



**Mitcham**  
Primary School  
thinkers | learners | leaders

MITCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# Mitchat

## IMPORTANT DATES

- DEC 17** STUDENT FREE DAY
- JAN 31** YEAR 1 - 6 FIRST DAY TERM 1, 2022
- FEB 1** PREP FIRST DAY
- FEB 16** DISTRICT SWIMMING
- MAR 9** 3-6 ATHLETICS DAY
- MAR 21** HARMONY DAY
- APRIL 8** LAST DAY TERM 1
- APRIL 26** FIRST DAY TERM 2
- JUNE 24** LAST DAY TERM 2
- JULY 11** FIRST DAY TERM 3
- SEPT 16** LAST DAY TERM 3
- OCT 3** FIRST DAY TERM 4
- DEC 20** LAST DAY TERM 4



PREP - 2 SWIMMING

VALUE OF THE  
MONTH

**RESILIENCE**

## IN THIS ISSUE

- FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK
- FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER
- AFTER SCHOOL CHESS
- GRADE 3/4 CAMP
- GRADE 5/6 PARLIAMENT OF MAGIC
- ... AND MORE



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

As the end of the 2021 school year closes, I am affirmed by how much we have achieved in face of such unprecedented challenges. I am so proud of the strength of character that has been shown by our students and staff. The support that has been demonstrated by our community and the sense that we truly have all been in this together. THANK YOU. Resilience and fortitude have been the hallmarks of 2021 and will serve us well as we move into COVID normal in 2022.

### YEAR 6 GRADUATION

On Tuesday we celebrated our Year 6 Graduation and while it was different to other years, it was certainly a wonderful event! Our graduates have been exemplary students at Mitcham Primary School and whilst we are sorry to see them leave us, we are confident they are more than ready to begin the next stage of their education at secondary school. The many parents, friends and family members who attended were impressed by the speeches they made and their confidence in speaking in front of such a large audience. Congratulations and thank you to the Year 5/6 teachers and parent helpers for all their preparation for the Year 6 Graduation, they planned and organised a very memorable event. Thank you all! We wish the Class of 2021 a smooth and happy start to secondary school.



I would also like to congratulate the following graduating students who received awards on the evening:

**The Deakin Shield Award for Academic Excellence:**  
Selena, 5/6 D

**The Deakin Shield Award for Achievement in the Performing Arts:** Gracie, 5/6 D

**The Deakin Shield Award for Community Contributions:** Saachi, 5/6 C

**The Inaugural Mitcham Primary School Community Spirit Award:** Ji Xuan, 5/6 D

**The Kelly Pikia Thinker, Learner, Leader Award:**  
Vanessa, 5/6 C

### FAREWELLS

I'm looking forward to 2022 with a sense of hope and a commitment to continuing to support wellbeing and academic outcomes for all students at Mitcham Primary School.

I look forward to seeing you all in the new year, with Year 1-6 students returning on Monday 31st January and Prep students commencing on Tuesday 1st February. If you're travelling and starting after this date, please email the school with your return date.



As a community on Monday afternoon, we celebrated the incredible career and achievements of Mitcham Primary School's longest ever serving teacher, Mrs Kathy Lawson. We held a very special assembly with our students and welcomed and listened to beautiful acknowledgements from Legislative Council Member for the Eastern Metropolitan Region, the Honourable Mr Bruce Atkinson, The North Eastern Victoria, Regional Director of the Department of Education, Mr

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK: CONTINUED

Terry Bennett and former MPS Principal Mr Ian Sloane, who had the pleasure of working with Kathy for 20 years. We will all miss Kathy very much. Below is a summary of her remarkable career in education:

Kathleen Mary Lawson entered Ballarat Teacher's College in 1972 and completed her studies in December 1974. Kathy commenced her teaching career at Ballarat East Primary School where she worked from February 1975 until February 1978, when she moved to Linton Primary School, near Ballarat for 7 months. In September 1978 Kathy commenced what would become a 44-year long appointment at Mitcham Primary School. During her years at Mitcham Primary School Kathy taught across all year levels, teaching more than 1100 children. For many years Kathy taught in the early years, Grade 1 and 2, when in 2008 a new Grade 1/2 learning area was constructed, named the Kathy Lawson Wing, in honour of Kathy Lawson's outstanding contribution to the school over more than 40 years. Kathy has provided outstanding service not only to the students and families of Mitcham Primary School, but she has also mentored many pre-service teachers. There is no doubt that Kathy's long-standing commitment to Mitcham Primary School has contributed to making Mitcham Primary School the wonderful learning place that it is.

