



Dear Family of YMCA Darling Heights OSHC welcome to our February 2018 service newsletter

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Bookings and Cancellations

Please see below paragraph from the Family Handbook which should have been received with your yearly Enrolment Pack. Booking and cancellation information can also be found on our Fee Schedule.

“At YMCA OSHC we attempt to cater to all families with regard to days needed for care. Bookings can either be on a permanent or casual basis. It helps in our planning for staff and activities if families book children in on regular days according to need. We understand that some families will be unable to predict days needed and we will try to accommodate; however due to licensing requirements there may be some days we will have to refuse care to casual bookings. Parents/Guardians must notify staff of cancellations to a session booking by 6pm of the previous Friday to avoid charge.”

*If you would like another copy of the Family Handbook please let either Helen or Melissa know.

Please remember our service is licenced by Department of Early Childhood Education and Care for only 60 children per session.

Absent Days - Please contact us:

If your child/ren will be absent on any given day or session during the week, we require you to let us know as the school does not inform us and it makes a huge difference and minimises the impact of the running of our daily program, not to mention the safety of all our children.

Please add our phone numbers to your contact lists on your personal phones and give us a call or text as soon as you become aware that your child/ren will not be attending a booked session. Our numbers are: 4635 6308 and 0455 088 401.

Family use of Toilets:

At YMCA Darling Heights OSHC we are happy for our families to use our toilets if in need. Due to our child safety policies, it would be much appreciated if you could let the 'Responsible Person in Charge' (Helen or Melissa) know so that we can ensure the safety of all people here at YMCA. The Responsible Person in Charge will check the toilets are child free before an adult enters. Your understanding in this matter is greatly appreciated.

What's New at YMCA Darling Heights OSHC:

❖ Online Booking Service

[Booking Now Made Easy with our Online Booking Service Now AVAILABLE at YMCA Darling Heights OSHC](#)

We also encourage families to use our easy and convenient online booking service through your smart phone app "My Family Lounge".

If you would like to know more or you are unable to source your logon details please contact us as soon as possible so that we can assist you.

I am able to get our online My Family Lounge provider to send you logon details to your email address.

It's as easy as down loading the app to your smart phone, logging on, popping in your logon password and you are all set to go.



Educator News



Cheryl Mannion has unfortunately resigned from her position here at YMCA Darling Heights. Cheryl's last day was Friday the 9th of February. We thank Cheryl for all of her contributions here at YMCA and wish her well on her future endeavours.



Jessica Pomare has now taken on the role of coordinator here at YMCA Darling Heights. Welcome to the new role Jess!

We would like to mention that we are currently in the process of hiring new educators for the service. An introduction will be made upon commencement of employment.

Educator's Professional Development

- Helen Collyer attended a QCAN training session at PCYC Toowoomba. This session was titled "Changes to the National Quality Framework & the revised National Quality Standard with Self-Assessment & Quality Improvement Planning."
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Activities and Projects:

During the month of February, our children participated in many exciting experiences here at YMCA OSHC.

Term Time:

Week 3: Our focus this week was Sign Language. We spent the week learning words to sign and some very basic sentences. This will aid in helping children become more diverse in communication and appreciating the diversity of people in the world.

Week 4: This week we began our new country of the month Africa. We began by looking at their food, animals and some fun interesting facts. We also celebrated Valentines Day and discussed the history of how it came to be. At the end of the week we celebrated Chinese New Year and found out that it is the year of the dog.

Week 5: The African theme continued with focus on the history, landmarks and education of Africa. We participated in making flags for some African countries, getting creative in role play games in home corner and making some harma bead stencils. Our children also engaged in rejuvenating our garden by planting some new vegetables.

Week 6:



The Dove family taking home some of our fresh produce



Planting new vegetables into our garden



Some Harma Bead fun



Proud of her efforts for completing the puzzle



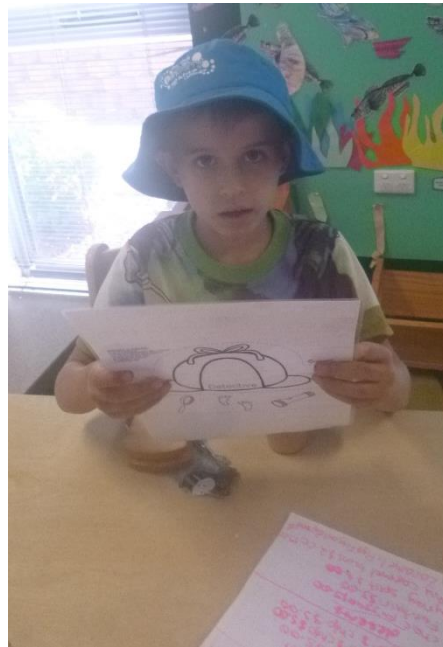
Role play restaurants in home corner



African Masai necklace crafts



The children learning how to make the best rocket so it will fly well.



