

THE KIDS COTTAGE TERM 4 NEWSLETTER

Term 4, 2022 | Issue 22 | Date: October 2022



Term 4 Highlights

December Vacation Care: Will be running from **Monday 19th** of December to **Friday 23rd** of December.

Christmas Closure Dates: Kids Cottage will be closed from **Friday 23rd** December at 6pm and will then open back up for Jan Vac on **Monday 9th of January**. January vacation care will run from **Monday 9th** to **Monday 31st January 2023**.

Kids Cottage Christmas Party: The Kids Cottage Christmas Party will be held on **Friday 9th December 2022**. Book in now to join the Christmas fun.

Kids Cottage Halloween Celebrations: Here at Kids Cottage, we will be celebrating Halloween with **K-3** in centre with a fun party games and trick or treating. While the **Yr 4,5,6** will be heading off to the local streets, trick or treating with staff. If you would like to book in email us.

School Disco: The Date has been set of the annual School Disco run be Kids Cottage for **Friday 25th of November 2022**. This year's theme is Disco, so get your best dressed disco clothes and hair ready!

Director's Message

Welcome Term 4! Here at Kids Cottage, we love term 4 as its full of parties, discos, and Halloween. We will be hosting and running a range of fun and exciting activities this term, including Skate now and gardening our extra-curricular activities.

I'm excited to be back after just over 8 months on maternity leave. It been great to catch up with the parents I have seen so far and I'm looking forward to seeing many more this term.

As 2023 is fast around the corner all current 2022 bookings have now been rolled over into 2023. Please login to your Xplor Home account and check your child/ren' s 2023 bookings are correct. If you would like to make changes, please email us on info@kidscottagemiddleharbour.com.

We will be offering out place for 2023 waitlist in the coming weeks. If you have a sibling starting next year and haven't filled out the waitlist, please do so ASAP.

Here is the link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSex_v8ZhKeL-isfN25UI2geTNcftGYWWRhfGph3ak_mZo_MBw/viewform

Before 2023 starts all families must complete re-enrolment process. We will be sending out an email explaining the process, this includes checking address, contact numbers, bookings, updating medical plans.

Term 4 Reminders

Kids Cottage Hats: It is very important your child/ren bring and wear their Kids Cottage hat when at Cottage. We have limited number of spare hats and want to ensure children are bringing and wearing their own hat. As we are now coming into the warmer months and the UV is getting higher, we must ensure all children are sun safe. We have new hats, if you need a new one, please email us to order and we will charge your account. New hats cost \$9.

Bookings: Permanent BSC and ASC and Vacation Care booking require 14days written notice to cancel. All casual bookings require 24hours written notice to cancel. During vacation care we noticed a lot of families needing care last minute and we had many of our days and groups fully booked in centre and excursion days. Please be aware we send our program out 5-4 weeks prior to the vacation care period, so book in fast as we can't guarantee all spots on waiting list.

Sept Vacation Care Highlights

Our Juniors over the September/ October vacation care period had a range of fun and exciting activities which all children loved. A few hits were Passmore reserve feeding the ducks, Spa Day, Barefoot bowls.



The Seniors had a blast at Gosford Clip and Climb, Aquatopia and Underworld Laser Tag and Fairfield Adventure Park. The senior's program was packed full of fun activities in centre, and their science day went off with a bang!



Kids Club vacation care program was a huge hit, with Escape room and Cable Park at Penrith being very popular. The kids Club group loved the cottage cultural master chef day and shared lunch.



We are currently finalizing our December vacation care program and will send out mid-November so keep an eye out and book in fast as spots are very limited. January vacation care will be split into five groups next year. Kindy and Year 1 will be one group, Year 2 will be another, Year 3 & Year 4 and Year 5 and 6.

We are looking forward to having our new 2023 Kindy's join us in January.

Kids Cottage Christmas fundraiser

As Christmas is as much as about receiving Christmas present, here at Kids Cottage we like to give back to Children and families in need during the festive season. This Christmas Kids Cottage is giving back by raising funds for Barnardo's Australia. A Children's charity that supports vulnerable children to recover and thrive!

We are collecting gold coin donations at the Kids Christmas Party on Friday 2nd December and we also, have a link for families to donate straight to the Barnardo's.

Here is the link to donate:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Kids-Cottage?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=Kids-Cottage&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=024facf62f8844d893633e8eee3c7215



STAFFING SPOTLIGHT

This term we say goodbye to Gabe Faux as he is off traveling Bali and Australia. We wish him all the best on his travels, and we will miss him. We are welcoming Pihuka Duff as the new Senior group leader. Pihuka has worked in OOSH for 3 years. Pihuka is currently studying Primary Education and has a lot of knowledge in Out of School Age Education and Care. Pihuka is very talented in both touch footy and Rugby League and Union like her famous cousin Faith Nathan. We also welcomed Jenna Anderson join the permanent team, Jenna comes from Berowa OOSH and has worked in OOSH for the last 5 years. Jenna has her Certificate 4 in School Age Education and Care. Jenna will be working with Imogen as the assistant group leader during the team time and in January Vacation Care, she will be Co-group leader with Sarah.

