



VIRGINIA PRIMARY OSHC NEWSLETTER

Learning Together, Learning for our Future

CARING RESPECT FAIRNESS ACHIEVEMENT DIVERSITY

Issue 2 2026

July 2026

DATES TO REMEMBER

PUPIL FREE DAY: 20th JULY (OSHC AVAILABLE VIA BOOKING ONLY)

Last Day of Term

FRIDAY: 3/07/2026

Schools finishes at 2:15pm

National Quality Framework

This term we have been focusing on Quality Area

4: Staffing arrangements

Area 4

Standard 4.1

Every effort is made for children to experience continuity of educators at the service



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Download our school app



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 2

We would like to warmly welcome all new and returning families to Term 2. We are looking forward to another exciting term filled with fun, learning, creativity, and opportunities for children to build friendships and develop new skills in a safe and supportive environment.

This term we have a wide variety of engaging experiences planned, including arts and crafts, cooking activities, construction challenges, Outdoor games, sports, group projects, imaginative play, and child-led activities. We encourage children to share their ideas and interests, helping to shape our program and ensuring that activities reflect the needs and passions of those attending our service.

Our educators are committed to creating an inclusive environment where every child feels valued, respected, and supported. We aim to provide experiences that promote wellbeing, confidence, independence, creativity, and social development while ensuring children have plenty of opportunities to have fun

FAMILY COMMUNICATIONS

We value strong partnerships with families and encourage open communication throughout the term. If you have any questions, concerns, feedback, or suggestions for activities your child may enjoy, please speak with a member of our team. Your input helps us continually improve our service and provide meaningful experiences for all children.

Please keep an eye on our noticeboard, communication app DOJO and facebook, emails, and newsletters for important updates, reminders, upcoming events, and program information.

OVER DUE FEES/PAYMENTS

Please note that all accounts must be paid in full before any Vacation Care bookings can be accepted. If you require assistance with making a payment, please contact Nisha. For families on a payment plan, it's important that payments continue regularly so that your balance is kept as close to \$0 as possible before the next Vacation Care period begins. When making an internet transfer, please remember to use your child's name as the payment reference. We have recently received some payments without names.

REMINDERS

- Please ensure all bookings and absences are communicated to the service as early as possible.
- Remember to sign children in and out each day using the approved attendance system.
- Check our lost property area regularly for any missing belongings.
- Please ensure children bring a hat and appropriate clothing for outdoor play.
- Inform educators of any changes to contact details, medical information, authorised nominees, or custody arrangements.

Indoor and Outdoor Play

Our OSHC children have enjoyed another fantastic term filled with engaging learning experiences, creative opportunities, and plenty of fun with friends.

Each morning and afternoon, educators thoughtfully prepare a variety of activities and experiences based on children's interests, ideas, and feedback. This ensures there are always meaningful opportunities for children to explore, create, learn, and connect with others. Weekly cooking and craft experiences continue to be a popular part of our program, encouraging creativity, teamwork, problem-solving, and valuable hands-on learning.

Our Kids Committee has played an important role in helping shape the program this year, contributing many wonderful ideas that have since been incorporated into our daily experiences. We have also introduced a range of new resources, including sensory play materials, construction sets, fine motor activities, mindfulness tools, and additional craft supplies. The interactive screen in the Performing Arts Room has become a favourite among many children, providing a calm and engaging space where they can relax, socialise, participate in interactive games, and enjoy time with their peers.

Cooking continues to be a highlight of the week, with Jaimee leading sessions every Tuesday and Jaimee and Bec alternating Thursday cooking experiences. It has been wonderful to see children developing confidence and independence as they make late snack, learn new skills, and enjoy sharing their creations with friends.

Our weekly themed craft sessions have inspired many creative masterpieces, with children's artwork proudly displayed throughout the OSHC space or taken home to share with families. A wide range of art and craft materials remains available each day, encouraging children to express their creativity and imagination in their own unique ways.

The Homework Centre has returned for another year and continues to provide a supportive and structured environment for our younger students. This dedicated space allows children to practise tricky words, complete homework tasks, receive guidance from educators, and work collaboratively with their peers in a positive learning environment.

