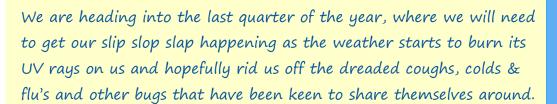




September 2019 Issue 36



Spring has sprung!



Things have settled on the CCS front although it is important that parents keep Centrelink (Department of Human Services) up to date with any changes to their income, more CCS details on pages 2-5.

Our government third party software, Harmony Web, now has a parent portal which will we be setting up shortly and will use to assist with keeping items like our parent handbook, important Policies and Procedures and maybe even our newsletters, in an easily accessible location for parents to refer to. Once we have gained a better understanding of how it works and get our head around setting it up we will send through a link for parents to access this information.

Add us on Instagram—kidsathomefdc to see what we and our Educators are up to and don't forget to like our FaceBook page https://www.facebook.com/kahfdc/ as we share a lot of information that might be applicable or of interest to you.

Regards,



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Important CCS Information

Dear Families... a message from the Australian Government Department of Education,

Child Care Subsidy balancing is underway

Throughout the year, Centrelink pays your Child Care Subsidy (CCS) based on the details you've given them. At the end of the financial year, they balance your CCS to make sure you received the right amount.

Centrelink is balancing CCS for the 2018–19 financial year. Your CCS won't be balanced straightaway. It can take some time. Here's how Centrelink gets to your outcome.

1. You confirm your income

You need to confirm your family's income for the 2018–19 financial year before Centrelink can balance your CCS. You and your partner do this by lodging your tax returns with the Australian Taxation Office.

If you don't need to lodge a tax return, you need to tell Centrelink by doing an 'Advise non-lodgement' with them. You can do that either in your:

- Centrelink online account through myGov, or
- Express Plus Centrelink mobile app.

2. Centrelink works out your CCS entitlement

Once you've confirmed your family income, Centrelink will work out how much subsidy you were entitled to for the financial year. They compare that amount to how much you were paid throughout the year.

Centrelink then makes any necessary adjustments. This includes adding CCS withheld throughout the year. Centrelink withholds 5% of your weekly CCS during the year as a default.

If you were paid too much CCS at any time during the year, Centrelink will also factor that in. This may happen if you had a change in your family's circumstances or if your family income estimate was lower than your actual income.

3. Centrelink tells you your outcome

Once Centrelink has considered all of these factors, they send you a letter with your outcome. The letter will outline how they've worked out your outcome.

There are three possible outcomes:

- A top-up payment you don't need to do anything else. Centrelink will pay this money to your bank account you've given them.
- No further action you received the correct amount of CCS during the year.

An overpayment – you may need to take action to pay back any money you owe. If you don't set up a payment plan or pay the money back in full by the due date, Centrelink may reduce your future CCS to pay off the debt. Centrelink will work with you to set up a repayment plan you can afford.

Want to know more about CCS balancing visit Department of Humans Services—link below

https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/topics/balancing-your-family-assistance-payments/29376#childcaresub





Newslattar

Important CCS Information

Useful information about CCS

The Department of Education and Department of Human Services DHS aka Centrelink have available some resources to make it easier for parents to understand important CCS information. This information is also helpful for Educators to understand the requirements around CCS and parents eligibility.

The CCS reporting systems is quite complex and in some scenarios what occurs as a result to CCS rules are out of our control. Some of the rules that have caused some issues have been explained below.

Parents are required to contact Centrelink on 13 61 50 if they have any questions about their CCS entitlement.

Absences

Each child has a limit of 42 absences per year. These can be used for any absences of care throughout the financial year period and includes public holidays. Once the 42 absences have been exceeded in the 12 month period full fees will apply. There are exceptional circumstances that may be applicable to allow more than 42 days of absences, details of these scenarios can be found at this link https://guides.dss.gov.au/family-assistance-guide/1/1/a/17

Overseas Absences

DHS has put together some information which explains what the obligations around this rule is for parents and services/Educators when a child is going on holidays especially when on an overseas holiday for a period of time. DHS links with immigration and reports are made when children leave the country and receiving CCS, this is cross referenced. Parents are required to inform their Educator/Kids at Home when travelling overseas for periods of time. CCS will stop in the following scenarios.

- for more than 6 weeks
- for more than 6 weeks, return to Australia, then go again within 6 weeks
- to live in another country.

This is also when the 8 week rule applies and eligibility for absences. Please be mindful of the first and last day rule of using care and how this will apply to payments for child care.

