BEPS OSHC WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Term 3 17th September 2020 No.18 COVID 19 Times

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SUN SMART Terms 1 & 4

OSHC must where a hat at all times when outside

In this issue:

- What has been happening at OSHC this week?
- Info from Aus Government re; COVID –19
- COVID—19 OSHC Term 3 info
- Important Reminders & Repeated Messages to families to read (Pg 3)
- Weekly Aftercare and Beforecare Program Plan 2020
- Photos of activities and experiences of children (Pg 5)

What's been happening this week at OSHC..

Hi OSHC Families,

It's the end of term 3!! Please read page 3 for OSHC for term 4—Hopefully we can return to some kind of normal then—there are a couple of things you may need to do re;OSHC bookings in term 4. In the meantime, we hope you have a great two week break...

OSHC TEAM

WHAT IS NEW AT OSHC THIS WEEK

⇒ **Holiday program for Term 3 school hols**; No Vacation Care will be run by Moreland Council at BEPS or BEPS OSHC. If you need care you will need to make alternative arrangements or book into Moreland Holiday program at; Brunswick North West or Pasco Vale South Primary School; 92409227

⇒ **Absences for OSHC have been further extended to 72 for this financial year** — this may increase if COVID restrictions remain in place.

⇒ **We plan to return BEPS OSHC in term 4;**

- 5/10—9/10 (wk 1); onsite learning; BSC and ASC available to children of essential workers and vulnerable families; please email Rena to book in
- 12/10>; Prep-Gr 2 children (wk 2); OSHC running as normal—subject to COVID restrictions/directives; please email Rena to check your bookings/cancel

- **COVID –19 Term 4 Arrangements for OSHC**; Please see page 3
- I have a change of email address; **Ranita.Swamy@education.vic.gov.au—please use this for all..**
- **Childcare Permits**: Families do need a Childcare Permit to have their child in care if they have a Permitted Worker Permit working from home or at work. We need a copy on site up until 28/09 or if required..
- **Australian Government**; have you updated your family income? See Pg3.
- **PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 FOR INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR INVOICE!! OSHC Invoices** continue to be sent out for attendances before 24th March 2020. Payments can be made via the Qkr! App to Brunswick East Primary OSHC.
- **2021 OSHC Bookings** will be on sent out later in term 4

OSHC Invoices

I am sending out OSHC invoices these include a number of families with invoices still owing since the end of term 1—just before COVID-19, as well as for those families who have used care during the Vacation care of end of term 1, and for Term 3. All bookings and absences have continued to be retained so the OSHC service can receive the Childcare subsidy to remain viable — the Australian government has extended allowable absences for all families during this period. The invoices may be confusing, but please read the following before contacting me with queries;

- ⇒ **Term 1**: Normal charges up to 23/03. From 24/03 — 27/03 families have been credited the out of pocket charge (gap fee); which reads as a 'COVID 19 ASC or COVID 19 BSC credit' (applied by the service).
- ⇒ **OSHC vacation care** 30/03-12/03 was a charged service
- ⇒ **Term 2**: 14/04-26/06 was a non fee charged service, however the Childcare subsidy was charged for all absent bookings (CSS) and paid to the service — this will read as an 'Emergency Fee Relief credit' (externally applied).
- ⇒ **Term 3**: 13/07-18/07; stage 4 restrictions; this is a fee charged service for bookings attended. All absences and bookings have been retained in order for the service to receive the Gap fee (childcare subsidy} it would have received if all children were in care as normal to remain viable—families have not been charged for the absences — which reads as a **COVID 19 ASC or COVID 19 BSC credit** (applied by the service).
- ⇒ No families have been charged when the service has been closed due to COVID19
- ⇒ Please contact me if you think there is any mistakes or queries with your invoices
- ⇒ **Term 4**: first week for essential services only, 'normal' OSHC from week 2 for Prep-gr2 see pg 3

Permitted Worker Permits & Childcare Permits

During Stage 4 Restrictions for metropolitan Melbourne, all Families will need to have permits to be able to work from home, at work as a permitted worker (essential) and must also have childcare permit — which enables you to be able to use childcare, and pick-up and drop off your child at OSHC. We need to keep a copy of your forms onsite at OSHC at all times that your child maybe in our care. While families may only need to produce one form if asked by authorities, there is an additional childcare entry on the form that must be filled in and OSHC needs a copy of your form on site.

