

The Families Newsletter of South Eastern Community Connect



South Eastern *Families* Connect

Mar 18



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Independence, Well-being and Quality of Life.

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www.facebook.com
/SECC.Families/

Welcome

to our first SECC Newsletter for 2018! I can hardly believe that we're writing 2018 now – where does time go?

I'm also sure most of us will be thankful for the cooler weather that has been coming in. I certainly am. My first baby is due in a few weeks and it has certainly been a long, hot summer!

This issue is jam packed with lots of activities for everyone to enjoy, program vacancies and services to use – and we also have our membership forms ready for you for this year and the next few years if you would like a multiyear membership.

The calendar on the back page is very handy to guide you over April and May which clearly lays out everything you need to know and when its happening.

It's great to see the centre so busy and raring to go with so much happening!

We also extend our greeting to new staff aboard! We welcome Muzi and Kylie aboard SECC and hope they feel at home with us!

We hope you enjoy this issue!

Catherine

Catherine Fraser, Editor.



Welcome baby Madeleine

Congratulations to our volunteer editor Catherine on the birth of her baby daughter Madeleine. 3.26kgs and 51cm of perfection.

What's On



Mum's English Class

Come and learn English with us! Bring your children along and enjoy your English class followed by half an hour together reading, singing songs and activities for mums and their children.

Fridays, 10am—12PM during school terms.

\$15 per term

First Aid and CPR

Learn about choking, drowning, sunburn, stings and CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) for children and see a demonstration. No children are allowed in this session. Childcare is available at \$20 per child.

Thursday 3rd of May, 10am-12pm.



Toy Library

Join our toy library for just \$30 a year and bring home different toys every two weeks.

We have just under 1,000 toys in stock, from construction to dress ups, from educational to just plain fun.

With outside working hours pickups and drop-offs available this is the perfect program for every family.

Find your Tribe

Playgroups are social groups where parents chat and children play, explore and learn together. They are the regular, informal gatherings that provide a welcome break from the daily routine of new parents. They are a brilliant way to connect with other parents in your neighbourhood, grow a local support network and form “your tribe”.

“Our playgroups go that extra step further. They are run by a trained early childhood educator to provide quality, developmental play activities and qualified advice to parents. Our staff are trained in key word signing, for example, and we also have a family worker attend our playgroups to answer questions, offer referrals and provide extra support to any parents who may need it”, explains Bronwynn Jursik, Team Leader Families and Children Services.

“Ours are also some of the few playgroups where you can complete your Blue Book assessments with our qualified team. Our parents love this service not just because it is free of charge, but because the assessment is being done by someone who truly knows their child, has spent time observing them through play and has years of experience with children’s behaviour and development”, she says.

The Blue Book is a personal health record book which is given to all babies born in Australia. If your child was born overseas we can give you a Blue Book when you make a Blue Book booking with us”, Bronwynn explains.

“We also organise regular expert talks and presentations on topics like nutrition, behaviours, bilingualism and more.”

Bronwynn started her first two playgroups with South Eastern Community Connect 10 years ago and is now about to open two more to meet demand. Having worked in this community for over a decade, Bronwynn is the person to go to for local tips, contacts and advice.

“This February we are starting a new group in the Hall of Chifley Public School and another in

Kensington Park Community Centre, Kingsford. We are just finalising our program to offer play opportunities to boost children’s development and localised information for parents”, says Bronwynn.

This is the kind of service and care you won’t find in community playgroups that are organised by other parents. It is exclusive to what is called supported playgroups.

Supported playgroups – what’s the difference?

Unlike community playgroups, supported playgroups receive government funding to employ trained early childhood educators to foster the wellbeing of both children and their parents, together.

These groups are particularly good for families who find it hard to feel included and benefit from community playgroups. These are often families with particular needs or vulnerabilities, such as families from overseas, families who are socially isolated or disadvantaged or are experiencing health issues or disabilities.

For parents in these circumstances, having a designated go-to person in what might otherwise seem like a closed club, can be the ice breaker they need to make the most of playgroup’s opportunities: meet other local parents and share experiences while children play, learn and socialise.

Does that mean it’s only for families with additional needs? Absolutely not! Supported playgroups celebrate diversity. They provide a colourful environment to stimulate your child’s development, are a treasure trove of parenting tips and ideas and a platform to forge friendships and social networks with people who you might otherwise never meet.



