



We are looking forward to receiving our eggs from Hatch 'n' Grow and watching the ducklings emerge! The children will have the opportunity to interact with the ducks outdoors also.

## Welcome back to preschool!

We've had a great – and busy! – start to Term 2 here at preschool. We've welcomed our new Director, Stephanie Toovey, and we are busily preparing for our accreditation at the end of May. You may have noticed our updated pink policy folders in each of the classrooms, which contain all our policies and are available for you to read. There are also feedback forms in there if you have anything to let us know. In addition, our Quality Improvement Plan is always available for you to read.

We have quite a few new children at preschool this term, and they are settling in well. We still have a few spaces available in our Monday/Tuesday (3 year olds) class and Wednesday/Thursday/Friday (4 year olds) class, so feel free to let your friends know!

Thanks to all who attended our Mother's Day activities, the children spent lots of time practicing their songs and were so excited to present their gifts.

We have already had the Police come to visit and we have more activities planned for this term, including the duck hatching, Fire Engine visit, Bring a Bike to Preschool day and our afternoon tea. Please see below for the dates.

## Parking

Please remember not to park in the no stopping zone on Bland Street. Unfortunately, Ashfield Council have received complaints about parents parking there and may increase patrols. Remember that if you can't find anywhere to park on Bland St, there are usually plenty of spots near the back of the preschool / graveyard with the entry off Alt Street.

## Storypark

Just a reminder that we are using Storypark to share the children's daily activities with families and also for families to share stories and information with teachers. Please let us know if you have any trouble accessing this, and we can resend the invitation to join. This website is a secure website and can only be accessed through a logon. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with your classroom educators or with Stephanie.



For more regular updates, please like our Facebook page. We can be found by searching for St John's Preschool Ashfield

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# St John's Preschool Ashfield

## Class Updates

### Jacaranda 3-day class

We noticed that many children were interested in patterns, making them spontaneously at different activities in the classroom. We extended this by showing small groups of children how to make a repeating pattern, and providing shapes so they could have a turn of making their own patterns.



### Jacaranda 2-day class

During play at the home corner the Jacaranda's pretended to use the fruit and vegetables to make food – like juicing the oranges to make orange juice, and using tomatoes to make soup. We have decided to explore – 'Where does our food come from?' encouraging our children to look after the environment, build skills in healthy eating and investigate what different foods taste like.



### Frangipani 3-day class

This week we have been remembering how to talk kindly to our friends at preschool and words we can use to help people feel cared for. We are encouraging each other to say "Hello", "Can I play too?", "Are you OK?" "Sorry" and "Thank you."

We have also been interested in making our space look more Autumnal, so we have been painting leaves in autumn colours



# St John's Preschool Ashfield

## Frangipani 2-day class

We have been investigating geometric shapes, identifying them and using them to create designs



## Lilli Pilli 2-day class

Sensory experiences have been the current interest for our 2 Day Class. We noticed that the children enjoy painting their own hands to make hand prints when painting activities are provided. This week we provided a sensory collage with sand, salt, pipe cleaners, feathers, glitter and other materials for the children to explore their senses while developing their fine motor skills. They really enjoyed sprinkling sand and glitter onto glue, creating a lovely pattern. A mum prepared moon sand for our light table. The children enjoyed sharing with their teachers how the moon sand felt.



## Lilli Pilli 3-day class

The 3 Day Class children have been interested in making moons, stars and planets so that we could add them to our solar system poster. They confidently traced the shapes and cut them out themselves. When we included cellophane on the craft table, we saw the children making double sided crafts such as the sun on one side and the moon on the other.



# St John's Preschool Ashfield

2016

## Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)

All childcares and preschool nationally are required to base their programming on the Early Years Learning Framework. The Framework's vision is for all children to experience play-based learning that is engaging and builds success for life.

It is a guide for early childhood educators who work with children from birth to five years. They will use the Framework in partnership with families, children's first and most influential educators, to develop learning programs responsive to children's ideas, interests, strengths and abilities, and recognise that children learn through their play.

If you would like to learn more about either the EYLF or the NQF and how this is implemented at St John's Preschool please speak with your room leaders or Stephanie .

## Feedback

At St John's Preschool we are always trying to improve our process and performance and would value any feedback that you have. In the foyer of the preschool a letterbox has been setup for any comments, alternatively please speak with any of the staff at St John's Preschool

## Term 2 Calendar

- 26<sup>th</sup> April – First day of term 2
- 26<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April – Police Visit
- 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> May – Mother's Day Celebrations
- 16<sup>th</sup> May – Ducks arrive
- 27<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Reconciliation Week
- 30<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Bring a Bike to Preschool (Dates for individual classes will be confirmed closer to then).
- 6<sup>th</sup> June –Fire Engine visit
- 11<sup>th</sup> June – Cinema in the Hall "Inside Out".
- 14<sup>th</sup> June – After School Afternoon Tea
- 16<sup>th</sup> June – After School Afternoon Tea
- 20<sup>th</sup> June – NAIDOC Week
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Parenting Seminar – Children's Emotional Health
- 1<sup>st</sup> July – Last Day of Term 2
- 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Election Day BBQ & Cake Stall