As you are aware today, we say our farewell and thank you to three other much loved staff and wish them all the very best for the next year and beyond. We farewell Mrs Deb Williamson, Mrs Meg Steeds and Ms Bianca Gidley. Again, I wish to thank you all, for your dedication and commitment to Mitcham Primary School.

I would like to acknowledge the families who will leave Mitcham PS this year and thank you all very much for being a wonderful part of the Mitcham family – it really is our community that makes Mitcham such a special place.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a huge thank you to Lucille and Adam Matthews. Lucille has been a member of the Mitcham Primary School Council for the past six years and School Council President for the last three years. Lucille and Adam have also led our Buildings and Grounds subcommittee for the past 6

years, and so many of the changes and improvements you see around our school grounds have been because of Lucille and Adam's unwavering commitment to making sure that the Mitcham Primary School grounds are something all parents and students can be proud of. Lucille and Adam's daughter Teagan graduates this year. Thank you, Lucille and Adam, for your tireless commitment to Mitcham Primary School.

### 2022 CLASSES

Monday morning was a fabulous morning when students met their new classmates and teachers and then happily bounced back into their 2021 grades to share stories about their new 2022 learning environments. Along with that excitement can sometimes come some nervousness about the unknown, but please rest assured the staff at MPS have worked tirelessly to ensure your child has been placed in an environment that will allow them to continue to thrive in 2022.

In case you missed the Compass announcement last week, our 2022 Teaching Teams are as follows:

**Prep / Foundation Team:** Kate Medcalf (Prep Team Leader), Jayne Koth and Ashlee Holzer.

**Year 1/2 Team:** Tara Buckle (Year 1/2 Team Leader), Anika Harris, Isaac Delany, Vicki Vesoz and Clive Bowron-Hodgson.

**Year 3/4 Team:** Donna Johnston (Year 3/4 Team Leader), Beau Roberston (Learning Specialist - Teaching and Learning), Sam Barkley and Emma Bates.

**Year 5/6 Team:** Netanel Koles (Year 5/6 Team Leader), Francine Cirillo (Acting Learning Specialist - Teaching and Learning), Stephanie Gerastathos and Lauren Cerra.

**Montessori Cycle 2:** Marina Rich (Cycle 2 Team Leader), Judith Sivasubramaniam and Val Berardini.

**Montessori Cycle 3:** Judith Ryall (Montessori Co-ordinator and Cycle 3 Team Leader) and Sandy Kaye.

**Specialist Team:** EAL: Michelle Dybing; PE: Laura Ellis (Specialist Team Leader & Acting Learning Specialist Student Wellbeing); Art: Shea McFarland; Indonesian: Tracey Irvine; Performing Arts: Caitlin



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK: CONTINUED

Kolokathis.

**Tutor Learning Initiative Tutors:** Lauren Lamont and Sandy Stewart.

## 2022 SCHOOL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

On Wednesday 15 December we held our final whole school assembly for 2021. It was at this assembly that we were able to announce our 2022 School Captains.

Congratulations to all of our future captains, we are looking forward to seeing you fulfil your duties in 2022:

<b>SCHOOL CAPTAINS</b>	Olivia 5/6 D
	Kasper 5/6 D
<b>VICE SCHOOL CAPTAINS</b>	Marlie 5/6 B
	Ryan 4-6 A
<b>ACACIA CAPTAINS</b>	Erin 5/6 B
	Ruby 5/6 B
<b>BANKSIA CAPTAINS</b>	Nathan 5/6 B
	Amelia 5/6 B
<b>EUCALYPTUS CAPTAINS</b>	Seb 5/6 B
	Michael 5/6 D
<b>GREVILLEA CAPTAINS</b>	Arjun 5/6 A
	Oliver 4-6 A

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

On behalf of the Mitcham Primary School staff and School Council I would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and a very relaxing, safe, and fun filled summer break. I hope you and your families can celebrate the end of 2021 in a safe, joyful, and special way.

Thank you to everyone in our community for making the most of a challenging year and finding the positives in every situation.