One of the biggest highlights this term has been the opening of our new playground and equipment. The children have absolutely loved exploring the new space, and it has quickly become one of the busiest and most popular areas of OSHC. It has been wonderful to see children challenging themselves, building confidence, engaging in imaginative play, and developing friendships while enjoying the exciting new play opportunities available.

Outdoor play remains a favourite part of the day, with children making the most of the beautiful outdoor spaces available to them. Popular activities have included scooter boards, skipping ropes, hula hoops, mini trampolines, handball, and imaginative chalk drawing. Handball has seen a particularly strong comeback this term, with children enjoying friendly games of four-square and even inviting educators to join in. The colourful chalk creations across the asphalt have been incredibly impressive—be sure to stop and admire them during your next visit. Children have also enjoyed participating in a wide range of sports and physical activities, including soccer, football, cricket, basketball, lacrosse, archery, tennis, cup catchers, and scooter challenges. These experiences provide valuable opportunities for children to develop their gross and fine motor skills, teamwork, coordination, resilience, and confidence while staying active and having fun.

With the cooler weather arriving, educators have continued to ensure children remain active and engaged through a variety of indoor experiences. Popular activities have included parachute games, Just Dance sessions, tug of war, group challenges, movement games, and cooperative team activities. These experiences encourage teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and social connections, while bringing plenty of energy, laughter, and enjoyment to our afternoons.

Indoor and Outdoor Play



Vacation Care

During the school holidays, our Vacation Care program once again received an overwhelming response from families. Many of our excursions and special activity days booked out quickly, with several popular favourites being rebooked following requests from the Kids Committee.

Our Term 1 Vacation Care program was a tremendous success, with an outstanding response from families and children. Many of our excursions and activity days were extremely popular, with children excited to participate in a wide range of experiences throughout the holidays.

During Week 1, children enjoyed a fantastic mix of excursions, incursions, and centre-based activities. Excursions included a trip to see *Hoppers* at the movies, an exciting day at Shanx Mini Golf, and an adventure-filled visit to SA Base Camp, where children challenged themselves and built confidence while participating in a variety of activities. Back at the service, children enjoyed incursions such as *Kids in the Kitchen*, where they developed cooking skills and created delicious treats, as well as a fun-filled Bingo Jack session that had everyone engaged and eager to participate.

Week 2 continued the excitement with more memorable experiences. Children enjoyed a trip to the movies to watch *Super Mario Galaxy* and had a fantastic time at Super Codi. One of the highlights of the week was our new excursion to Lenswood for apple picking. This was the first time we had offered this experience, and it was a huge success. Children loved exploring the orchards, learning about where apples come from, picking their own apples straight from the trees, and taking their harvest home to share with their families.

Another favourite excursion was George Wildlife Park, where children had the opportunity to get up close to a variety of animals. Many were excited to pat a koala, touch a snake, and explore the park while learning about different Australian wildlife. The experience provided valuable opportunities for children to connect with nature and learn more about animals in a hands-on environment.

Throughout the holidays, children arrived each day with positive attitudes, eager to participate, make new friends, and create lasting memories. It was wonderful to see children stepping outside their comfort zones, trying new experiences, and developing confidence and independence in a safe and supportive environment.

We would like to thank all families for their continued support of our Vacation Care program and look forward to providing another exciting range of experiences during the next school holiday period.



Vacation Care Information – IMPORTANT

On excursion days, it is **extremely important** all children are at the service 30 minutes before the departure time. If you arrive 5–10 minutes, before the bus is due to leave, then your child may miss out on the excursion. It takes us around 15–20 minutes to organise 50 children and 8 staff to attend an excursion. Once we have called out children's name for the excursion and your child is not present, then we will add a child from the reserve list to come instead. To ensure your child attends the excursion you have booked in for, please make sure your child/ren are at the service 30 minutes prior to the departure time. Our excursions book out quite fast, and to ensure that your child does not miss out on their favourite excursion, please make sure you bring your booking form back to us ASAP. Our Virginia Primary School families receive the program one week before we send it out to families from other schools.

We ask for families to read our vacation care program carefully to avoid missing out on important information.

