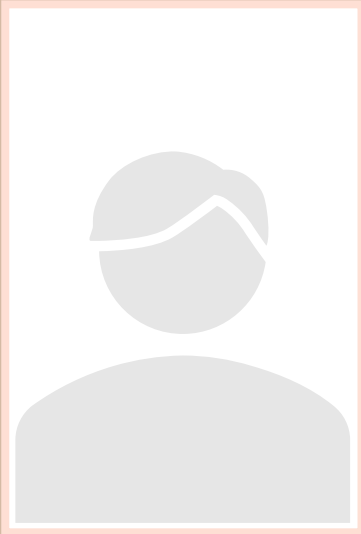
'All the educators' interactions with children are exceptional, [the] children are at the centre of everything you do'



New OOSH Educators

Welcome to our new TWOOSH educators:

James



Adam



Ella-Rose



New OOSH Educators

Welcome to our new TWOOSH educators:

Ysobel



Monica



Term 1 Educators of the Month

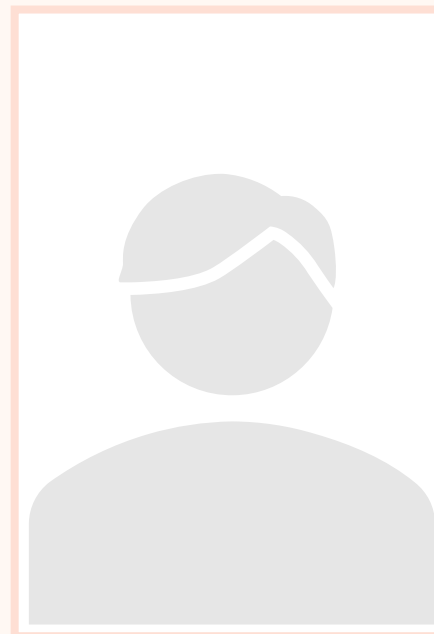


Zoe

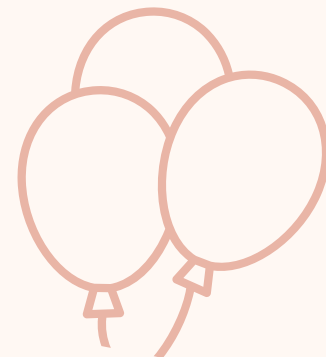


February

James

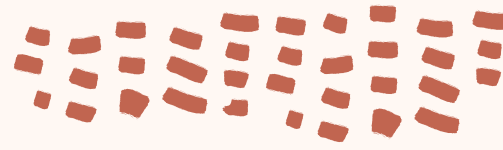


March



A GLIMPSE AT TERM 1





JNR Volcano Experiment

Our Kindy & Year 1 children had an excellent time working on their Volcano experiment over the course of 4 weeks this term. It started from some keen interest in how to make a volcano erupt, so the programming team decided to put the children to the task! First creating the volcano out of Papier Mache (which was a process in itself), then painting the volcano, followed by the heavily anticipated Eruption day! Having an ongoing project worked well as the children could take part in the process from start to finish.





BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

During Science Week, the children used paddle pop sticks, recycled materials and sticky tape to construct bridges and see what items they could hold! Some children decided to work collaboratively with others to make one shared bridge and other children decided to work individually. This activity supported the children's fine motor development as well as their creative and problem-solving skills. Once the construction of the bridge was complete, the children then tested the strength. They found different objects from around the room that differed in weights and placed them on top of their bridges. This allowed them to reflect on the construction/design of their bridge and assess whether it could be built differently to hold certain amounts of weight.

Years 2-3

Craft



Beading was a wonderful way for the children to relax after a long day of school! We had given them the chance to create little jellyfish using our beaded creations and cupcake patty pans, but lots of the children opted to create their own designs instead. Allowing the children to choose in this way strengthens their autonomy and provides an outlet for their creativity and imagination. We saw lots of variety in shapes, patterns and colours. The children made bracelets, keychains, necklaces and other wonderful creations.

Cooking



The children did an amazing job making dumplings for our late snack! They did so well completing each step of the cooking process. They beat eggs, sliced shallots, added ingredients to the main mixture and carefully separated and folded wonton wrappers to add ingredients. This activity extended their fine motor skills and their knowledge of cooking. Well done boys!!

Seniors Week!

This term we had the return of Seniors week! Seniors week gives the older children an opportunity to collaborate, create & lead activities for the younger children. The senior children form their own groups & choose a sport, craft or cooking activity to run. Here is a snapshot of making brownies & rocket ships with the younger children!



