**MORTLAKE OSHC CENTRE**

**SCHOOL NEWSLETTER INCLUSION**

**AUGUST 2014**

Julie Schubert finished up her extended leave, resigning from her position as Co-ordinator of

Mortlake OSHC Centre after many years and accepting a new position at Kent Road OSHC Centre as a permanent educator. On 16th July we held a little “thank you, farewell and best wishes” party in her honour. Julie had a great time, and very much appreciated the gifts she was given by staff and families. Daniella Beckett has taken on the role of Co-ordinator and Nominated Supervisor, and Sam Spence has been appointed Assistant Co-ordinator. We also said farewell to our permanent educator Jared Marsh, who left us at the end of term 2 to travel overseas for an extended period of time.

July Vacation Care was a great success. The most favourite day was Laser Tag! Feedback also revealed some great ideas for next holidays! Planning for the next school holidays is well underway and will be released soon!

A menu survey was recently undertaken by parents and children. All feedback has been taken into consideration, and a new winter menu has just been released and introduced.

We aim to broaden children’s experience in OSHC by acknowledging community events which are initiated by health, cultural or environmental issues. Recently we have been talking about National Tree Day, International Friendship Day, and International Forgiveness Day. The 21st to 25th July saw the centre participate in the Children’s Hospital Westmead Bear Cottage “Superheroes Week”. With the help of the children, we programmed a wide variety of ‘superhero’ activities for them to partake in and learn about what happens at Bear Cottage and why, and the concept of Superhero Week. See photos at the end!

We also like to include community participation in the service by inviting families and other visitors to the Centre. As part of Superheroes Week, one of our lovely parents Natalie Duns, came and visited the centre to talk with the children about her job as a nurse at the Children’s Hospital at Westmead, what she does there, why she does it, and letting us have some fun with her stethoscope!

If you have any suggestions for an interesting visitor or initiative of this type please speak to staff at the centre Similarly, if you have something to share with the children, such as information about your work life or cultural background, or even a simple story or cooking experience, we would love to have you.

All families are warmly welcomed to come and see our room to observe the children’s activities, daily journals, programs and work displayed.

Clubs for Term 3 are as follows

* Every morning- breakfast club
* Every afternoon- homework club
* Monday mornings- language club
* Tuesday afternoons- sustainability and garden club
* Friday afternoons- science club

Our next parent community meeting will take place this term on Friday 29th August at 9:30am. If you would like to attend the meeting you need to RSVP to Daniella. If no names are listed down as attending on the day before the scheduled meeting, it will be cancelled. We will also be emailing out a survey to accompany the agenda for parents who cannot make it to these meetings on a regular basis but would still like to be kept up to date and contribute.

OSHC Staff/Managers will also be attending the P&C meeting this term on 26th August.

Ezia Cimillo and Daniella Beckett volunteered at the MPS Winter Fair on the chocolate wheel stall (lots of you may have seen us!). We also held a competition where one lucky parent won 2 free Vacation Care days! We would like to thank the school and the P&C for letting Primary OSHCare be a part of the day, and say well done for doing such a wonderful job at organising it all, and providing such a successful event to the wider community

Feedback we have received in recent times:

* QA1 (educational program and practice) and QA2 (children’s health and safety) online surveys were mostly positive

Statements were made such as the staff are doing an excellent job, that staff make them feel welcome, that they appreciate that we have male staff members to be role models to the boys, that their children are telling them they are having fun, and that overall they are happy with the quality of service and care given

Additional feedback included reinforcing to children that they can approach an educator if they get stuck on a homework question, to hold language club in the morning in term 3, to provide alternatives for children with milk allergies, that inside the OSHC room is too small/restricted/ cramped/noisy, and that children who attend almost every day are getting annoyed at having to listen to the same announcements during group times

Many of these suggestions have already ben take up and we are grateful for the honest feedback and the support of the school for assisting us in achieving some of our objectives, In particular, the access to the creative arts room which has now been facilitated to great effect for the over 9s. Full details of improvements made are documented on our QIP (Quality Improvement Plan)

* A parent commented that she might get her daughter fish as pets because her daughter wants them, and she thinks it’s because we have them at OSHC
* A parent wanted the recipe for one of our dips so he could make it at home for his daughter because she loves it so much
* A parent complimented the quality of our service and that her son loves MOSHC so much that he won’t leave
* A family who will be leaving the service shortly to move overseas thanking us for helping make their child’s first school experience so positive and settled, and for reinforcing the good manners and behaviour they try to instill at home

Families can contact staff at the Centre by calling 0425 372 857

or emailing [moshc@primaryoshcare.com.au](mailto:moshc@primaryoshcare.com.au)

Centre Managers can be contacted directly by emailing [headoffice@primaryoshcare.com.au](mailto:headoffice@primaryoshcare.com.au)

Thank you for your continued support.

Ezia, Daniella, Sam, Niki, Rachael, Tereza, Annabel, Andrew, Jessica

  

  

  