**Erin Norman**

**Principal**

## AFTER SCHOOL CHESS

The final after school chess session was held last Wednesday, 8th December. We have enjoyed a great year under difficult conditions, with the students improving their skills and developing their strategies. Congratulations to all those who have participated in After School Chess. You have demonstrated great sportsmanship.

The medal winners for this term in Carl's group are Isabella (4-6A), Brooke (1/2E) and Sophie (1-3A). The medal winners for this term in Frank's group are Tony (3/4B), Maahit (5/6B), Miguel (3/4B) and Grace (1-3B).



After School Chess will be offered again in 2022 on Wednesdays 3.20pm – 4.20pm. We are expecting to still run with two groups and there will be positions for some new students to join next year. We will send a notice home early next year or you can write a note to indicate your interest and leave it at the office.

# FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

## AN END TO TERM 4

The last few weeks in the MPS Administration Office have been busier than usual while we are organising 2022 book packs and finalising 2021 administration activities. Thank you to our wonderful MPS families who have generously contributed to our school through parent payment contributions, end of year voluntary support for graduation celebration activities, second hand uniform fundraising, Scholastic book club, financial donations, Term 4 Working Bee, School Production planning, and other continued community support at our school.

We hope that this holiday season offers time for reflection on the unusual year that was; with a realisation for the incredible resilience of our young students who managed another year of uncertainty. This alone is a life learning accomplishment. They have done MPS proud! We look forward to having your children back in our busy classrooms in 2022.

Thank you again for your cooperation and collaboration during the past year - we value the opportunity to contribute to your child's learning and primary school experience and look forward to 2022 with exciting plans in place for our sport grounds and office administration area. We can't wait to share more news on the progress of these plans in the beginning of 2022. Your generous support and involvement foster the amazing community spirit of MPS. Wishing you a joyful and restful Christmas break and enjoy the time with your loved ones.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

**Michelle Shearn**

**Business Manager**

## PURCHASING NEW UNIFORM ITEMS

If you are seeking to purchase *brand new* items of school uniform, please visit our uniform supplier, RHSports. Click the link below to view all available Mitcham Primary School Uniform items:

[PURCHASE NEW UNIFORM HERE](#)

## PREP - 2 SWIMMING

On Thursday 9th and Friday 10th December our Prep to Grade 2 students enjoyed the opportunity of making a splash at their swimming lessons.



# GRADE 3/4 CAMP



# GRADE 5/6: PARLIAMENT OF MAGIC

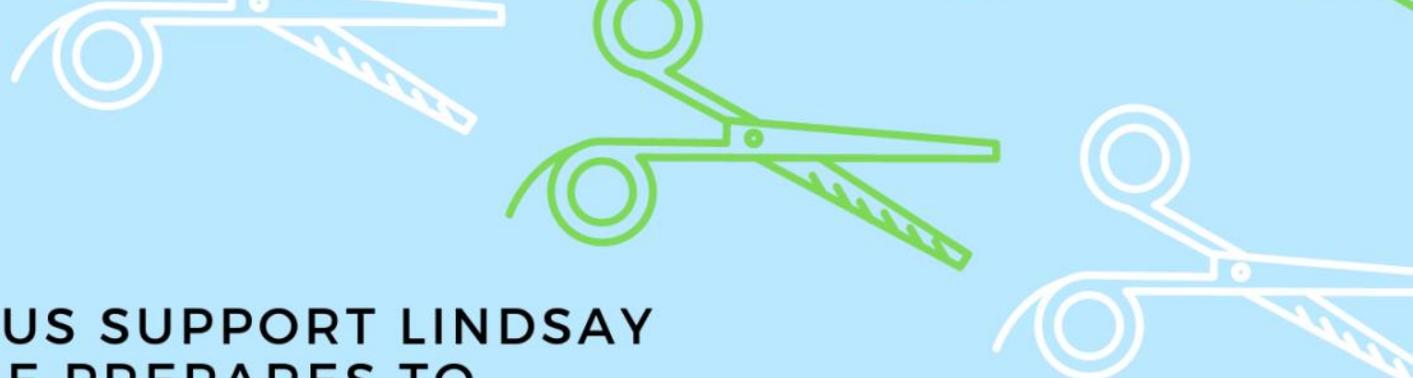
Parliament of Magic is a way of presenting how the parliament works in a fun and entertaining way. The students designed their own electorate and characters and last week we entered the chambers of Parliament and had a debating session over different bills to pass as laws.

