

Nov/Dec 2018

Elder Street Herald

End of Year Celebration



Thank you to all the families who joined us to celebrate Christmas and the end of another great year at Elder Street.

We had a lovely, busy and hot afternoon of the usual fun stuff, like face painting, sausage sandwiches, JD the Magician (who was a huge hit), ice blocks, Santa, presents and catching up. It is so wonderful to see our community have the chance to chat, share and enjoy each other. Thank you also to all the families who passed on their thanks and appreciation for our Xmas celebration—it is our pleasure!

All the staff at Elder St wish the families a very safe and happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing you all again in 2018!

Love.... Mel, Kim, Donna, Kate, Catherine, Carley, Paula, Roxi, Jena, Bree, Keely, Lucy, Lauren and Bec.



STAFFING 2019

Our fabulous team of educators will be making some changes next year to enhance their professional practice and development.

Here is our team line up for 2019

Nursery Possums—8 children

Lauren Berwick: M, W, Th, F

Carley Chippington: M-Th

Bec Saville: T, F

Toddler Joeys—10 children

Kate Hewat: M, T, Th, F

Roxi Heywood Hayes: T, W, Th, F

Bec Saville: M, W

New trainees 2019: Molly Watkins, Jessica Andrews and Ellie Austin will all be working full time in 2019. Our trainees will change rooms they are working in throughout the year; this is so they develop a holistic understanding of working with children in all age groups.

We will continue with our Directing and office team of Kim & Mel into 2019. Kim and myself continue to cover a great deal by working together in the office. It allows us to examine, plan and implement lots of ideas, resources and programs for the team of educators. Mel will continue with her Higher Degree by Research (PhD) part time studies with the University of Newcastle and is due for confirmation in October 2019. Her working hours will be 8.30-4.30 Tues through to Friday and Wed to Friday alternate weeks. Mel will also continue her work as a casual academic at UoN in the first half of 2019. Kim will continue to work Monday to Wednesday and occasionally Thursdays. Her work hours are Mon 8am-6pm, Tues 7am-5pm and Wed 7am-6pm.

Lucy, Jena and Keely have now completed their traineeships with Elder Street. Lucy will be beginning University studies in 2019 to become a Primary School teacher and Keely has secured a Certificate III qualified position at a long day care service in Warners Bay. We would like to congratulate them on their hard work this year and thank them for all that they have contributed to our team. Jena and Bree will be remaining with the team at Elder Street and working as Certificate III qualified educators within the Preschool room as detailed above. We congratulate these 4 outstanding women for their dedication, professionalism and willingness to learn throughout this year.

We always feel that we learn a great deal from having trainees each year and are very proud to be able to offer young people the opportunity to gain access to what is a very important and rewarding career in teaching young children.

Finally, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for the endless support and collaboration we receive from our Elder St community for the work we do. It has been a huge year for our team—with many big achievements, changes and growth. We feel with our team's strong growth mindset and commitment to leaders growing leaders we are very confident that we will continue to successfully focus on providing contemporary and holistic teaching approaches and a dedicated and warm ethic of care to each other, the children and families of our service. I personally feel hugely privileged to be sharing part of everyone's lives every week and to all at our service, families and team members—thank you for choosing us!

Merry Christmas and see you in the New Year

Mel xx



Preschool Wallabies—21 children:

Paula Rosenkranc: M, T, W, F

Bree Creighton: M-F

Jena Talbott: M-F

Bec Saville: Th

Donna McRae: Th, F

2019 ENROLMENTS AND END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

We have all enrolments finalised for new families beginning in 2019.

At this stage we still have two Fridays in the 2-3 yrs room available and a Thursday/Friday position available in our Nursery.

If families would like to change their attendance this can be organised by letting us know any other days you would prefer so that we can make a note on our internal waiting list. To reduce days we require 2 weeks' notice from 7 Jan 2019. Most of our families who have children leaving the centre have had their bonds allocated to final fee balances. Anyone who

indicated they would prefer their bond refunded needs to ensure that they have a nil balance on their account by Wednesday 19 December and then we will refund bond monies into directed accounts.

END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

All families have been emailed an Invoice showing fee weeks from the end of November 2018 to the end of our first week of operation in January 2019.

Balances owing for 2018 are **due by FRIDAY 21 DECEMBER, 2018.**

If you are still unsure of your balance due by the end of this year, please contact office staff for clarification.

We recommend that families adjust their direct deposit payments to reflect their new fee amounts from the week starting 7 January 2019 as detailed in the invoice.

Families with siblings starting in 2019 will be advised of their new fees for that child in the new year.

Please feel free to contact Mel or Kim to discuss plans to finalise your account if you are predicting that you may need more time to finalise. We are happy to work with families experiencing difficulties especially at this time of year as long as we have open communication and a plan of action in place. 😊



School Leavers 2018 Graduation Day

We had a lovely afternoon in the Wallabies on Thursday 6 December, celebrating 16 beautiful and clever little people who are ready and raring for big school next year. We would like to farewell...

***Eleanor, Mia, Arabella, Olive, Penny,
Liam, Lucas, Sullivan, Ava, Amelia, Austin,
William, Charlie, Jacob, Isla and Bailey***

Farewell to.....

Other friends that are moving on from Elder Street in 2019 are:

Bowie, Isla, Matthew, Nicholas & Joseph

All our love and best wishes xx

We will miss all of these children more than you probably understand but wish everyone the best of luck and happiness and hope to see you soon for a visit xx

RENOVATIONS AT THE SERVICE DURING THE CHRISTMAS CLOSE DOWN

The vinyl flooring in the Nursery, cot rooms and Wallaby room will be replaced in the 2 week time frame when we are not in operation. We are replacing the speckled pattern with a homely wooden flooring style of vinyl which we feel will complement our environments well.

The office building will be receiving a facelift with internal painting and new flooring replacing very old and weathered carpet. Our other renovations for this year have included the work carried out in the Nursery playground, which I'm sure you will all agree is such a vast improvement.

Please let us know if you have any other ideas for improvements of the service and we will 'wish list' for further attention. As we do not own the building, we are limited to what we are able to change, but surface changes are always improving.

ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE ON OUR SYSTEM?

TEAM DEVELOPMENT DAY MON 7 JAN, 2019



Please let us know if your email, mobile phone numbers,

work details, home addresses or emergency contact details have changed.

This is really important for us to keep up to date so we can always stay in contact.

As detailed in previous newsletters and correspondence, our first day for our team will be on Monday, 7 January 2019. This day will be a team development day where we come into the centre without children in attendance. This is an important occasion for our team to finalise room set ups, educational program planning and prepare to welcome our families and children as one united, visionary and cohesive team.

We will be open for families to attend from Tuesday 8 January, 2019 at 7.00am.

Final words for 2018.....

Please ensure that all belongings are taken home on your last day of attendance for the year, ie, **drink bottles, sleep bags, spare clothes, art work, medication etc.**

This will help us have the centre lovely and tidy for when we reopen in January.

Our first staff on bright and early on **TUESDAY 8 January 2019** will be Kim and Paula and Kate and Bree will see you off on the late shift.

Once again, have a lovely and safe Christmas & New Year xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

