



# **TERM TWO 2023**

**NEWSLETTER** 



### **BONNIES BLOG**

#### **BONNIE FRASER**

Dear families

This has been a really full few months with so much happening in the centres. First, I am sure all of you would know about the passing of Paige and Blake's little Boy Harlyn, we are all devastated and know that you as parents are as well. We had our day for Harlyn on Wednesday the 17th of May, and we just want to thank you all for the amazing donations that we received. All of this has been given to Harlyn's family. Please keep this family in your prayers as we know that grief from losing anyone let alone a child is ongoing and we want to support Paige and her family as much as we can. We will be having a special day for Harlyn each year where we will be donating to a childhood cancer cause. Thank you for wearing Green on this special day.

We had the under eights week festivities even though the weather stopped us from having our long-awaited color run that week, but we rescheduled and had a ball with the children getting very colourful. I loved seeing the children all dressed up in their costumes, some of our educators also dressed up which the children thought was funny.

Mother's Day was lovely, and I know we not only all went home with our hands and nails brightly covered in nail varnish, but our hands were nicely moisturized! Thank you to all the Mums and special friends that came, we hope you all had an amazing Mother's Day.

Reconciliation week is 29th May - 2nd June. One of the areas we are concentrating on this year is embedding indigenous culture into our everyday teachings. We have engaged with a indigenous professional to assist us in creating a reconciliation action plan. A reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is a formal commitment to reconciliation. It documents how early learning services strengthen, respect, and provide opportunities in the classroom around the service and with the community. If any of you would like to be involved in this plan, please feel free to message me.

Hope Island have now had their class photos, and we are looking forward to Coomera's photos on the 20th June - 23rd June, please ensure that you have completed the photo envelope. Remember that the class photos are a moment in time and those memories will last a life time. I know my children always look back on their Kindy photos.

Miss Bonnie

## **EDUCATIONAL LEADER**

MISS INDIE

Hi Families,



I can't believe we are already well into our term 2 program for the year. This term our educators are working on strengthening your child's goals, set at the beginning of the year and come the end of term will begin writing your child's Midyear Celebration. This document is always such a favourite of mine, as it captures your child's learning at Bonny Babes for the first half of the year so beautifully. I love reading all the of achievements our wonderful children have made and will continue to make this year. Some of our classrooms may ask you to join with them to reevaluate your child's goals come June as your child may have already achieved the goals set for them or their learning may have taken a new direction. At Bonny Babes we acknowledge that parents and guardians are every child's first teacher and we value your input on your child's learning.

May and June are always busy times of the year for our classrooms as we celebrate Under 8's week, reconciliation week, NAIDOC week, national simultaneous story time and many other exciting events in our centre community. All of our educator teams have been working hard on extending their knowledge around critical reflection with recent professional development taken by Dr Melinda Miller. Critical Reflection is the driving force behind meaningful learning and practise improvement and we are so fortunate that we are able come together as a team to build on our knowledge.



# Miss Indie

# **DIRECTORS BLOG**

### **HOPE ISLAND**

#### MISS BRIONEY & MISS NICOLLE

It is definitely getting cooler as we head towards winter, but haven't the sunny days been beautiful. There has been a lot happening throughout the centre since our last newsletter. We enjoyed having our Mothers, Grandmothers and special friends share the morning with us to celebrate "Mother's Day" and we celebrated Under 8s week with a variety of events each day. We had our photographer visit to take our annual class photos (please allow 4 weeks for them to return) and also joined the world of "solar power".

Our centre is almost completely full, with only a few days remaining in our kindy room and most rooms now have waiting lists. We will still continue to do our best to accommodate swap days and extra days etc. It is also the time of year for viruses and colds/flu. We remain vigilant in our cleaning procedures and thank all families for their ongoing support by keeping ill children at home until they are well.

# Miss Brioney & Miss Nicolle

# DIRECTORS BLOG COOMERA

MISS MEL & MISS STEFF

Hi Families,

We have had such a busy few months here at our Coomera centre, welcoming so many new families to our service. As always, If there is anything we can do to make this transition smooth for your family, please let us know.

We want to send a massive thank you to all of our families who donated towards our fundraiser in support of Harlyn's family through this extremely difficult time. We managed to raise over \$1000, which we have donated to Paige, Blake and Merci. We also want to thank everyone for their kindness, love and support to our team through this very difficult time.