8 week rule and school terms

If children only attend care during the school holidays for a vacation care period, the 8 week rule will apply and a cease of care will occur. Parents are required to inform Educators of their return to care at least a minimum of 2 weeks before the 8 week rule applies so they can reactivate/update the booking.

Absences from care https://www.education.gov.au/new-child-care-package-frequently-asked-questions

First Last Day Absence Rule

If a child is booked into care to start for example on a Monday and is sick and does not come into care again until the following Monday, which would be considered first day in care. Full fee will be applicable to the booked days of absences until the actually in attendance, as CCS does not cover these days, this is known as a first day absence. In the scenario where a cease of care date has been made, the child must be in attendance on their last booked session of care for CCS to be paid. If the child is not in care for their last booked session, this absence and all subsequent absences up until the child's last physical attendance will be at full fees. This is known as a last day absence.

In the scenario of the 8 week rule and school holiday care, if the child is absent up to and on the last day of the vacation care booking and does not come back into care before 8 weeks have expired, full fee is applicable. First day rule applies in this scenario as well.

In the scenario of overseas absences if the child does not return to care before 6 weeks, CCS will not be applied as it is dated back to the child's last day in care.





Important CCS Information

Enrolments

Families are required to be prompt when confirming Enrolment details through their mygov account. Late confirmation can often lead to payment issues further down the line and sometimes result in funds being withdrawn or payment made several months later.

Another issue we have experienced has been when enrolments have been DISPUTED or REJECTED in mygov or Express Plus Centrelink mobile App.

This has caused issues with the payment of CCS, either resulting in payment being stopped or being taken back, leaving parents with a debt. Parents are advised to contact our office on 3040 0430 to discuss any issues with the Enrolment so that we can update as necessary without affecting subsidies, as once it has been deputed or rejected it can cause CCS issues which are out of our control.

Cease care

In the scenario of ceasing care with an Educator a cease care form is required to be completed and provided to the Educator and/or Kids at Home. This form can be provided by the Educator or by contacting our office on 3040 0430.

There are times we cannot cease an enrolment in a reasonable period of time due to specific reasons. If a parent leaves the service and DISPUTES or REJECTS their enrolment notification in their mygov, this has also caused issues with CCS being revoked and the family incurring a debt to either CCS or their Educator. Please contact Kids at Home before changing an enrolment status in this scenario.

Receipts and invoicing

Under CCS legislation (Family Assistance Law FAL) it is a requirement that the Educator provides an invoice stating the details of the care that has been provided and the amount owed. Please advise Kids at Home if you are not receiving an invoice/receipt for child care from your Educator.

Payment of Fees

Under CCS legislation (Family Assistance Law FAL) parents are required to pay a parent portion for the care of their child. This comes under liability to pay for child care under a CWA (which is Complying Written Arrangement) and is agreed on at the time of enrolment through mygov account.

To be eligible for CCS for a session of care an individual, or their partner, must have incurred a liability to pay for the session under a CWA. This eligibility requirement will be established when Kids at Home creates the enrolment and the individual confirms the details. Once Kids at Home and individual enter into a CWA, the provider must submit relevant details of the arrangement in an enrolment notice, including who is liable to pay the fees. These details will be passed on to the individual for confirmation (through Centrelink online).

Payment of fees to an Educator for the cost of providing care is a legal obligation under the FAL. Centrelink calculates what each family is entitled to as per booked care agreement and approval of parents through Harmony, sign in and out and confirming at the end of each week that what has been submitted is a true and accurate account of care provided. This information is assessed by Centrelink and this data along with Educators fees and Levies generates an amount parents are required to pay. We do not have any control of what parents are entitled to. If the data is returned and this differs from previous weeks, we may not know the specific reasons as to why and it is best to give our office a call.

Failure to pay Child Care Fees

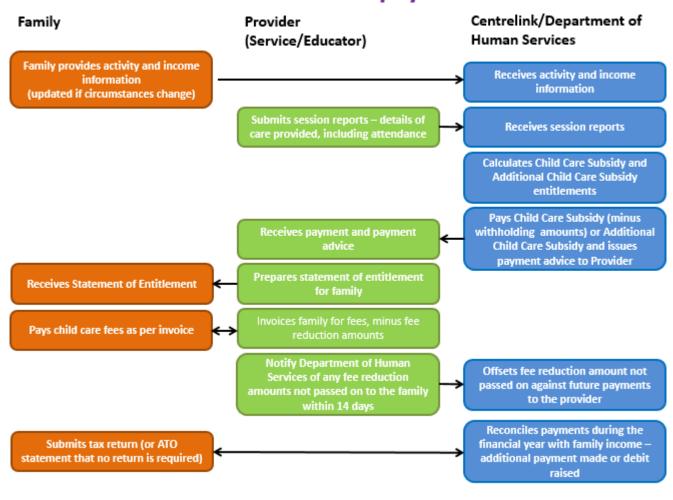
Payment of fees is required at time of invoice from Educator. If there are any discrepancies with Centrelink's calculations payment is required until any further notice from Centrelink. In this scenario parents are required to contact Centrelink to clarify any discrepancies. Payments will be adjusted on invoice when or if applied and reconciliation of payment will only be made then.

