

Dear Families

Hi everyone! Greetings to you in the midst of our cold Mountains winter!! Hope you're all keeping warm and cozy and safe from all the colds and flus that are going around. I know so many of you have been coming down with bugs this winter. Here's hoping everyone stays well as we wait for the warmer weather to come back around again. Don't forget that the government is making flu vaccines readily available for families at this time. Please read on for useful information, tips, reminders and news about your child's place to be in their out of school hours.

TEACHER'S STRIKE DAY THURS 30 JUNE

We will be open for **all day care from 6:30am – 6:30pm on Thursday 30 June** which is a planned teacher's strike for all schools – state as well as Catholic. If you will be needing care for that day, please book via the portal or email us if the portal won't take the booking. We hope to be able to cater to everyone who needs a place for their child but we won't know until we hear back from you so please don't delay if you think you'll need us for the day. Children attending will need morning tea and lunch. We will offer a programme based on the ideas and feedback of the children and we won't be doing any bus runs unless you notify us that your child is still going to school on that day.

VACATION CARE

July vacation care is all planned and the portal is ready to take your bookings. You can download the programme [HERE](#) and make bookings via the portal. If you have any difficulties, please don't hesitate to reach out.

REMEMBER TO LET US KNOW IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT

Please remember to let us know when your child will be absent from before and after school care when expected. This is especially vital for **after school care** when children are arriving from school. Trying to locate missing children causes worry and stress for staff concerned about their whereabouts. You can mark your child absent via the portal and then you're done for the session – nothing further is needed as this notifies us. Or, you can email us or leave a phone message.

RE-VAMPED KIDSOFT PHONE APP

If you haven't yet done so, please consider downloading the Kidsoft app on your phone. It makes management of your account so easy. You can see how much is owing, mark your child absent from a session of care, check the dates of your child's next bookings. You can also make casual bookings and you can message us. If you keep yourself signed in on the app, it's such an easy matter of opening the app whenever you need to, wherever you are.

STORYPARK

Most people have signed up to Storypark by now. If you haven't done so yet, please check your email for your invitation or let us know. It's great to be able to let you know what your child is doing in before, after and vacation care and it's also great to get your feedback and input.

LOST PROPERTY

The lost property basket is located in the front room at the sign out desk. Don't forget to check it by the end of this term for your child's belongings. All items will be re-housed (sent to charity or discarded) at the end of term.

BASC VOUCHER SCHEME

There's still time for you to submit your BASC voucher if you haven't already done so. You have until 30 September this year to apply. The scheme will be subsidizing gap fee payments for children in OOSH until end of June 2023 or to a max of \$500, whichever comes first. Let us know if you have any questions.

CCS 26 WEEK RULE STARTS SOON

A new CCS eligibility rule is starting soon. If a child hasn't used care at least once in the previous 26 weeks, CCS eligibility will cease. Families will need to submit a new claim if the child recommences care. For further information on this, please visit Services Australia.

CONFIRM YOUR INCOME DEADLINE

Please be advised that the deadline to confirm your income for 2019-20 to Centrelink if you haven't already done so is 30 June. After this date, you will lose all your CCS and have to pay it all back for that financial year.

The deadline for confirming your income for 2020-21 Income is 30 June 2022. If you don't confirm by this date, your CCS will stop and you will then be charged full fees.

Ways to confirm your income:

- Lodge your tax return or
- Tell Services Australia that you don't need to lodge a tax return.

BOOKINGS VIA THE PORTAL

A reminder that parents can make casual bookings for before, after and vacation care via the parent portal. If it is too close to the session (after 6pm previous business day), you won't be able to make the booking via the portal. Instead you will need to call or email us for a booking if we have space.

Permanent bookings and cancellation of bookings can only be made via service staff. Please call or email us.

Mark your child absent via the portal any time he/she is expected and won't be there. Please note all absences are payable.

WE'VE HEARD YOU!

Many thanks to those of you who responded to our survey. We read your feedback and comments with interest and appreciation. One change that resulted from your feedback was that all excursions involving bus hire will now have mandatory seatbelts for all passengers. This is one way in which we have been able to reflect the changes you want in our service.

MENU

Our menu for before and after school care is always on display on our website. Please visit [HERE](#) to check the weekly menu. We often post it on our Facebook page too. Our website is also a wealth of information for families with our latest holiday programme, Newsletters, latest news and useful links. Please visit it often to gain the best knowledge of your child's OOSH service.

ENROLLING FOR 2023

The start of term 4 is enrolment and re-enrolment time at Tanderra. We firstly invite our current families to re-enrol and book the places you need for the following year. Then we open up enrolments to new children. First priority is siblings of children currently attending, then anyone else on a priority basis according to our priority of access policy. In reality, we usually are able to accommodate all those needing places. Watch out for our email at the start of term 4 inviting you to re-enrol and enrol your children.

TECHNOLOGY PERMISSION

Some children like to bring their own technology device during the school holidays. This is especially of interest often to older children who are preparing to go off to high school. Because of the many safety issues involved in children using their own technology devices, please ensure you have submitted a [TECHNOLOGY PERMISSION FORM](#) if you would like your child to use his/her device while at Tanderra. It's vital that you go through the agreement with your child and ensure he/she understands the conditions of use in order to keep everyone safe.

ALLOWABLE ABSENCES FOR 2022-23

All families have been granted 52 allowable absences for the 2022-23 financial year. This is owing to covid. It will be automatically added to your account and you won't have to provide documentation in order to access them.

If you have already used your 52 absences, you can start to provide medical certificates for additional absences for **any member of the family**. Please email these docs through to us if you are in that situation.

ANNALISA'S FAREWELL

Annalisa will sadly be leaving us soon. Her last day will be Friday 15 July. If you'd like to drop by and say goodbye, we will be having a farewell afternoon tea at 3pm. All are welcome. If your children are not booked in for that day, please ensure you stay with them for that time. Annalisa has been a wonderful staff member, full of warmth and dedication to children, staff and parents. She will be great missed. If you'd like to make a small cash donation to Aunty or Suzanne, we will be buying her a special gift to bid her a fond farewell.

That's all for now. Thanks for reading our newsletter for term 2. Hope you all have a safe and relaxing holiday period

From all the Tanderra staff: Suzanne, Aunty Simone, Therese, Annalisa, Pheobe, Sharon and Hallam



Springwood Neighbourhood
Centre Co-operative Ltd