To begin this process, we had to design our own witches or wizards for the parliament. After we had done that, we learnt about electorates and designed our own. We connected all of the electorates together and named our Islands; Peculiar Paradise, Cerraville, The Island of Lost Magic and Dragon's Breath Cove! Then we had to start working on a bill to propose to the parliament. For the bill we had to write a speech that we would present to the parliament to persuade them to vote for our bill. We each had to write one of these so that we could all have a say in what we thought should be a bill. When we finally finished all of that, it was time to present it!

Set up in a U shape like The House of Representatives, the government members sat on the right of the Speaker and the Opposition Members sat on the left while the Independent Parties sat at the back. We had a great time and it was fun to be able to come up with ideas and debate a topic!

**- Ruby, Erin, Carissa and Josie**



Several pairs of scissors are scattered across the top of the page. Some are white outlines, while others are solid green. They are positioned in various orientations, some pointing towards the center and others towards the corners.

HELP US SUPPORT LINDSAY  
AS SHE PREPARES TO...

# CUT FOR CANCER

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**Mitcham Primary School Grade 2 student, Lindsay is cutting and donating her hair to be turned into a wig for a child battling cancer.**

## THE BIG CUT : FRIDAY 17 DECEMBER

Not only will Lindsay's lovely long locks be used to make a wig, through the Kids with Cancer Foundation's, 'Wigs for Kids' fundraiser, Lindsay is collecting donations that will allow the Kids with Cancer Foundation to continue to support families that have a child suffering the from the illness.

## TO DONATE, VISIT:

**[fundraise.kidswithcancer.org.au/  
fundraisers/lindsay](https://fundraise.kidswithcancer.org.au/fundraisers/lindsay)**



# GRADE 3/4 CAMP



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

### Celebrating Human Rights Day

Last week we celebrated Human Rights Day by dot painting a dove to represent peace and freedom. The children learnt that when there are rights, there is responsibility that must go with it.

### End of Year Party!

In Week 11, we had a party to farewell the Year 6's and celebrate end of the school year. All the children enjoyed the party and the food.

### What else?

The children have been helping to clean up the room and sorting through some boxes to get the room ready for vacation care and the holidays

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Service Excellence Award

We are proud to announce that Mitcham OSHClub has received a Service Excellence Award due to our dedication to the families and children. Thankyou to the all the children, parents, school and the wider community for your ongoing support.

### Have a Great Break!

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and New Year.

Looking forward to seeing you all once again in 2022!



## CLUB NEWS

Our Term 4 Clubs for 2021 have come to an end. The children are giving their pot plants that they grew themselves to either their grandparents or an elderly person.

## COORDINATOR CORNER

### A message from Jagruti

Term 4 means that children will need their hats at OSHClub. We provide Coles brand sunscreen for the children to use if they don't have their own. We also write down what time they put their sunscreen on

We are in the middle of updating medical documents on our new template. Once done we will be emailing them to parents to go through and modify if needed.

We have started to send home the children's portfolios and other things they have made at OSHClub this year.

## QUALITY AREA REFLECTION

**Quality Area 2:** Children's Health & Safety

**Quality Area 6:** Collaborative partnership with families and communities

**Enrol Now:** [www.oshclub.com.au](http://www.oshclub.com.au)

**OSHClub Program Phone:** 0422 097 497

**OSHClub Head Office:** 1300 395 735

Program times are from 7.00 am - 9.00 am and 2:30pm—6:30pm, bookings will be confirmed during these times. Please notify the program if your child will be absent if you are unable to cancel the booking online. A courtesy phone call, voicemail or text will be highly appreciated and allow our team to focus on the children in attendance.