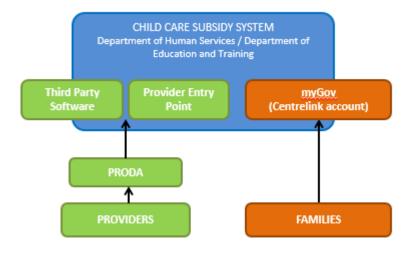
If payment is not received by the applicable due date, a debt collector may be obtained to retrieve outstanding payments, if this is the scenario the debt collectors fee will apply to the amount due.



How CCS is processed

Calculation of entitlements and payment





Newslaffar

A massage from the Department of Human Sarvies

Dear Families

It is a good time to check in on your family income estimate. Make sure it is up to date and reflects your and your partner's income for the whole financial year.

If your estimate is lower than your actual income, you may get a debt, which you will have to pay back. It is also a good time to check and update your activity test if your circumstances have changed.

The easiest way to update your family income estimate is by using your Centrelink online account through myGov, or the Express Plus Centrelink app.

While you are there, do not forget to make sure your and your partner's activity details are up to date too.

For more information, please visit information resources for families - https://www.education.gov.au/new-child-care-package-information-resources-families



Has there been any changes that have occurred to either yours or your child's enrolment details since initial enrolment paperwork was submitted?

- Contact Phone numbers
- Authorised people to collect
- Contact email
- Home address
- Immunisation
- Significant medical information
- Childs allergies
- Court orders

- Work place contact details
- Doctor
- Dentist
- Emergency and authorised to pick up details and emails

The changes could be any on the list above and will need to be updated with Kids at Home either by phone 3040 0430 or email admin@kidsathome.net.au and also update your Educator with any new changes to your details as well.



September School Holideys

South Bank - Thursday 26 September 9am - 1pm

Enjoy our city's beautiful fresh air and sun-soaked outdoors every Thursday from 9am-1pm at South



Bank with ever-changing classes including sport, music, storytelling, craft workshops and more. Activities are designed for kids aged 0-5 years old, and families can come and go throughout the day without needing to book in.

Spot the dog

Logan Entertainment Centre - Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th September

SPOT, based on the books by Eric Hill.



Spot and his friends are off on a new adventure to visit Spot's Dad on the farm and meet the farm animals. But when they arrive, all the animals are lost! Can Spot and his friends find them all? They might need a little help from their new friends in the audience.

Eric Hill's beloved puppy comes to life on stage with puppetry, songs and puzzles for children aged 18 months+ and their adults.

Flying Fox Studios – Everton Park - Monday 23 September – Saturday 28 September

A fun week of creative workshops. Workshops cover a wide range of topics such as visual arts, engineering, craft, science, technology, design and construction.



Triple P - Positive Parenting Program

Triple P - Positive Parenting Program

What is Triple P?

Triple P is an internationally acclaimed parenting program offered free to all Queensland parents and carers of children up to 16 years of age.

No matter what stage of life your child is at or what challenges you're facing, Triple P can help you learn simple but proven ways to parent more effectively and give your children the best opportunity to reach their full potential.

What does Triple P Do?

- ⇒ Raise happy, confident children
- ⇒ Manage behavior
- ⇒ Set rules and routines
- \Rightarrow Take care of yourself
- ⇒ Feel confident that you are doing the right thing

How do you Triple P?

- ⇒ Ring 1300 301 300 Parentline local call costs apply
 - 8am -10pm
- ⇒ One on one sessions with a Triple P provider
- ⇒ Group sessions
- ⇒ One off seminars, two hour workshops or longer courses
- ⇒ Triple P online

As Educators and parents we have gain the benefits of completing a Triple P course.

Check out Triple P online. They have blogs and great parenting advice.

Visit this link for more information https://www.qld.gov.au/community/caring-child/positive-parenting

Check them out on FaceBook https://www.facebook.com/triplepparenting/





A little known risk to small children

Take charge act now:

- Keep devices with button batteries out of reach of children if the battery compartment isn't secure
- 2. If a child swallows a button battery go to the emergency room right away.
- 3. Share this information with others.