In The OOSH Kitchen

Top Afternoon Tea

Beetroot & Hummus Dip with Garlic/Herb bread & veggie sticks



Ingredients

- Lebanese bread
- Olive oil
- Garlic
- Mixed herbs
- Butter beans
- Baby beetroot
- Greek Yoghurt
- Hummus
- Carrots
- Cucumber

Method:

1. Cut up the Lebanese bread into triangles and mix the olive oil, garlic and mixed herbs and brush the mixture on the bread
2. Bake in the oven at 180° for 10 minutes
3. Blend the butter beans, baby beetroot & Greek yoghurt together to achieve desired consistency.
4. Chop up the carrots and cucumbers into sticks
5. Serve the garlic bread with beetroot and hummus dip and veggie sticks

AUTMN/WINTER MENU

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

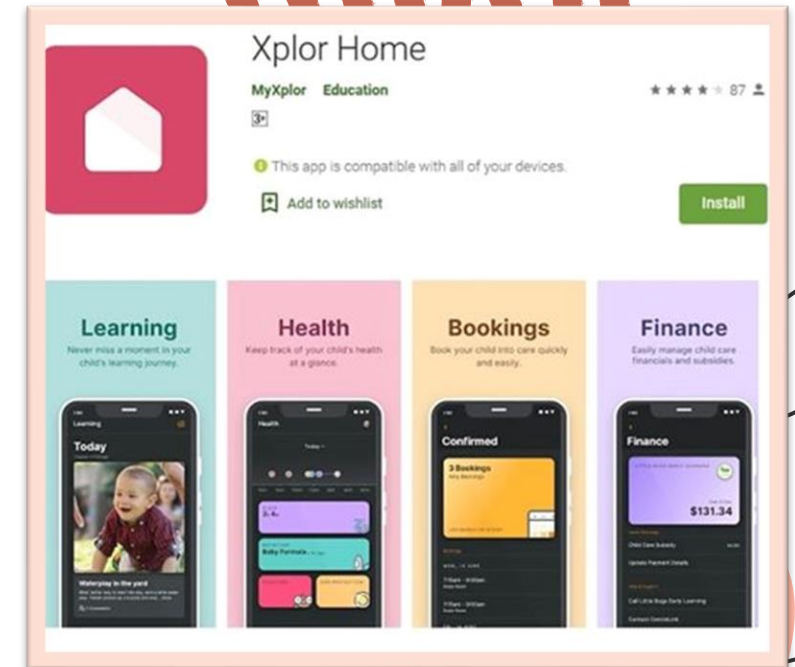
Afternoon Menu

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week A	3-3.30pm Afternoon tea	Wholemeal cheese toasties & fruit	Meat free bolognaise 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 crumble, OOSH made custard, 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	Brown rice sushi and veggie sticks	Muesli slice and fruit	Sweet potato/ lentil rolls, veggie sticks	Mixed berry crumble bars and fruit	Savoury popcorn & veggie sticks
	5.30pm Late snack	Food from cooking activity	Mexican dip & sakatas	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	Sweet corn/veg slice & veggie sticks	Herb/garlic bread with hummus and veggie sticks	Meat free bolognaise bake and tomato wedges	Lemon slice & fruit
	5.30pm Late snack	Mexican dip & Sakatas	Food from cooking activity	Food from cooking activity	Hummus & Sakatas	Food from cooking activity



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.

TWOOSH Commitment to Child Safety

TWOOSH is committed to ensuring the safety of children and young persons when attending our service. We are also committed to safeguarding the interests and promoting the dignity and rights of children and young persons who attend our service. This includes vulnerable persons.

TWOOSH has zero tolerance for child abuse and utilises reporting systems to respond to and report allegations of child abuse in a timely manner.

TWOOSH further states:

- We have a commitment to a culture of safeguarding where children and young persons are happy, safe and feel empowered.
- We have a commitment to comply with legal requirements such as those required under the *Children Guardian Act 2019*.
- A commitment that our staff aim to protect the rights of children and young persons in their care.
- A commitment to listen to the voice of children and young persons and utilise approaches to assist them to be heard, as well as ensuring they feel empowered.
- A commitment that our leaders understand and oversight the safeguarding in the organisations.
- A commitment to provide our staff with appropriate training in key safeguarding areas such as supervision, interaction with children and young people, conflict de-escalation and managing difficult behaviours. This training is regularly provided and updated.
- A commitment to have Policies and Procedures which give effect to the approach to safeguarding.
- We use a risk based approach to manage safeguarding responsibilities.
- A commitment to utilise a complaints system which allows persons to raise concerns, be supported and which ensures a consistent process is followed to manage complaints.
- We have developed a culture of reporting as required in a timely manner to appropriate organisations.
- A commitment to utilise appropriate employment processes to screen , interview and employ staff.
- A commitment to create a safe physical and online environment which is appropriately oversighted.

Our Commitment to Vulnerable Persons


TWOOSH is committed to recognising and responding to children and young persons vulnerability in a respectful and caring manner.

We recognise the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, and also aim to provide a safe environment for children with a disability.

Privacy and Record Keeping

TWOOSH makes a commitment to comply with Privacy requirements, as required at law such as that relating to personal identifiers and information

TWOOSH is committed to maintaining appropriate records, as required by law, which are appropriately stored and retain in accordance with legal requirements.



Important Reminders

- If your child is diagnosed with anything from food allergy, disability, anxiety, depression or any other health condition, it is really important that this is communicated to OOSH. As per service policies, it is parent responsibility to disclose this information to us. The more information we have, the better we can care and plan for your child so we please encourage you to keep line of communication open with OOSH
- It is extremely important that we are notified of any afternoon absences for your child BEFORE 3pm (via the Xplor Home APP).
- All casual bookings must be requested via the Xplor Home APP. We will approve that request via Xplor if we have places and you'll receive a notification on Xplor