Please view at; www.vic.gov.au/worker-permit-scheme

Or please contact me for a copy of the form.

Additional Child Care Subsidy (temporary financial hardship) and COVID-19

Additional Child Care Subsidy (temporary financial hardship) is available to support families experiencing temporary financial hardship due to COVID-19 to get back on their feet. Families need to provide appropriate evidence to avoid any delays in assessment.

Please share our new information sheet ACCS (temporary financial hardship) and COVID-19 with any of your families that might need this assistance - this was sent out to all families a few weeks ago—please email me if you would like a copy of this information sheet.

Families income confirmation for 2018-19

Families receiving the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) have until 31 March 2021 to submit their 2018-19 tax return for CCS purposes.

COVID-19 CORONA VIRUS OSHC UPDATE Term 4>

Arrangements for OSHC during COVID-19 for Term 4 - 5/10-18/12

As of this week, if all goes according to the roadmap as set out by the Victorian state government; OSHC is due to return for term 4 in steps from the 5th October:

- **5/10/20 Wk 1**; OSHC will be operating and required to prioritise care to children of essential service workers and vulnerable families for the first week of term 4; 5/10-9/10. Please book in by sending me an email—you will also need to make sure that you have also booked into the BEPS school program during the day (email Janet).
- **12/10/20 Wk 2; Preps –Grade 2 students;** to return to school learning and attend OSHC as normal. Please check with Rena regarding your bookings and any changes (including cancellations) you wish to make before then.
- We hope that all other grades can return as soon as possible; we will continue to claim the Childcare subsidy from the government and waiver the gap fee for all absences during COVID

Term 4 Booking Process

- All bookings prior to COVID have been retained and are set to be in place for term 4, from the 12/10—if you wish t o change these days please put in request to change days MyFamily Lounge. Contact me if you have any queries.
- For the first week of term 4 5/10—online learning; please email Rena and Janet to request days/times/casual/permanent.
- All OSHC policies and procedures apply as usual
- Childcare fees will be charged for attendances from term 4. Additional Childcare Subsidy assistance is available please see page 3 and 4 of this newsletter.

- **Afternoon Tea at OSHC** will commence from the 12/10
- **Health & safety, Hygiene at OSHC**; As you may be aware we are increasing our hygiene vigilance and asking children and Educators to wash their hands more thoroughly and regularly, keep resources to a minimum, practising safe distancing as best we can. Staff may need to wear facemasks—however we are aware of the impact this may have on the children.
- **No families on school grounds**; Ring 93872631 or Phyllis mobile; 0422209671, for checking drop off at BSC and ASC collection - Please wait at Glenda's gate and your child will be brought to you. We are waiting to see what the required procedures for pickup in term 4 will be..

These arrangements will be in place for Term 4 or until further notice. We will provide information on the changes as we receive further guidance from the Department of Education, Dept of Health and BEPS.

Australian Government
Department of Education, Skills and Employment

Statement on fee relief for Victorian parents

7th July 2020

Ministers:
The Hon Dan Tehan MP
Minister for Education

The Morrison Government has acted quickly to provide certainty to Victorian families using child care who will be impacted by the Victorian Government's COVID-19 lock-down announced today.

The Government will allow all services located in areas subject to Stage 3 & 4 COVID-19 restrictions, including metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire, to waive parent gap fees if children are not attending child care for COVID-related reasons from Monday 13 July.

The gap fee is the difference between the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) the Government pays to a service and the remaining fee owed by the family.

This means that if a child is **absent** from care for COVID-related reasons, the child care service can waive their gap fee which means more money in the family's pocket. It also provides certainty to families that they will retain their enrolment at the child care service.

Waiving the parents' gap fees will also ensure child care services maintain their enrolments and continue to be paid the CCS, even if a child is absent for a COVID-related reason.