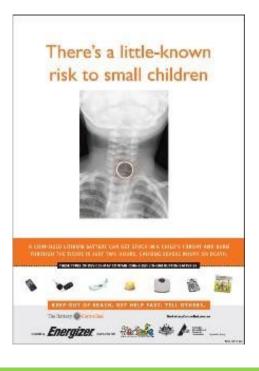
Saftey tips

Button batteries can be found in dozens of common household appliances, including bathroom scales, hearing aids, reading lights, cameras, flameless candles, games and toys, watches, calculators, torches and laser lights, thermometers, remote control devices that unlock cars and control MP3 speakers and musical greeting cards.

To keep your child safe from the danger they pose, follow these safety tips:

If you suspect a child has swallowed a button battery, immediately call the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 or go to a hospital emergency room. Do not let the child eat or drink, and do not induce vomiting.

- ⇒ Batteries should be treated as poison
- ⇒ Choose products that are powered with safer cylindrical batteries or ones where the disc battery is fully encased.
- ⇒ If a product has an accessible battery compartment or if the battery is secured but there is no warning label, complain to your local office of Fair Trading citing the industry code







10 Things New Perents Are Doing That Are More Important Than They Think

A message from Department of Education QLD

We have a tendency as parents to feel like we aren't doing things right.

Next time you feel yourself doing this think of all the things you do:

- 1. When they are hungry we feed them
- 2. You know one cry from another from "I'm hungry" to "Where is my dummy?"
- 3. You know how to read a book to an 18 month old to make them giggle.
- 4. You know their favourite game: peek-a-boo, to hide and seek.
- 5. A hug or a kiss or both makes problems disappear.
- 6. You understand what they are saying when the rest of the world hears a babble.
- 7. You know how to make your child smile even when they don't want to.
- 8. You know when they are sad, sick, tired, happy.
- 9. Your face will always make their eyes light up.
- 10. You show them every day how to love and how to do your best everyday.





2019 Excellence in Family Day Care

The Family Day Care Australia Excellence in Family Day Care Awards are the only national awards dedicated entirely to the family day care sector. The Excellence in Family Day Care Awards recognise the amazing work done by educators, coordinators and services in the family day care sector to deliver high quality early childhood education and care to children across Australia.

We invite families, services and educators to tell us in their own words, what makes their educator, coordinator or approved service such an integral and special contributor to their lives and to the lives of the children in their care.

Kids at Home has been nominated as have many of our Educators and Mentors (a new category this year) The number of nominations we have collectively as a service received demonstrates recognition of the wonderful work we all do with and for the children in our care.

The selection criteria questions for an Educator is as follows, from Family Daycare Australia:

- How do you demonstrate professional practice in your work as a family day care educator?
- Explain how your relationships with children and families influence quality outcomes for children in your family day care and how you foster and strengthen these relationships?
- How do you embrace flexibility (in programming or otherwise), and the diversity of children and families in your family day care, and how does this support quality outcomes for children?



All the best of luck to all our wonderful nominees, winners and finalists will be announced on the following dates.

Educator regional winners will be announced: 19 September 2019

Star Award winners will be announced: 3 October 2019

National finalists will be announced: 14 October 2019

National winners will be announced at a Gala dinner event in Hobart: 23 November 2019





Newslaffar

Is My Child Ready For School

As we are nearing the last quarter of the year a decision may or may not have been reached about children moving on to school. Here is some helpful information to assist with if your child is ready to transition to school.

Prep in the first year of school and it compulsory for Queensland Children to undertake Prep prior to Year 1. Children must be 5 by 30th June in the year they enroll. Entry can be delayed by 1 year if the parent feels the child is not ready. All children must be enrolled in school by the time they turn 6 years 6 months.

What is school readiness?

Sometimes parents think School readiness means being able to read, write and do basic maths. This is not the case. Readiness is about the whole child and addresses all the child's skills: social and emotional, physical skills, communication and cognitive skills.

Ready for school - how can you tell?

All children learn at their own pace and have their own strengths. Don't worry if your child doesn't demonstrate all of the "school readiness" skills and behaviours. Talk to your early childhood educator or your GP – who will be able to assess and advice.

