



# Oatley OOSH Care Navigator

Contact Us!

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## Welcome to Term 1 2023!

Dear Parents,

Now that we have opened the gates, the year has started strong! We have three amazing programs running every afternoon for all children to be a part of.

Laura, our Kindy program coordinator has been doing an amazing job making our new little ones feel welcome and confident.

Josh, our Senior program coordinator is in the midst of completing interviews with the senior students to see what they would like to get out of the program for the year. This will help him guide the program integrating all children's strengths and even weaknesses.

Every day there are at least 3 different activities for our junior students to choose out of. These range from outdoor group games, indoor crafts STEM activities and so much more.

Be sure to tune in via the Xplor Home app which is where we post all our happenings during the OOSH sessions. If you have not received an invite reach out! (don't forget to check your spam ☺)

Sam Walter, Nominated Supervisor

[www.oatleyoosh.org.au](http://www.oatleyoosh.org.au)

### Committee Meeting

Our Executive Committee:

**Co-President**

Hayley Lawson

**Co-President**

Kate Panchal

**Secretary**

Jane Miller

**Treasurer**

Dominique Suter

The Parent Committee can be contacted by emailing:

[committee@oatleyoosh.org.au](mailto:committee@oatleyoosh.org.au)

We hold 6 committee meetings a year, which are open to our parents and interested stakeholders. Our next committee meeting date will be in the first week of March. Details will be provided as soon as they are available.



*Some of our Kindy students before starting on some butterfly paintings.*

## **Kindy Program**

*By Laura Rigan*

What an incredible start to 2023! Welcoming our new Kindergarten students, we also saw a fresh start to our Kindergarten program. This year, through a range of creative, physical, social, and intellectual activities, we are aiming to create strong friendships amongst children as well as a confident sense of self, working cooperatively with their class engagement during the school day.

The beginning of primary school reflects a lot of mixed emotions and reactions; some children are nervous and shy, while others want to make as many new friends as possible and are full of things to say. For our first week of the Kindergarten program we welcomed our students into a relaxed environment, and presented them with some easy, calming, and fun activities.

Read more on our blog: [Kindergarten Program Update](#)

## **Our Menu**

Every morning and afternoon we have something on the menu that can be cooked or organized for the upcoming session. Our special breakfast is cooked from 7 am until 7:50 where it begins to get packed up. There is also a self-service breakfast table where students can go to make their own breakfast. An educator is always around to facilitate the process.

Afternoon teas are served as soon as the children get to OOSH from school, and this menu changes every day.

We are always after feedback and suggestions for our menu! We would love to hear from you ☺

## **Australian Small Business Champion Finalists 2023**



Oatley OOSHCare Incorporated is excited to announce that we are finalists in the Australian Small Business Champion Awards 2023!

## **Kurranulla Aboriginal Corporation Visit**

*By Darren Brisbane*

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of February we were joined by Nate and Shanelle form the Kurranulla Aboriginal Corporation.

This was an excellent opportunity to learn about us as a team and as individuals, and to reflect on things we were taught or learned in school or from others around us about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

We are excited to continue developing our relationship with the Kurranulla Aboriginal Corporation.

Our Reconciliation Action Plan was recently approved! See more: [OPS OOSH RAP](#)



*The OOSH Team taking part of the Kurranulla Aboriginal Corporation Visit.*

## Senior Program

By Joshua Bridger and Ashleigh Roe

The senior program is currently running here at Oatley OOSH. This is for all students in years 5 and 6 and is held at the OPS site during after school care, and runs during vacation care for certain activities. The aim of the program is to form a cohesive group where they can develop communication, empathy, and respect for each other, and to engage in activities that aid in forming connections as well as developing skills and learning.

These are the final years at primary school, and our aim for your children is to give them a sense of agency and purpose while here at OOSH before they begin high school.

The activities mainly involve team building, lateral thinking and skill-based learning, and developing a sense of responsibility and independence, as well as forming new friendships and having fun! Also, at the end of term, we will have an excursion to celebrate all the team building and learning that has been happening.

We kicked off the program during vacation care, with excursions that involved Virtual Reality (VR), geocaching, and orienteering (just to name a few), but the main program runs during term, so all year 5 and 6s will have the opportunity to be part of it all.

We continue to gather feedback from the children, and we would also like to hear from you - the parents and caregivers - if you also have any feedback on the program.

## War and Pizza!



Our inaugural War and Pizza was a small but collaborative event, with a group of parents joining us to learn more about our service plans and issues we're currently facing. Want to know more? Got ideas? Got things to say? Come along to our next meet, 5:30pm on March 30<sup>th</sup>.



*Josh explaining to the senior students how to play 'Whacked at First Sight'.*

## Junior Program

The junior program is truly underway! Every day we have at least three different activities planned in the afternoon session. Each week will have a different focus or theme. Week one was 'all about me' and week two was valentine's day. Crafts and activities will try to be involving the same theme, but not always kept to.

The variety of activities that we have has so far this year has been great! From the Switch, to baking regularly, crafts every day and an assortment of outdoor activities and group games. At the end of every week we have 'year meetings' where we ask students of a particular year questions about OOSH. What they like, what they don't like, do they want to do anything in particular in the upcoming weeks at OOSH? Etc. This has been a great way for students to better influence our programmed activities.

We have tried to integrate some multicultural games within the program as well. We have tried some traditional Indigenous games such as Kai, and a Ghanaian game called Pilolo. It's a good opportunity for the students playing the game to learn more about other cultures around the world!



*A few students after making banana and chocolate muffins for breakfast the following morning.*

### Lost Property

Is your child missing a hat or jumper? Our services have dozens sitting in lost property. Come and have a look if you are missing anything ☺



*Students watching the volcano erupt from our experiment.*

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