



VIRGINIA PRIMARY OSHC NEWSLETTER

Learning Together, Learning for our Future

CARING, RESPECT, FAIRNESS, ACHIEVEMENT, DIVERSITY

Issue 1 2020

13th March 2020

DATES TO REMEMBER

Last day of the term

Thursday

9/4/2020

Schools finishes at 2:15pm

Sports Day

Thursday

9/4/2020

National Quality Framework

This term we have been focusing
on Quality Area 5

Relationships with children

Area 5
Standard 5.1

**Relationships between educators and
children: Respectful and equitable
relationships are maintained with each
child.**



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SCHOOL NAME IN:



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Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Dear Parents/ Caregivers

Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year. It has been great getting to know our new families and students. From close observations we have noticed our new students are adapting well to the environment and enjoy participating in various activities within our service and making new friendship circles.

Over Due fees

We have a number of outstanding fees due. We **will not** be accepting any Vacation Care booking forms unless your account has been paid in full. If you have a payment plan set up with Nisha and payments occurring each week, then we will be happy to accept your booking form. If you need support in paying your account, please contact Nisha to organise a time and she will support you with a payment plan.

OSHC Facebook

Our service now has an OSHC Facebook account. If you would like to follow us, you can by liking our Virginia Primary OSHC Facebook page to keep up to date with all the fun exciting things we do as well as any updated information or reminders.

Vacation care

During our excursions we are finding that children don't have drink bottles. It is important that your child brings their own drink bottle on excursion days as some venues do not have sufficient access to drinking water.

Families and children input

Every term children are given the opportunity in Kids Committee to provide us with feedback on the menu, program, and any equipment they would like us to purchase. They also take part in an excursion survey, children place a sticker on which excursion/incursion they would like to attend during the holidays and this is how we determine which excursions we will offer in our program. In addition to this, we seek regular feedback from students as we are always looking at ways to improve our service

We also give families the opportunity to provide feedback to us either by speaking with Nisha, filling in the feedback form on the back of this Newsletter or by completing one of the feedback slips, which are located on the wall at the sign in/out desk. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing working with you and your child.

Regards

Nisha Ahrens

Inside Activities

During our first term at OSHC we have continued to focus on creating memorable moments, experiences and maintaining positive relationships amongst peers and educators. Our staff encourage all children to participate in a range of fun and practical activities such as cooking, group and individual craft projects as well as a range of play resources and equipment. Throughout this term the students have shown a high interest in creative construction using lego, magnetic wedgits and the construction blocks. This encourages students to be creative and collaborate with their peers whilst making their own creations. Other inside activities this term have included freestyle painting that has allowed students to use their imagination and creativity. Students have also shown an interest in helping to cook breakfast and participating in cooking activities. This allows for students to extend their fine motor skills in the kitchen and enhance their collaboration with peers and educators. All of these inclusive activities have helped foster co-operation, creativity and imagination building.



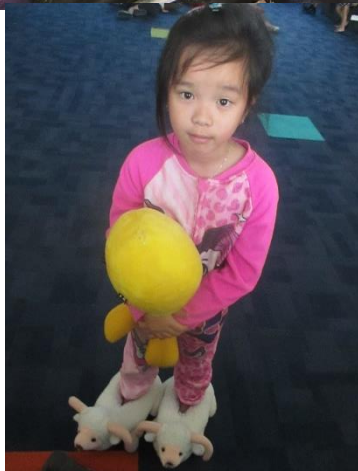
Outside play

The children have been enjoying the variety of equipment available at our school playground, such as the climbing frame, slides, rock wall, monkey bars and the foot bridge. Children are able to develop their confidence, persistence in problem solving as well as develop their gross and fine motor skills in this vibrant play space. The students have also shown an interest in going to the community playground as it is a fun and inviting space that allows students to explore and play with peers. A favourite experience that the students enjoy at the community playground is climbing the spider web and playing on the spinning pole. During OSHC time students have demonstrated an interest in participating in archery. The students are improving on their aim and hand eye coordination whilst having fun. The students continue to enjoy the asphalt space and engage in sports such as tennis, skipping, handball and basketball. Being outdoors enhance student's physical play whilst delighting and encouraging them to explore different forms of sport, interact with their peers, and enjoy physical fitness in a welcoming space.



Vacation Care

In Vacation Care, children had the exciting opportunity to be part of and explore a variety of engaging and enjoyable excursions, incursions, and centre programs. Some popular experiences included Flip-Out, movies, AFL Max, Semaphore waterpark, swimming, Whiz Bang and ice-skating. During these excursions and experiences, children were physically active, play with friends and challenge themselves to new experiences and obstacles as well as develop new skills and gain appreciation for nature and animals. Students also engaged in cooking and craft activities, outdoor sports and visiting the community playground, as well as an array of incursions such as our annual Christmas disco, jumping castles, water slides, science workshop, sewing, pottery, tie dying and an animal visit. Students were also able to explore their own creative ideas, learn practical skills, make discoveries, and continue to interact and build positive relationships with their peers and educators. All children showed great enthusiasm and excitement whilst engaging in the range of excursions and incursions.



Bookings

It is important families' book children into OSHC; so that educators know which children are attending sessions. It is also very important that families let the service know if their child/ren will not be attending the session that they are booked in for to avoid any confusion. This can be done by either ringing the school, leaving a message with OSHC staff or the school front office staff or speaking to directly to a staff member . Staff members are not able to begin programmed activities until the safety of children is confirmed by roll call. If emergency contacts cannot be contacted, then emergency procedures need to be carried out. The service will alert school leadership, who will support the service to contact necessary emergency authorities.

Vacation Care

Please ensure that children attending excursions arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time, so that numbers can be finalised before leaving. All children are required to bring lunch and recess to Vacation Care. We suggest that children bring their own lunch on excursions because often the canteens at venues we attend are understaffed and the menus don't fit our healthy eating range. However, money for snacks

and drinks is permitted and parents will be informed when children will have the opportunity to purchase from excursion venues. If you prefer for staff to look after your child's money, please put it in a labelled wallet, purse or envelope. Often the excursion supervisor will take the money and keep record when the children arrive at Vacation Care. Children who have meat or dairy products in their lunchbox are advised to store them in the fridge at school care or have ice packs in their lunch box.

If children decide to bring belongings from home including electronics and toys we cannot guarantee the safety of their belongings, so please consider this before allowing children to bring them along. Please remember that Virginia Primary School is a sun-smart school and so are we. So, bring hats, apply sunscreen and wear clothing that covers your shoulders and knees. We provide sunscreen throughout the day to ensure that the children are sun safe.

Risk Assessment

Risk assessments are prepared for all excursions. If you would like to see them, please ask staff at the service.

Thank you.

Feedback slip

Please write any comments, suggestions or feedback and return to school care.

Please indicate if you would like a staff member to contact you to discuss this issue:

- Telephone (Please leave contact number) _____
- Email (Please leave email address) _____
- Make an appointment (Please leave contact number) _____