It has been a busy few months, celebrating Mothers day with our pamper morning. We then had under 8's week and the children enjoyed getting creative with their dressing up each and every day. This week the children have been engaged in reconciliation week activities and learning about indigenous culture through sensory exploration, music and movement.

We have a few new staff members here at Coomera, so please make them feel welcome. We have also welcomed Miss Abby back from maternity leave.

Our door is always open, so please come and see us if there is anything that you need.

# Miss Mel & Miss Steff

## **CHANGE OF DETAILS**

Please let us know if any of your details have changed - have you moved house or changed your phone number or email? You can collect a change of details form at reception or email your changes through to Venetia on venetia@bonnybabeschildcare.com.au





## **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

We are so excited to have our extra curricular sports at Bonny Babes. Children who are engaging in physical activity are increasing their skills in walking, running, balance, climbing, kicking & catching, they are also working on their social play with turn taking, listening to the coach and following simple step directions. This is all helping their development and they are having so much fun.

#### SIBA SOCCER 3–5YRS

This program is for 3-5yr olds and are held at all Bonny Babes Childcare Centres. The duration of these sessions is around 30 minutes. We believe these programs assist with a child's fundamental learning in a safe, fun and structured environment. This program focuses on social and personal learning (trust in peers, turn taking, collaboration, friendships), mathematical learning (comparing, colours, counting, length, estimation), active learning (problem solving, following instructions, concentration and persistence, reasoning and making decisions) language, communication, healthy and physical learning (body co-ordination, balance and strength, flexibility and perception). Following each weeks sessions, we provide an interactive colouring in sheet for each participating child in relation to that particular weekly activity.

Hope Island: Tuesdays Coomera: Thursdays

TENNIS 3-5YRS

Hope Island: Monday & Friday

Coomera: Mondays

BALLET 3-5YRS

Hope Island: Fridays Coomera: Tuesdays

If you would like your child to take part in any of these extra-curricular activities please fill out the forms in reception and we can ensure that your child is added.

### **ADMIN TEAM**

#### MISS ELAINE & MISS VENETIA

#### Centrelink

As a Centre we do our best to inform families of any changes to their CCS approved percentage and hours of care as soon as the change occurs. Please be aware that these decisions are made solely by Centrelink based on your personal circumstances.

As a Centre we are responsible for submitting the correct hours of attendance including arrival and departure times. Centrelink are responsible for the payment of the Child Care Subsidy.

If you do believe at any time that your assessment for CCS is incorrect then please call Centrelink on 13 61 50 to have this investigated. You can also log into your MYGOV account to check and update your details at any time.

Admin Hub Hours

Monday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Tuesday 8.30am - 4pm

Wednesday 8.30am - 4.30pm Thursday 8.30am - 4pm Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm "I love playing with the animals and the trucks in my classroom"

- MILAYA AGE 3 HOPE ISLAND

Your weekly fees are processed on Wednesday morning. Please contact Admin **before 10am Wednesday** if you have any questions in regards to your account prior to the payments being uploaded.

### **4 YEAR OLD HEALTHY CHILD CHECKS**

Don't forget to have your child seen by your GP or Child Health Clinic for their 4 year old healthy child check. You can have this check done anytime between 3.5yrs - 5yrs old. You will need to take along your child's personal health record book (their red book) to be filled in.

At this visit the Doctor or Nurse will make sure your child is on track for health and well being. It will include things like:

- height and weight
- eyesight hearing
- immunisation
- oral health
- toileting
- allergies

If you receive family Tax Benefit part A and do not have the healthy child check completed, your FTB part A for that child may be reduced.



### **BONNY BABES FACEBOOK PAGES**



Have you liked our Facebook pages? Each of our centres has its own Facebook page and we love to share information on the latest in child development, whats on in the local area and our weekly menus are shared each Monday morning.

We often use Facebook to remind parents of a special dress up day coming up or if they need to bring something along to kindy that day, we know it can be hard to remember everything that we have on here at Bonny Babes.

Facebook is also a great tool for us to share what is happening in our centres each week. We love to share about staff training and if we have any shows or special visitors to our centre, we share that too!

Don't forget Bonny Babes Coomera are also offering 4 hour sessions for children aged 3 years and over.