One of our children ordering himself some lunch from our Blue Moon Café in our home corner.

Safe Guarding Children and Young People:

Child Protection is Everyone's Business.

Please see below for some supportive links full of information and contacts.

- **Amego App information available at:** <http://www.earlylearningreview.com.au/morcombes-launch-amego-app-for-child-safety/>
- **Daniel Morcombe Foundation** – To find out more information on Child Safety go to the below website. <http://www.danielmorcombe.com.au/>
- **Child protection** - www.communities.qld.gov.au/ , www.qld.gov.au/community/getting-support-health-social-issue/reporting-child-abuse/index.html , (National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect - NAPCAN) – www.napcan.org.au/resource-hub/
- **Community events** - www.mycommunityconnect.com.au
- **Child Care Benefit** - www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/child-care-rebate
- **Domestic Violence** - <http://www.dvconnect.org/about-us/> (Hotline **1800 811 811** 24/7)
- **Immunisation** - [http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/5403D77C07E1973ACA257D49001E3775/\\$File/NIP-schedule2016.pdf](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/5403D77C07E1973ACA257D49001E3775/$File/NIP-schedule2016.pdf)
- **Inclusion Support** - www.ku.com.au/resources/documents/FSF%20Information%20for%20Families%20Brochure.pdf
- **Mental Health** - www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/about-mental-health/mental-health-basics/when-life-hurts
- **Nutrition** - www.naqlld.org/services/healthy-at-home/
- **Physical Activity** - [www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/F01F92328EDADA5BCA257BF0001E720D/\\$File/brochure%20PA%20Guidelines_A5_5-12yrs.PDF](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/F01F92328EDADA5BCA257BF0001E720D/$File/brochure%20PA%20Guidelines_A5_5-12yrs.PDF)
- **Raising Children Network** – (General and contemporary topics e.g. nutrition, physical activity, play, computers and technology, effective hygiene practices, immunisation, infection control) www.raisingchildren.net.au/school_age/school_age.html
- **Relationships Australia Queensland** - www.raq.org.au/
- **Sun Safety** - www.qld.gov.au/health/staying-healthy/environmental/sun/index.html
- **Support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families**- www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/reform-and-renewal/child-and-family/working-better-with-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-families
- **Triple P Parenting** - www.triplep-parenting.net.au/qld-uken/about-triple-p/positive-parenting-program
Phone Parentline on 1300 30 1300
- **Family and Child Connect** - <http://www.familychildconnect.org.au/index.asp>

Facebook Information:

- ❖ Like us on Facebook to view our exciting posts and see what your children are really up to while there with us. Every week we post pictures and information about what our children engage in whilst at YMCA Darling Heights OSHC.

<https://www.facebook.com/YMCA-Brisbane-Outside-School-Hours-Care-740250386008243/timeline/>

**Policy of the Month - February;
Policy 22 - Food and Nutrition**

Policy Content;

- Development and Review of Food and Nutrition Policy
- Recommended Food
- Provision of Healthy and Varied Food Choices
- The Eating Environment
- Staffing Expectations
- Serving of Food
- Involving Children
- Drinking Water
- Diverse Cultural Experiences
- Communicating with Families
- Professional Development
- Food Experiences
- Food Act Compliance

Community Information

Initiative that is being offered by Australia Post. Free 12-Month mail re-direction service for Domestic and Family Violence Victims. Eligible customers experiencing domestic and family violence who need to arrange a Mail Redirection Service will be able to access this for 12 months free of charge from Australia Post. This is a great initiative which will be a great help to clients who are fleeing their homes due to domestic and family violence. Please see link below for more details on how to apply: <https://auspost.com.au/parcels-mail/manage-your-mail/redirect-hold-mail/redirect-mail/free-mail-redirection>

If there are any areas of interest or other items you would like added to our newsletter please let us know by forwarding an email to adh@ymca.org.au or write your area of interest in our family communication book found on the family information table.

Warm Regards
Jessica Pomare and the Darling Heights Team