We are looking to do a big hire of casual's staff for December and January vacation care. If you know anyone who is 18 years old and with a current working with children check and looking for a job, please get them to send their resume through to our email at info@kidscottagemiddleharbour.com

MilkRun Sponsor

The Kids Cottage have joined up with Milkrun for Halloween on Monday 31st October. MilkRun is an app that does your grocery shopping for you. Customers can shop the freshest Aussie produce, plus thousands of household essentials, and have them e-biked to their door in minutes.

As soon as you place the order in the MilkRun app, it gets picked and packed with breathtaking speed, then it's straight to a MilkRun rider to get to your place in minutes. Unlike other delivery services, MilkRun is not a part of the gig-economy and provides secure employment to its riders. This means the riders have access to all the applicable employment benefits.

Whether you're busy parent, time poor professional or someone who's got better things to do than wander the aisles of a supermarket. MilkRun means less time shopping for groceries and more time doing what you love.

MilkRun are offering members of The Kids Cottage 30% off their first order with the code 'MOS30' (valid until 30/11/2022).

The MilkRun app is available to download now from the Apple store and Google Play store.

Find out more via the MilkRun website [here](https://www.milkrun.com.au/).



Child Safe Standard 7:

Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe, through continual education and training.

As a child safe organisation, we promote continuous learning and provide regular ongoing education and training. Our team continually build on their abilities to keep children safe.

Our team receive annual training that encompasses the nature and indicators of child maltreatment, particularly abuse that occurs in organisations.

Our team also receive training on the organisation's child safe practices and child protection efforts and weekly and termly meeting.

The team is supported to develop practical skills in protecting children and responding to disclosures through mentorship and professional learning.

QIP Development:

Our Quality Improvement Plan is a self-assessment tool that guides us to assess our performance in delivering quality education and care helping us plan for future improvement.

It is updated annually allowing us the opportunity to reflect on the improvement plan set from the year before and then create a new plan for the year ahead.

Part of our QIP development is gaining feedback from families. This term we would like feedback from families on innovative ideas for the program.

If there are any activities or cultural events you would like to see celebrated at Kids Cottage please let us know and we will get them on the program.

We are placing a greater focus on having the voices of all stakeholders as part of our programming cycle and that includes the families and community of Kids Cottage. Any ideas please send them through to info@kidscottagemiddleharbour.com

BASC Voucher:

Families can claim the voucher from Service NSW between the 28th of February and the 30th of September 2022 and must be redeemed at a participating Before and After School Care Service by the 31st of December. You can claim your vouchers through the Service NSW app on your smartphone or by following the verification steps as outlined on the Service NSW website <http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/basc-voucher>

Once you have received your vouchers redeeming them at Kids Cottage is a simple process. There will be a QR code and unique single use code attached to the voucher. You can take a screenshot of your voucher and send it to us to enter into our Service NSW business app. Once entered and linked to Kids Cottage we will place a \$500 credit onto your account for you to use for future bookings.

If you have any questions regarding your BASC vouchers, please let us know.

Parent Committee Call Out

The Kids Cottage Middle Harbour is a not-for-profit organisation overseen by a Volunteer Parent Management Committee, a Sub-Committee of the Middle Harbour P&C. We wanted to take the opportunity thank our current volunteers and recruit new members to join the Team!

We hold two Committee Meetings a term on site over wine and nibbles however attendance can also be adapted to suit your availability including via Zoom, phone dial in, tag teamed with another Committee Member or be a Committee Member on speed dial, called on when needed. The Parent Committee recruits the Director, provides the Kids Cottage governance structure, develops strategy and policies along with supporting the Kids Cottage Team with advice and guidance when needed.

Being part of the Kids Cottage Committee allows parents a greater connection to the School and Kids Cottage. It offers the opportunity to have a greater influence on community, having your say on the priorities for the children and implement change. It also presents an excellent chance to make a real impact a Middle Harbour through projects to give back to the school. Past donations have included the large fan in the hall, the weather blinds on the Kindy balcony, the renovation of the Kids Cottage building.

Our current Parent Committee members include Sejal McNicol, Inga Gold, Arti Brown, Kim Thomas, and Celina Cross, Helen Impey, and Jo-Ann Mourelatos. They would love to tell you all about it. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please email the Kids Cottage info@kidscottagemiddleharbour.com.



KIDS COTTAGE PRESENTS

DISCO PARTY

NOVEMBER 25

3.45PM - 5PM KINDY - YEAR 1

5.05PM - 6.45PM YEARS 2 - 3

6.50PM - 8.30PM YEARS 4 - 6



MIDDLE HARBOUR PUBLIC SCHOOL

\$15 (includes potato chips & Icy Poles, bring water bottles!)

www.trybooking.com/CDQJZ

Proceeds go towards the Year 6 Farewell Function

Online booking only. No cash sales.

Booking closes night before disco.

***Wear your best
funky outfit!***