It is important families' book children into OSHC; so that educators know which children are attending sessions. It is also very important that families let the service know if their child/ren are not able to attend the session, to avoid any confusion. There are numerous ways in which to get your message across:

1. Speaking to the OSHC staff directly
2. Ringing the school and informing the front office staff
3. Leaving a message with OSHC staff a staff member.

Staff members are not able to begin programmed activities until the safety of ALL children are confirmed during roll call. If emergency contacts cannot be contacted, then emergency procedures need to be carried out. The service will alert school leadership, who will support the service to contact necessary emergency authorities.

Vacation Care

Please ensure that children attending excursions arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time, so that numbers can be finalised before leaving. All children are required to bring lunch and recess to Vacation Care. We suggest that children bring their own lunch on excursions because often the canteens at venues, we attend, are understaffed and the menus don't fit our healthy eating range. However, money for snacks and drinks are permitted and parents will be informed when children will have the opportunity to purchase from excursion venues. If you prefer for staff to look after your child's money, please put it in a

labelled wallet, purse or envelope. Often the excursion supervisor will take the money and keep record when the children arrive at Vacation Care. Children who have meat or dairy products in their lunchbox are advised to store them in the fridge at school care or have ice packs in their lunch box.

If children decide to bring belongings from home including electronics and toys we cannot guarantee the safety of their belongings, so please consider this before allowing children to bring them along. Please remember that Virginia

Primary School is a sun-smart school and so are we. Please bring hats, apply sunscreen and wear clothing that cover shoulders and knees. We provide sunscreen throughout the day to ensure that the children are being sun safe.

Risk Assessment

Risk assessments are prepared for all excursions. If you would like to see them, please ask staff at the service. Thank you.



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One of our most popular recipes this term has been our delicious Pasta, Cheese and Zucchini. Children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the cooking process, from preparing ingredients and practising safe food handling skills to mixing, cooking, and serving their creations. Cooking experiences provide valuable opportunities for children to develop confidence, teamwork, independence, and important life skills, while also encouraging them to try new foods and flavours. It was wonderful to see the children take pride in their efforts and enjoy sharing their finished dish with friends and educators.



PASTA, CHEESE AND ZUCCHINI SLICE

INGREDIENTS (SERVES 20):

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- 500g Macro Organic wholemeal spiral pasta
- 10 tsp extra virgin olive oil
- 7 1/2 tbs plain wholemeal flour
- 3 3/4 cup milk
- 5 cup Woolworths light tasty shredded cheese
- 10 eggs, lightly beaten
- 5 cup Woolworths frozen carrot, peas & corn
- 10 zucchini, grated, squeezed
- 10 spring onions, thinly sliced

METHOD:

Step 1

Cook pasta following packet instructions. Drain and refresh under cold water.

Step 2 –Meanwhile, preheat oven to 200°C/180°C fan-forced. Grease and line a 20cm (base) square cake pan with baking paper, extending paper at 2 opposite sides for handles.

Step 3 Heat oil in a saucepan over medium-high heat. Add flour and cook, stirring, for 1 minute or until the mixture is bubbling. Gradually stir in milk until the mixture is smooth and thickened. Remove from heat. Add half of the cheese and stir until melted. Add pasta, egg, frozen vegetables, zucchini and onion. Season with freshly ground black pepper. Stir until well combined. Spoon mixture into prepared pan. Smooth top. Top with remaining cheese.

Step 4 – Bake for 35 minutes, or until golden and set at centre. Stand in pan for 15 minutes to cool.

Sustainability Focus: Reduce Food Waste

Did you know that reducing food waste is one of the easiest ways families can help the environment? Before throwing away fruit and vegetables, consider how they can be used in lunchboxes, smoothies, soups, or baking. Children can also help by planning meals, checking what food is already available at home, and finding creative ways to use leftovers.

By making small changes and using more of the food we buy, we can reduce waste, save money, and help care for our environment. Why not challenge your family to have a "no food waste week" and see how many leftovers you can turn into delicious meals and snacks?



Feedback slip

Please write any comments, suggestions or feedback and return to school care.

Please indicate if you would like a staff member to contact you to discuss this issue:

- Telephone (Please leave contact number) _____
- Email (Please leave email address) _____
- Make an appointment (Please leave contact number) _____