Our Government wants to ensure that child care services remain open for workers and vulnerable families who need those services.

From Monday, services can access the $708 million Transition Payment to support the return to the CCS.

The Government will also ease the activity test until 4 October to support eligible families whose employment has been impacted as a result of COVID-19. These families will receive up to 100 hours per fortnight of subsidised care during this period. This will assist families to return to the level of work, study or training they were undertaking before COVID-19.

Families experiencing a loss of income, such as casual workers or those in self-isolation, may be eligible for support through the Additional Child Care Subsidy (temporary financial hardship).

The Federal Government continues to work closely with the Victorian state Department of Education in relation to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Important OSHC Reminders

- **Absences**: Contact the OSHC Service if your child will be absent from OSHC; message/text, email
- Children are to be picked up by authorized contacts only.
- **Before care**: If you wish to have an emergency spot, please ring the direct OSHC number ; 93872631 or Phyllis mob; 0422209671

OSHC Sub-Committee of Management

Next meeting: T4
TBC OSHC Room/online meeting TBC
ALL WELCOME

Child Care Subsidy Balancing

After the end of each financial year, Centrelink balances your Childcare Subsidy ('balancing' is known as 'reconciliation'). To find out more go to; humanservices.gov.au/balancing

Family Feedback

We welcome your feedback . Your ideas, thoughts and suggestions are important to us and help us to create a quality service for you and your children. Please let us know. Email, phone, chat..

We also are always on the look out for re-cycled materials and ideas for cooking, activities & experiences.

The Child Care Subsidy System & Government Compliance

- Have you signed your CWA - Complying written Agreement & Enrolment form Yet?
- Do not forget you will have to confirm any changes to permanent days in your MyGov online account
- Check your subsidy regularly to make sure you are receiving the correct subsidy and hours you are entitled too.

My Family Lounge

- **Web;** Use the online My Family Lounge web application to enrol, re-enrol, or request changes to your permanent days. http://beps.vic.edu.au/oshc
- **App**: Download the My Family Lounge App on your mobile phone to check for casual vacancies, make casual bookings and cancellations; www.myfamilylounge.com.au

OSHC Invoices

All OSHC payments are made via the Qkr! Mastercard App downloaded from Google play/App store.

OSHC Invoices are sent out fortnightly and are expected to be paid on a regular fortnightly basis.

Please see Rena if you have any issues with completing this.

Weekly Aftercare & Beforecare Program Plan

Framework for School Age Care: Focus Outcomes;

1.'Children have a strong sense of identity'

2. 'Children are connected with and contribute to their world'

3. 'Children have a Strong Sense of Wellbeing'

4. 'Children are confident and involved learners'

Mon 5th October

ASC: Children's choices; drawing, board games, sewing , outside play

BSC: Children's choices; drawing, board games, sewing, outside play

Tues 6th October

ASC
Children's choices; drawing, board games, sewing ,outside play

BSC:
Children's choices; drawing, board games, sewing, outside play

Wed 7th October

ASC;
Children's choices; drawing, board games, sewing outside play

BSC:
Children's choices; drawing, board games, sewing, outside play

Thurs 8th October

ASC:
Children's choices; drawing board games, sewing ,outside play

BSC:
Children's choices; drawing board games, sewing ,outside play

Fri 9th October

ASC:
Children's choices; drawing board games, sewing ,outside play

BSC:
Children's choices; drawing board games, sewing ,outside play

What's been happening at OSHC this week:

Keeping things simple during COVID-19...

Question for Parents and Carers

Did you know that there is a suggestion box in the sign out area that you can put your feedback in. We would really like to know what you think about OSHC—positive and negative feedback appreciated.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR FEEDBACK & THOUGHTS……

We are also looking for parent/carer volunteers to spend a little time at OSHC;

Do you like to sew?
Cook?
Build?
Design?

Have a special skill/activity that you could share with the OSHC Educators and children?

Please come and chat with us

We are also looking for donations of;

Wool
Paper
Re-cycling boxes
Cloth Material
Small wood offcuts
Old lego, bionicles, toys, games, etc

Anything that we can make things out of and re-cycle..