Great for parents who are only allocated limited CCS hours or children who are new to childcare.
\$69 Per Session (before CCS)

Give Miss Mel Or Miss Steff at reception a call to find out more! (07) 55199722..





# What we have been up to at Bonny Babes...



We pampered our Mums at our mothers day pamper morning

We all dressed up in green to remember little Harlyn





# **Hope Island**

Our educators updated their CPR and First Aide training



# Coomera



We learnt all about Anzac day



We celebrated our Mums at our mothers day pamper morning



green to remember little Harlyn

We had a great time getting colourful in our colour run







# **Changes to Child Care Subsidy**

From 10 July 2023 there are 2 important changes to Child Care Subsidy (CCS), to make child care more affordable for most families.

There are changes to the way we calculate CCS entitlement known as Cheaper Child Care. There are also changes to the activity test for families caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

### **Cheaper Child Care**

#### What you need to know

- The maximum amount of CCS is increasing from 85% to 90%. Families earning up to \$80,000 will get the new maximum percentage of 90%.
- Families earning over \$80,000 may get a subsidy starting from 90%. This will go down by 1% for each \$5,000 of income they earn above \$80,000. The CCS percentage you're entitled to depends on your family's income.
- The income limit for CCS is increasing to \$530,000.

For more information about CCS, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/childcaresubsidy

Use the Starting Blocks calculator to see what your rate may be from 10 July 2023, go to **startingblocks.gov.au** 

# Families with more than one child aged 5 or under

Families earning below \$362,408 with more than one child aged 5 or under in care can get a higher rate of CCS for one or more of their children.

#### If you get Additional Child Care Subsidy

If you get Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) your rates will stay the same.

From 10 July 2023, the low income limit for ACCS Transition to Work (TTW) will increase to \$80,000. You will still need to meet other ACCS TTW eligibility requirements.

#### What you need to do

In most cases, you don't need to do anything to get the increased rate. If you get CCS, we'll apply changes to your CCS automatically from 10 July 2023.

#### Updating your family income estimate

The amount of CCS you get is calculated using your family income estimate. It's important to make sure that you check your income estimate regularly and update it if your circumstances change.

If you get CCS or if you're already assessed for CCS but get 0%, you may be entitled to an increased rate. Check your family income estimate is up to date so you get the right amount from 10 July 2023.

You can check or update your income estimate at any time using:

- your Centrelink online account through my.gov.au
- the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app
- the myGov app.

For more information about how to update your family income estimate, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/familyincomeestimate

#### Making a claim for CCS

From 10 July 2023 the income limit for CCS is increasing to \$530,000. This means that more families will be entitled to CCS to reduce their child care costs.

If you want to check your eligibility for CCS, you can make a claim using your Centrelink online account through myGov or your Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.

If you make a claim and it's assessed before 10 July 2023, you may be assessed at 0% if your income is over \$356,756. Your new rate of CCS will automatically apply to you from 10 July 2023.

You can make a claim for CCS any time using:

- your Centrelink online account through my.gov.au
- · the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app
- · the myGov app.

For more information about how to claim CCS, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/how-to-claim-child-care-subsidy

# What's happening from 10 July 2023

If you already get CCS or have made a claim, we'll send you a letter with your new CCS rates and you'll also be able to see them in:

- your online account through myGov. Select My family from the Menu, then Family assistance, followed by Child Care Subsidy Summary to view your rate.
- your Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.
   Select Child Care Subsidy, then Children assessed to view your rate.

You can talk to your child care service about how your CCS reduces the child care fees you pay.

### Activity test changes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

#### What you need to know

- From 10 July 2023, there are changes to CCS for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
   The changes mean they can get at least 36 hours of subsidised care per fortnight, regardless of their family's income or activity level.
- Families may get more than 36 hours of subsidy per fortnight based on their circumstances and the amount of recognised activity they do.

For more information about CCS, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/childcaresubsidy

#### What you need to do

You can tell us if you have an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child in your care to get at least 36 hours of subsidised care per fortnight. You can update your child's CCS details by calling us on **136 150**.

It is voluntary to tell us if you have an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander child in your care.

The information you provide to us will be used to work out your CCS entitlement. We may also use it to help us improve services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. If you choose not to tell us that a child in your care is an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, this will not change your CCS entitlements.

You do not need to do anything if you already get more than 36 hours of subsidy based on your circumstances.