

Beginning 9th October

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEW

SECC's new Tutoring Program aims to enhance young people's autonomy & confidence in their school work. Our volunteers will provide long term guidance to support adolescents to feel confident at school.

Contact Tonny Ahmed at youthworker1@secc.sydney for more information or call 8338 8506









Are you between the ages of 12-18? Come join us for our first ever youth cooking program!

Sign up now to join our Term 4 sessions, beginning 8th October.

Shop 84, Eastlakes Shopping Centre, Contact Tonny or Jazzie on 83388506 for more details





Outside of School Hours Care Newsletter

## SMOOSH News



Term 3 2018



Safe, Multicultural Outside School Hours Care

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Welcome, We hope you are enjoying the beautiful onset of Spring.

#### **GRPS OSHC**

As previously informed via email, GRPS has engaged in an open tender process for the OSHC services. South Eastern Community Connect (SECC) has submitted a tender application for the continuation of our SMOOSH program, we are hopeful of a positive outcome and thank you all for your support and encouragement of our service.

SMOOSH will continue to provide services as per normal in Term 4 and the Vacation care period and prepare for 2019 as usual until an outcome of the tendering process has been announced.

#### 2019 Enrolments /re-enrolments

Enrolments and re-enrolments for 2019 is about to get underway from the start of Term Four. We will be asking all existing families to fill in the reenrolment forms and update any details around contacts, authorisations & any medical conditions in preparation for 2019. Please ensure you have your form completed and returned by the due date to avoid any disappointments.

#### SMOOSH CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

SMOOSH will be closed for two weeks in December over the Christmas break. The dates are from 24th of December 2018 to 6th of January 2019. we reopen on 7th of January 2019 for 3 weeks of vacation care before children go back to school in 2019.

We will have two pupil free days on 20 and 21 in December at the end of the School term

#### **SPRING HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

The Spring holiday program has now been released. There are some very exciting excursions and incursions in store for the children this term.

To secure a place please book early. You can download the holiday booking form from www.secc.sydney. We have some new excursions like the world Ju jitsu Ninja warriors, Wild play Centre in Centennial park and Lollipop play land in Concord, and plenty of old favourites like —Luna park, Kingpin bowling, and Movies. Apart from these there are loads more interesting activities at the Centre which makes for a whole two weeks of fun!

Rekkha Moda

# Contact us 02 8338 9678 www.secc.sydney



www.facebook.com/ SECC.Families/

Give us your email address to join SMOOSH's private Facebook group

## SMOOSH survey and feedback

A huge thank you to all parents/carers who have provided us with their support letters and feedback recently, we have been overwhelmed with the level of support we have received over the weeks. It is very heartening and encouraging to see that families appreciate the service we provide and it also makes us feel very confident about the whole tender process!

SMOOSH has surveyed parents/carers this term as part of our continuous improvement plan. Jill Bell (SMOOSH parent) has very kindly helped us devise this survey .The survey was based on the National Quality Standard's 7 quality areas regarding outcomes and support for children. OSHC services are assessed and rated by their regulatory authority against the NQS, and given a rating for each of the 7 quality areas and an overall rating based on these results, SMOOSH is proud to have been assessed as meeting/exceeding in each area in our most recent assessment at Eastlakes Public School this year. The 7 quality areas include:

QA1 Educational program and practice QA2 Children's health and safety QA3 Physical environment

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**QA4 Staffing arrangements** 

QA6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
QA7 Governance and Leadership

QA5 Relationships with children

Feedback received will be included in our Quality Improvement Plan to ensure that we are receiving high outcomes for children in our care and a summary of the results of this survey will also be shared via email with all SMOOSH families.

## **Vacation Care FUN**



















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## Vacation Care FUN clicks!!!









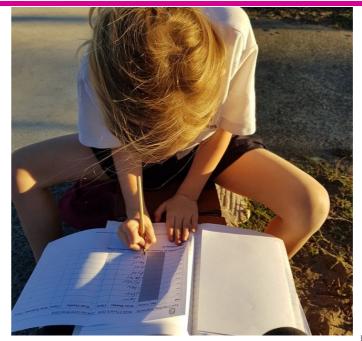








## Important Notices



### Car Park

Car Park for SMOOSH Parent use is in the designated parking area on Botany Road gates. The gates at Gardeners Road are going to remain closed during SMOOSH operating hours. Child safety is paramount. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



## Excellence in Education and Child Services!!

SMOOSH service has made been nominated as a finalist in the Bayside Council Business Awards for Excellence in Education and Child Services. The winners will be announced on 18th October by Bayside council.

