

## Kariong OSHC – Newsletter Term 3 2021

Term Three has once again been impacted by COVID 19 with the government again imposing shut down and stay at home orders for the Greater Sydney Area. As we continue to adapt to the situation, we want each of you to know that we are thinking about you all and for those families who we aren't seeing, we miss you. We thank our families for their ongoing diligence and cooperation with regards to the practices and precautions we have in place. These include:

- Ensuring all families wear masks when dropping off and collecting children.
- All families sign children in and out of the Service on **both** the Service sign in and out app and the NSW Government COVID Check in QR Code.
- Not permitting non-essential people into our service, particularly our indoor environment.
- Families delivering and collecting children at the door and maintaining social distancing in hallway.
- Temperature checks on arrival
- Children and staff being asked to stay at home or being sent home if we feel they are unwell.
- Requesting a Doctors Clearance and/or Negative COVID tests for children to return to the service, stating they are well and fit to return to the Centre.
- We have been washing toys and equipment as they are being used and ensuring our environment is sanitised throughout the day.
- The children have been learning about and practising correct handwashing techniques, correct cough and sneeze practices.

## When your Child is Sick: Keep them away from others



We have been extra switched on to the emotional needs of our children and have purposefully programmed some specific strategies to help them feel more in control of their world around them. We had the children hold up their hand and for each finger name an adult they feel safe and comfortable to talk to about things because 'there's nothing so bad you can't tell someone'. We have made butterflies and flowers which we have placed on our wall to remind each of us that we are in this together and caring for each other. We initiated a discussion where children voiced and acknowledged all the great things in our community and that being part of community means that we support each other, care for each other, encourage one another and build each other up.

This term we have reintroduced our weekly riddles as well as introducing a challenge of the week, where the children are set a task to explore their abilities and work together as a team to reach the outcome. We encourage all families at home to join in with the challenge and send us photos of the task, especially our families who we aren't seeing regularly.

As always, our children are vigilant ball kickers and especially this term they have been practicing their NRL moves, which has us planning an NRL day for the holidays, so if you know any NRL players or retired NRL players we would love to have them join us in the holidays to highlight our day.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of August we celebrated National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day, where we looked at stories of the dream time and created our own pictures, we also made wattle seed biscuits. To extend off this day we will be looking into other cultural backgrounds and see how each culture celebrates their children's day. Throughout the week you will find us looking through our map and visiting each country and investigating their culture.

Our main aim of our program is to allow the children the opportunity to learn through play, with a great variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Our environment will always be set up with activities and experiences suggested by the children and based on their current interests. As we are still learning about each child's interests and skills every day, we allow our daily routines to be as flexible as possible to ensure everyone feels included and comfortable to join in our fun.

## Vacation Care

Considering the last-minute changes to our Vacation Care program over the July school holidays, we still managed to have a fun filled time.

Some of the fun included: the colour run, tie dying, mad science - we exploded things, took the 'S' off the Skittles and made edible slime!

Our September/October Vacation Care Programme is out now! You will find it on the school website under Information for Parents. If you or your child have a brilliant idea, let us know, we love adding children's interests into the program and we are always looking for something new and exciting to provide for the children. Our Vacation Care opening hours are 7am to 6:30pm. Late fees will apply to anyone picked up after 6:30pm in accordance with our centre policies.





## Olympic Games

The children have been showing a wide interest in the current Olympic Games that are held in Tokyo. Our Educators will be implementing a mini version of the Olympic games into their Educational Program to follow on from the children's interests.

The children will participate in a range of modified events including, running, hurdles, long jump, shot put and many more. Please pack some comfortable

clothing suitable for lots of physical activity and where possible in the colours of their favourite country.



## Book week

Book Week 2021 will be celebrated during the week **21-27 August**. This year's theme is "Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds" we will be highlighting Australian authors and exploring books about different types of worlds

## National Science Week.

We will be celebrating National Science week **August 14-22**

The school theme of National Science Week 2021 is *Food Different by Design*. We will use this week to investigate and learn more about the how food can be produced sustainably.

## Child Protection Week

**6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> September** is National Child Protection Week. NAPCAN invites all Australians to play their part to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. We will be focusing on body boundaries and what the children can do if they feel unsafe.

## National Superhero Week

**6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> September** is also Superhero Week. The children are encouraged to bring their favourite Superhero outfit to change into After School. We will be sharing information with families about Muscular Dystrophy Australia.

