



Provider: 407 125 660V

Emu Plains

Ph: 0425 276 821

# WOOSH News

## Before & After School Care

Location:  
Room 18-19  
Emu Plains Public School.  
Emu Plains.

February 2007

Hi everyone.

Here we are at the beginning of a new year. A Big warm welcome to new and continuing children. We hope you all enjoyed your vacation and are ready for the year ahead.

It was sad to say goodbye to Kieran, Laura, Isabeau, Tayah, Ty and Caitlin last year but it is really great to see some new faces; a BIG WELCOME to Jasmyn, Ethan & Lauren. We also hope Kieran & Laura are enjoying Queensland.



As you all know by now, we are going through our accreditation process this month. Our validator Jan Fulton will be at the service on Wednesday and Thursday, 14th & 15th of Feb. Please make her welcome and say hello to her.

Also DON'T FORGET YOUR SURVEYS – PLEASE .

We will have Melissa with us for a few weeks until Natasha returns from her holiday and a short stay in hospital.—Thanks Mell!

### New Fees Payment System:

We have been researching fees payment systems used by various services in our area and in other places for Before & After School Care, Vacation Care and Pre Schools. One system that is easier for parents and staff and takes away the necessity to carry or handle cash is the Direct Debit system. This has now been introduced by a few services in our area and appears to be helpful to both parents and services alike.



Therefore we will be introducing the Direct Debit fee system from the start of the second term this year for all parents at our Before and After School Care services in Leonay and Emu Plains. The way it works is as follows:

Our provider will directly charge your nominated bank account on the first Monday of each month for that month's fees. When we receive their confirmation report we will issue a receipt to each parent for that month's fees. Any variances to attendance, for example extra days, will be added to the next month's fees.

There is no cost to the parents for this part of the system. If a parent prefers to be debited on a fortnightly basis instead of a weekly basis, then our provider can arrange for this at an additional cost of \$0.99cents for each second debit. That is, we will pay for the first debit each month and the parent pays for the others. The debit will be made on the first day of each fortnight.



We believe that this will be simpler for everyone and reduce the necessity for our staff to handle cash and for parents to have to worry about carrying enough cash on the correct days.

### Some information for New (& existing) parents.:

Our phone number at WOOSH is 0425 276 821. Please remember to call us and let us know if your child/ren will not be attending after school care any day due to illness, picked up early etc. as it is time consuming for us to have to go and search for the child & check with the office to see if the child has attended school that day.

A reminder also that there is a \$15 fee if we are not notified of your child's absence if they are booked in. We don't want to issue fines, we would rather know that your child is safe & sound.

Our service closes at 6.00 pm at which time our staff can finally head for home. There is a fine for anyone who is late picking up their child after 6pm. It is \$10 for the first 10 minutes and \$10 for each 10 mins. Or part thereof after that. Please ensure your child is picked up and signed out by 6pm.

**Safety:** We have regular fire drills and lock down drills, as well as talks to the children about safety & the fact that they must come straight to the classroom or pick up point & not go outside the school grounds. We also have boundaries in place in the outdoor areas & the children are not allowed beyond those points. This way we can maintain a close eye on them at all times. Children are not allowed outside unless a carer is with them

**Suggestion Box:** This is found at the sign-on area. If you have any suggestions for afternoon tea, craft, activities etc please write them on a piece of our suggestion paper & pop it in the box.

Maybe you or someone you know would be interested in coming along one afternoon and sharing something of your own with us. A special skill or story or entertainment or culture. Please talk to us about it if you are able to help out.

Please feel free to approach either Janelle or Natasha if you have any concerns or comments to make. Brickbats or bouquets we appreciate them both. Or you may wish to speak directly to Chris, our director, who is always happy to speak to parents. His number is 0418 600 003.

**Exciting News:** For the first two terms of the year we are going to run the Active After School Communities programme under the guidance of the Australian Sports Commission. These sessions will be run on Monday and Tuesday afternoons between 3.15 and 4.15pm. These sessions are free for all children booked into after school care. The person who will be delivering the Tuesday session is Michael Hooke. He is a sports coach for Multi-skills, rugby, touch football, soccer, cricket, hockey and other sports. Other credentials include:

- ☺ Former Nth Qld Cowboys Rugby League player.
- ☺ Penrith Emu First Grade Captain (Rugby Union)
- ☺ Former director of Rugby at St. Paul's Grammar.
- ☺ Outdoor Recreational Officer
- ☺ P.E. Teacher in the U.K. where he played rugby for 3 seasons.

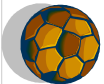


Our Monday session will follow on from the Tuesday framework and will be delivered by one of our staff members specially trained by the Aust. Sports Commission.

These sessions are sponsored by the Australian Sports Commission and there is no additional cost for parents.



The children are all excited about the programme and also the fact that we will be getting some new outdoor equipment. Please feel free to come along and watch.



WOW! Now all that aside, let's buckle up & get ready for a fast and furious term one !!

Thank you for choosing our WOOSH service to care for your children:

**Chris** (0418 600 003)

Director

And our professional staff members: *Janelle and Natasha*  
with help from Melissa & Corinne