# OSHCLUB NEWS: CONTINUED



## RECIPE TIME: CARAMEL SLICE

### Base:

- 1 cup plain flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup coconut
- 125g butter, melted

### Caramel:

- 395g Sweetened condensed milk
- 2 tbs golden syrup

### Chocolate:

- 1 block of milk chocolate, melted
- 1 tsp of oil

### Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Line a 3cm deep, 28 x 18cm (base) lamington pan
2. Mix all base ingredients in a bowl. Press into prepared lamington pan. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes, or until light golden. Remove from oven. Cool.
3. **Make filling:** Combine all Filling ingredients in a saucepan over medium heat. Cook, whisking, for 8 minutes or until golden. Pour over cooked base. Bake for 12 minutes or until firm. Cool completely. Refrigerate for 3 to 4 hours, or until set.
4. **Make topping:** Place chocolate and oil into a heat-proof bowl over a saucepan of simmering water. Stir until melted. Pour over caramel. Refrigerate to set. Cut into squares to serve



# GRADE 1/2 CARNIVAL DAY



NOTICE - ALLERGY - Please ensure all food is nut free



## Monday 20 December

### SANTA'S WORKSHOP

#### IN-SERVICE

Put on your best Elf costume today! Santa has given us some very special tasks to do - complete acts of Kindness!

Create gift boxes and cards for children and our elderly community in need. Make your own Elf on the shelf!



## Monday 10 January

### COLOUR FUN RUN

#### IN-SERVICE

Be sure to wear old clothes and a white t-shirt as you emerge from our colourful day full of rainbow happiness.

Participate in the OSHCLUB colour run! Explore the world of colour through rainbow experiments and splat art!



## Tuesday 21 December

### WINTER WONDERLAND IN NEW YORK

#### IN-SERVICE

OSHClub Airlines will be leaving headed for New York City today, in time to celebrate Christmas in the Big Apple!!

Create a Big Apple snow globe, bake New York Christmas cookies, and get ready for New York fashion parade.



## Tuesday 11 January

### THE BIGGEST PRODUCTION

#### IN-SERVICE

Are you a budding artist, actor or dancer or maybe you're an enthusiastic video creator? Whatever your specialty, there is something for you today!

Produce your own OSHC movie! Make some tickets and costumes, get the popcorn popping, sit back and enjoy!



## Wednesday 22 December

IN + \$19.00

### FURRY AND SCALY FRIENDS

INCURSION - FEATHERS, FUR & SCALES: A VARIETY OF GREAT AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE!

Get an up close and personal experience with a marsupial, an owl, turtle, lizards, snakes and even a crocodile!



## Wednesday 12 January

EX + \$28.00

### ZOOLOGISTS IN THE MAKING

EXCURSION - MELBOURNE ZOO

Go on an adventure with us as we get up close and personal with the animals at the Melbourne Zoo today!



## Thursday 23 December

### GOTTA CATCH 'EM ALL!!

#### IN-SERVICE

Charmander's are red. Squirtle's are blue. If you were a Pokémon, I'd choose you!

Find Pikachu and his missing gang! Design Pokémon, with it's own playing card and make a Pikachu bracelet!



## Thursday 13 January

### SNAP, CRACKLE, POP!

#### IN-SERVICE

Be delighted and amazed today as we journey through the wonderful world of science of snap, crackle and pop! How far will we go? The sky's the limit!

Test coke and mentos, elephant toothpaste, bubble bombs, volcanoes and the mad scientist colouring competition.



## Friday 24 December

### NO PROGRAM DAY

NO HOLIDAY PROGRAM TODAY



## Friday 14 January

IN + \$24.00

### AFL AND SPORTS CARNIVAL

INCURSION - COLES HEALTHY KICKS

Immerse yourself in the routine of an AFL/AFLW superstar through Coles Healthy Kicks. This 2hr interactive incursion involves 4 x 25 min quarters, including fitness, mindfulness, nutrition and teamwork aimed at developing stronger, healthier kids.



NOTICE - ALLERGY - Please ensure all food is nut free



## Monday 17 January

### THE GREAT OSHC BAKE OFF

IN-SERVICE

Are you the next key ingredient to baking success? We knead you! Come with us today and battle it out to find the great Baker! The winner bakes all!

The ultimate cupcake challenge! Design your own cupcake, learn piping skills and decorate your own apron.



## Monday 24 January

### TENNIS FEVER

IN-SERVICE

Today we are celebrating all things tennis! Will it be a competition? Will it be trivia? Will it be a game of tennis? Who is your hero tennis player?

Participate in a tennis workshop and quiz! Bake yummy lamingtons and decorate your own Australian flag!



## Tuesday 18 January

IN + \$15.00

### DISCO DANCER

INCURSION - BOP TIL YOU DROP DISCO

Get your dancing shoes on and get your best singing voice ready for today's disco party! Today we will sing and dance along to some of your favourite disco tunes! Do you have the disco moves? It's time for some disco fever with your friends!