Best of all, this is your local group with people from your neighbourhood – share ideas for the best local activities for toddlers, get recommendations on child-friendly services, the best playgrounds and all those insider tips that make your community the best place to raise your family.

Come and play!

Mondays, 10AM - 12PM, gardeners Road Playgroup, Gardeners Road Public School

Tuesdays, 10AM - 12PM, Eastlakes Playgroup, Eastlakes Public School

Wednesdays, 10AM - 12PM, Kensington Park Community Centre, starts February 21

Thursdays, 10AM - 12PM, Chifley Public School, starts February 22

Cost: \$3 plus a piece of fruit to share

Welcome to the team



Ashleigh Holmes
Deputy CEO



Sean Mahony
Family Worker



49K Grant to support local families

Start right, start early

The Family Services Team of South Eastern Community Connect has received a Stronger Community Grant from Bayside Council to kickstart an innovative program to support local families with early intervention.

The grant of \$49,654 will fund a program called "Start Right, Start Early." The program is a pilot to create a model of integrated care, linking access to a Child and Family Health Nurse, Community Child Health services, Speech Pathology, key child and family services providers and the NGO sector.

The program will create a hub at playgroups to give families access to a range of services in one place, with support from the playgroup facilitator, a qualified early childhood educator who knows the child, the family and their needs.

"Finding the right information, support and services for each individual family at the right time is a

complex task, and some families, for example those for whom English is not the first language or those whose children have additional needs, finding what they need in one place can be near impossible," explains Vida Tebyani, Manager Family and Multicultural Programs with South Eastern Community Connect.

"Waiting lists can be long, assessments are expensive, and parents can end up chasing appointments with several providers but without an integrated outcome", Vida explains.

"Our program aims to create a "one stop shop" and a first port of call for families who don't know where to start their journey to finding the right support.

"We are integrating this hub into our playgroups because it is the early years and the preschool year that make all the difference for a child's potential to succeed in school," she says.

The program will start to roll out in the playgroups of South Eastern Community Connect from ...



For more information contact

Vida Tebyani

Manager Family and
Multicultural Programs

02 8338 8506



Volunteers needed

Can you spare some hours to help at our playgroups or with childcare during information sessions?

Would you enjoy helping with school holiday activities?

Or are you tech savvy and can fix electronic toys?

Please call our Volunteer Coordinator Sue on

02 8338 8506

SMOOSH

Our outside of school hours care at Gardeners Road runs vacation care during school holidays, which is open to all primary aged children irrespective of which school they attend. Subscribe to our newsletter or check our website and facebook page to get the latest program.

Bookings usually open two weeks prior to the holidays.



Parents *only*

Look after your family and after yourself with services and courses from your community centre.

Community Gardeners Wanted!

Your community garden provides fresh produce and plants to share and connects us with the environment and other people in our community.

Contact us for days and times.



NEW Sewing classes for Parents

Learn to make or repair clothes, hem uniforms and sew basic projects.

- **Beginner Classes** Fridays 10am - 12pm, 4 May - 6 July
- \$10 per class

Eastlakes Shopping Centre



Form support - JP Service every day

Trouble filling out official forms and applications?

- We can help you understand the processes,
- guide you through the completion and
- help you submit the official forms and documentation.

By appointment.



Tai Chi

Experience the many health benefits of Tai Chi with our experienced instructors.

Beginner Classes Wednesday 12:30 - 2:00pm

Advance Classes Monday 10:00 - 11:30am

Eastlakes Scout Hall



Membership Application



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

- \$5 **Basic** Annual Membership — same as in past years
- \$15 **Standard** Annual Membership
- \$50 **Families** Annual Membership
- \$100 **Organisational** Annual Membership

3-YEAR MEMBERSHIPS

- \$12 **Basic** 3-year Membership
- \$38 **Standard** 3-year Membership
- \$120 **Families** 3-year Membership

I would like to receive

- SECC Annual Report
- Seniors Newsletter, email / mail (please circle)
- Families Newsletter, email / mail (please circle)

PERSONAL DETAILS

Title Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms (please circle) Other: _____

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

Gender Male, Female, Other (please circle) **Date of Birth** ____ / ____ / ____

Email _____

Mobile _____ **Home phone** _____

Languages spoken _____

Address _____

Suburb _____ **State** _____ **Postcode** _____

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

I would like to gift this membership to _____ / _____ (First Name / Last Name)

Address _____ **Suburb** _____ **NSW** _____ **Postcode** _____

Phone number _____ **Email address** _____

PAYMENT DETAILS

Please find attached my membership payment by

Cash

I wish to pay by Direct Deposit.