The awards are in recognition having excelled in our field and making a positive contribution to the children and community. Being nominated and selected as a finalist is very encouraging and helps us to continue striving and being innovative in our services.

We are very grateful to the local community and families who have used our service over the years and deemed us worthy of getting nominated for this award.



### Seniors Program- (Year 5 and 6)

Throughout the term we have been discussing with the seniors (years 5 and 6) activities they would like to do at SMOOSH as part of After School care. It was clear the children desired more independence and trust in their abilities. Followed by more discussion, both educators and children agreed that excursions for the seniors would be beneficial in achieving those outcomes. Beginning term 4 we will be trialling this with one optional excursion per week that is within walking distance from the school accompanied by SMOOSH educators. Parent/Guardian information and permission slips will be provided for each proposed activity. A few of the children's ideas included bowling, going to a cafe, gym, Messina and the park.

We have decided to start off with an excursion to Manhattan bowling - The costs of these excursions will be maximum \$15. We are keen to hear what you think about this idea!

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## SMOOSH Curriculum



Sustainability

Sustainability is a continuous part of the SMOOSH curriculum and we strive to teach and encourage children to be environmentally friendly .

- Composting: we encourage children to use the compost and assist us in making sure food scraps are put into the compost when possible.
- Children assist by helping stir the compost, water the gardens, plant and pick fruit and veggies and sell the produce to families.
- Children assist in looking after/feeding the chickens and selling the eggs
- We keep the lights off when natural light is sufficient
- We open doors and windows for natural ventilation and cooling
- We have bench top compost bin at afternoon tea time for food scraps to go into (for composting in the main composting bins outside).
- We collect food scraps and other compost material from the local shops (eg bird shop)
- Children have a recycled materials box which they can access at any time for art and craft and any projects
- We encourage children to use recycled paper for paper planes and other paper craft.
- We encourage children to take only 1 paper towel to dry their hands after washing.
- We encourage children to turn off taps when not in use.
- We often use spontaneous conversations to discuss caring for the environment, and how we can be sustainable.

## Eastlakes SMOOSH

Cooking and Afternoon tea-Making Damper and Yum balls were very popular lessons in cooking class, a lot of children joining in on these and the enjoying them for afternoon tea. Children also made butter chicken on their own by peeling and cutting the potatoes as well as frying them and cooking the chicken as well.







Sustainability Our garden has flourished during term 3. We have grown many herbs, Vegetables and salads. Children loved maintaining the garden and harvesting the produce once it's done. They made signs and sat together to sell to all the parents who came by. REMINDER: We will be selling produce every 2 weeks on a Tuesday!







Free choice: Sand play was also very popular as well as making videos







## Eastlakes SMOOSH







### Art and craft

This term we had many different events and themes for the program including Naidoc week, Father's day, caring week where children wrote positive messages to each other and made jewellery for their friends and family and learnt sign language so they could communicate with others who can't speak. We also focussed a lot on different countries and the cultures the children are from. They shared their languages and taught each other and learnt about other things such as Henna. Music was a very big part of this term. Ana (staff) has also been teaching the children about world history while painting a large canvas of the world. Children enjoyed making up their own dances, having dancing competitions and listening to music while they do their activities. We also received a new keyboard which they children enjoyed learning different songs to play.













## Daily Evaluation / Documentation

Our daily evaluation documentation book is located on the sign in/out desk. There are photos and reflections of what your children have been up to at SMOOSH.

All our program activities are linked with My Time, Our Place Framework Outcomes for children.

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their

world

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

Adhering to the framework ensures that we are able to provide children with opportunities to maximise their potential and develop a foundation for future success in life.

## Notification of absence

It is critical to let us know if your child will not be attending in the afternoon as it causes immense stress to the staff and school if we are out looking for children who have simply been collected by the parents or is sick and we have not been notified.