## Tuesday 25 January

IN + \$19.00

### ANIMATION DOMINATION

INCURSION - ALPHATOONS: WHERE CARTOONING MEETS CREATIVITY

Come on a journey filled with creativity and challenges where you will meet fun characters and we will design wonderful heroes.



## Wednesday 19 January

### ZOMBIE PARTY

IN-SERVICE

It's time to party! Come dressed in your spookiest costume as we have a frighteningly good time dancing and playing with our friends!

Includes musical zombies and brain toss! Make spooky glow in the dark slime and Frankenstein sun catchers.



## Wednesday 26 January

### PUBLIC HOLIDAY

SERVICE CLOSED



## Thursday 20 January

EX + \$43.00

### JUMPING JOLLY JOY

EXCURSION - BOUNCE TRAMPOLINE PARK KEYSBOROUGH

Fly high and low today at Bounce Indoor Trampoline centre in Keysborough!



## Thursday 27 January

EX + \$37.00

### SPORT AND MOVEMENT

EXCURSION - SUPER ZU PLAY CENTRE

Bounce, climb and swing your way through all the fun at the Super Zu play centre!



Arrive by 8.30am

Arrive by 8.30am

## Friday 21 January

### SUMMERTIME FUN

IN-SERVICE

Prepare for a splashtastic day of fun as we celebrate the best of summer! Don't forget to bring a towel and change of clothes.

Cool off with water games and make frozen yoghurt pops! Use your creativity to build awesome sandcastles!



## Friday 28 January

### READY, SET, ROLL

IN-SERVICE

Enjoy your bikes, scooters, skates, blades or skateboards for a day of riding fun. Helmets and safety gear must be worn, no equipment can be shared.

Design your own car with recycled materials. Bake some wagon wheels and make a mosaic tile art to take home!



Junior Adventures Group continues to pioneer the OSHC sector, building stronger communities and brighter futures for more than 70,000 children, 50,000 families and more than 450 schools across Australia.



#### Our Values

- Considerate - Be there for others
- Passionate - Bring energy and determination
- Courageous - Challenge ourselves

The values we share guide our behaviour as we work towards our vision to **build brighter futures together.**

#### What we offer

- A healthy, safe, respectful and engaging environment
- Caring, enthusiastic, fun and friendly team
- New and popular excursions, incursions and theme days
- Stimulating experiences tailored to children's interests, abilities and current trends
- OSHClub endeavour to link each fun experience to key learning outcomes



#### We are a child safe organisation



#### What Does My Child Bring?

Please bring breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and a refillable drink bottle. If bringing food please make sure it's nutritious and doesn't require heating or cooking.

Please be mindful of the planned incursion/excursion and ensure your children are dressed appropriately. Don't forget your sun smart hat, comfortable clothes, closed shoes and a drink bottle.

To avoid loss or disappointment, please leave your valuables, money and electronic toys (including tablets and smartphones) at home.



#### Healthy Eating

OSHClub follows the Australian dietary guidelines which can be found at <https://www.eatforhealth.gov.au>

#### Activity Changes

If an excursion or incursion (due to unforeseen circumstances) is cancelled, the activity will either be postponed or an alternative activity of equal value will be provided where possible.



#### Before making your booking & cancellations

All children must be enrolled with OSHClub prior to booking via [oshclub.com.au](http://oshclub.com.au). Bookings made within 5 days for a Holiday Program session will incur an extra charge of \$4.00 per day per child. 7 days notice is required for cancellation of a Holiday Program booking to ensure you will not incur out of pocket costs. Please note that bookings cannot be made online within 5 days of the session commencing. In order to book within this period, you will need to contact the service directly, the Customer Service and Billing Team on 1300 395 735 or by emailing [oshaccounts@junioradventuresgroup.com.au](mailto:oshaccounts@junioradventuresgroup.com.au)

#### Child care subsidy

Our services are registered with Centrelink, so you will be able to claim Child Care Subsidy on your fees. For further information please visit [www.education.gov.au/childcare-FAQ](http://www.education.gov.au/childcare-FAQ)

#### Children with additional needs

We support all children including children with additional needs. If you would like to provide additional information about your child and his/her needs or require inclusion support funding, please contact us 6 weeks prior to program commencement on 0422 097 497 for staffing purposes.