Commonwealth Bank
Account Name: South Eastern Community Connect
Acc#: 00 90 23 76
BSB: 062 - 201
Reference: Membership First Name Last Name

I understand that membership and benefits are not transferable and the fee, or any part there of is not refundable.

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Please send your completed membership form to;

South Eastern Community Connect
PO Box 3007, Eastlakes NSW 2018

Drop it into our office
Shop 84 Eastlakes Shopping Centre , Evans Avenue

Fax it to 02 8338 8502 or email a scan of your completed form to secc@secc.sydney

Privacy

Your personal information in this form is required for us to process your membership application. The primary uses of personal information collected by SECC includes meeting the requirements of the Associations *Incorporations Act 2009*, and other relevant legislation, processing member applications, to provide you with the membership benefits goods and services and to inform you about other SECC services available to you. SECC will not disclose your information to third parties without your consent unless in situations unless if required by law. You can gain access to the information we hold on you by contacting our office.

Terms and conditions

Memberships are non-transferrable, non-refundable and not redeemable for cash. Gift Memberships may be purchased for a nominated recipient who will be entitled to the benefits of the selected Gift Membership. Multiyear memberships must be paid for in full at the time of joining. Benefits for multi-year memberships will renew every year for the duration of the membership. Unused benefits do not accrue and expire at the end of each financial year. Members are entitled to the benefits of their membership type only. SECC reserves the right to make changes to the benefits of the membership if necessary and will notify members of any changes. To discontinue a membership and unsubscribe from the benefits and communications please notify the office at any time. SECC offers membership to all clients and may wave membership fees on a case by case basis. Bus trips are subject to availability, and certain bus trips are accessible to clients meeting eligibility criteria only (an assessment is required if not already completed for you). Meeting room hire is casual only and subject to availability.

SECC Annual Memberships	\$100 Organisational Membership (Includes a \$50 tax deductible donation)	\$50 Family Membership	\$15 Standard Membership	\$5 Basic Membership
Recognition in the annual report and on www.secc.sydney and with logo and link	✓			
Advertising space 1/6 page in quarterly Family or Seniors newsletter	✓			
Exposure at SECC events	✓			
FREE toy library membership		✓		
FREE 3-session playgroup pass		✓		
Priority booking for one parent at our parenting workshops (1 guaranteed spot per booking)		✓		
One FREE trial of each of our regular classes, including parenting, Tai Chi, sewing, languages **		✓	✓	
One FREE bus trip per year ***			✓	
FREE meeting room hire *	✓	✓	✓	
Invitation to the Annual General Meeting with refreshments	✓	✓	✓	✓
Voting rights at the Annual General Meeting		✓	✓	✓
FREE Tax help for income earners under 50,000		✓	✓	✓
FREE Legal advice		✓	✓	✓
FREE Justice of the Peace service		✓	✓	✓
FREE form support		✓	✓	✓
FREE resume support		✓	✓	✓
FREE parenting classes		✓	✓	✓
Free computer classes		✓	✓	✓
Quarterly Seniors and / or Family Newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Annual Report	✓	✓	✓	✓

* Casual hire only for meetings up to 8 people during office hours subject to availability.

** Classes and timetables are subject to change throughout the year. Please refer to our calendar in our newsletters or on our website for details on what is available each term.

*** Subject to availability. Certain bus trips are accessible to clients meeting eligibility criteria only.

March to June 2018

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
<p>Toy Library (SECC) Hire & return 10:00am - 4:00pm</p> <p>Gardeners Road Playgroup Gardeners Road Public School 10:00am - 12:00pm</p>	<p>Toy Library (SECC) Return only 10:00am - 4:00pm</p> <p>Eastlakes Playgroup Eastlakes Public School Hall 10:00am - 12:00pm</p>	<p>Toy Library (SECC) Hire & return 10:00am - 4:00pm</p> <p>Kensington Park Playgroup Kensington Park Community Centre</p>	<p>Toy Library (SECC) Return only 10:00am - 4:00pm</p>	<p>Toy Library (SECC) Hire & return 10:00am—4:00pm</p> <p>Mum's English Class With childcare 10:00am—12:00pm</p>
			<p>First Aid for children 3 May 2018 10:00am –12:00pm Bookings essential</p>	

Programs and classes run during school terms only.

Toy Library is open during school terms and school holidays.