## Keeping special toys & iPad safe

It is important for children to learn how to keep their belongings safe, respect the property of others and understand the consequence of not returning their belongings to their bag. Where possible please discourage your children from bringing 'precious' items to SMOOSH. We understand that some children need iPads and other electronic devices at school and appreciate these are expensive, fragile items. Please remind children that iPads and electronic devices should be handed in and collected from the SMOOSH Educators each day. This will help to minimise the risk of damage or loss of these items while at SMOOSH. Please remember that SMOOSH cannot take responsibility for lost or damaged items.

## Label your belongings:

Please label everything that comes to Vacation Care. At the end of the holiday program there is always a large amount of lost property, much of this is never collected & is donated to charity. If your child has lost an item please check the lost property box, located outside the SMOOSH room.

## **Cultural Experiences**

We would like your help with teaching the children about all the wonderful cultures of the world. We try to make the presentations as interesting and informative as possible!

We want to know about your culture, your experiences and your performances!

If you have any cultural stories, performances, music, special foods you would like to share we would love to hear from you!



## Educator Profile Afternoon Tea

## Children's Comments

## **Adamo De Nigris**

**Cultural background:** 

Australian and Italian

Languages spoken: English

And Italian

**Qualifications:** Studying a bachelor of Communications

(Journalism)

**Hobbies:** Playing/watching sport, Jiu Jitsu and boxing, acting, gym, and watching movies.

## How long have you worked at SMOOSH and what inspired you to get into Outside of School Hours Care?

I have been working at SMOOSH for over six months now and absolutely love it. I'm the oldest cousin in a big family so I've developed an ability to connect with kids through my experiences of babysitting and being a role model to younger members of my family. After coaching kid's soccer for two years, I thought that a job like SMOOSH would be perfect for me to further enhance my skills of working with children.

## What is your background - that is what did you do before you started working at SMOOSH?

I worked in a sandwich shop, as well as coaching kid's soccer both of which were very enjoyable.

#### What is your favourite part of day at the Centre?

Running outdoor activities is my favourite part of the daywhether it's playing a game of soccer/touch footy or other out door games. Connecting with the children through sport is very rewarding as it is something I enjoyed when I was their age and still do now.

#### What do you remember about your first day at SMOOSH?

The most memorable thing about my first day was the amount of children who helped me learn SMOOSH's daily routine and remember everyone's names.

## What is the funniest thing a child at SMOOSH has ever said and how did you react?

During my first week, I was told by multiple kids that I needed to get a new phone because "nobody has an iPhone 5 anymore". When I came back the next week with a new phone they then said that I needed to get new shoes because they were 'ugly'

## **Anzac Biscuits**

Ingredients:

- 1 cup plain flour
- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup coconut
- 125 g butter
- 2 tbs golden syrup
- 1 tbs water
- 1/2 tsp bicarbonate of soda



### Method:

#### STEP 1

Sift the flour into a bowl. Add the sugar, rolled oats and coconut.

#### STEP 2

Melt the butter in a saucepan, then add golden syrup and water.

#### STEP 3

Stir the bicarbonate of soda into the liquid mixture.

#### STEP 4

Add the liquid to the dry ingredients and mix thoroughly.

#### STEP 5

Place walnut-sized balls of mixture on a greased tray and bake at 175C for 15-20 minutes.

#### STEP 6

Biscuits will harden when cool.

"I like SMOOSH because Mia makes afternoon tea"

Aubreigh

" I like to go to SMOOSH and play with my friends"

Nupur

"I like SMOOSH they have computers, a lot of books, and afternoon tea"

"SMOOSH people care for us when we get hurt, when we are sad and when we are mad. SMOOSH people care"



"SMOOSH is the best"

Joe

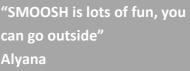
"SMOOSH is the best because they let us outside to play soccer."

Clayton

"At SMOOSH I get to play sports with my friends and catch-up on my homework. I like playing soccer with Adamo because it is fun."

Zephr





"SMOOSH is best because there are kind, cool, nice .We can play soccer and footy" Liam

"I like SMOOSH because they let us go outside and paly on the equipment" Hayden