Social Skills:

Being able to get along with other children

Basic manners

Assert themselves

Being able to play independently as well as with other children

Emotional Maturity

Being able to manage big emotions

Focus on tasks

Follow directions and instruction

Understand rules

Independence

Able to manage this needs without adult supervision such as: toileting, dressing, unwrapping lunch and managing their belongings and self care

Language Skills

Being able to converse and listen to adults and

other children

Speak clearly

Communicate needs

Ask for help

Understand stories

Begin to identify some letters and sounds

Physical Health and Co-ordination

Basic health

Fine Motor Skills – being able to grip a pencil,

turn pages of a book

Gross Motor Skills – run, jump, climb, play ball

Carry own bag

Transition to School

Starting school is an important milestone in a child's life.

Supporting children to successfully transition to school helps foster their enthusiasm for lifelong learning.

A child's transition to school experience starts well before, and extends far beyond, their first day.

Families and Educators play a significant role in supporting the transition to school, so start well before your child's first day.

By working together, early childhood services, schools, families and relevant community organisations can help children enjoy a great start to school.

Simple tips:

- be ready to support your child
- listen to your child's thoughts about starting school make time to talk, read, play and relax with your child
- share your positive feelings about school
- practise new routines

- encourage your child to know how to seek help
- meet new children and families before the first day
- celebrate starting school.





Top Tips for Starting School

KEEP THE TALK POSITIVE

- When talking to children about their next step in formal schooling, highlight the positives.
- Encourage conversation and questions from your child about school and frame these conversations in a positive light.
- * Go to the library and borrow books about starting school. Use these as a way to prompt discussion and answer questions.

FAMILIARISE

Visit the buildings, playgrounds and other facilities the children will be using in the following school year. If possible, plan these visits in quiet times where the environment can be experienced without being too overwhelming.

BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

- Get to know the new teacher, the principal and other key staff. Attend any formal program set up by the school for transition. If there is not a formal transition process where this occurs, make appointments to facilitate this yourself.
- Organise or participate in play-dates with children sharing the same class or year level
 if possible. Use part of the holiday period prior to the new school year to build friendships and relationships with peers.
- Involving parents too in these social times is good for everyone. Parents rely on each other for support. A strong network of parents will be of great benefit and comfort to the children.

Check out this fantastic website recommended by our Educational Leader Jasmine from the Queensland Government "The Early Years Count"

It has some great information and resources for the early years development and for kindy and school readiness

https://www.earlyyearscount.earlychildhood.qld.gov.au/





Newsleffer

Book Corner



Reading daily to children from infancy can help develop language and literacy skills. Hearing stories exposes children to a wide range of words and helps build their vocabulary.

Reading out loud is widely recognised as the most important activity to build word and sound awareness.

10 Benefits to Reading Aloud:

- 1. Mental stimulation
- 2. Stress reduction
- 3. Knowledge
- 4. Vocabulary extension
- 5. Memory improvement
- 6. Thinking skills
- 7. Improved focus
- 8. Better writing skills
- 9. Tranquillity
- 10. It is free



50 Fantastic Ideas For Engaging Day

By June O'Sullivan, Alice Sharp

This book helps Dad's to understand the contribution to their child's development. Simple activities can enrich their children's lives and strengthen the bond between father and child.



Eco Smart

By Julie Gaul and Deborah Watson

Learn about the global warming and how we can make a more sustainable future.



Sorry Sorry

Illustrated and Written by Anne Kerr

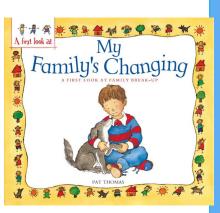
A true story about Australia's history. Great resource for Educators working with young children to learn about reconciliation.



My Family's Changing

By Pat Thomas

This delightful picture book explores the issue of divorce in reassuringly simple terms.





Newsleffier

Quality Area 2.1.3 Healthy Lifestyle

Healthy Eating for Strong Children

Talking to children about everyday food to give us energy and grow and sometimes food is vital as they grow.

Regular meal times give children energy – they need 3 meals and 2 healthy snacks. Children have small stomachs, - children who eat all the time never feel hungry. Water is the best option for a drink. Always offer water. Food provided to children provides the basis of lifelong habits. At 12 months children can eat the same healthy foods as the rest of the family. A good basis for a healthy diet needs to include the five food groups:

- Takeaway and junk food
- Cakes and ice cream
- Juice, soft drinks, cordial

The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) provides national guidelines for childcare:

Respect – show all children respect
Environment – provide a relaxed, culturally appropriate atmosphere for children. Sit with children at meal times and encourage social interaction **Nutrition** – promote healthy eating habits

https://www.kidsdigfood.com.au/

- Plenty of vegetables
- ♦ Fruit
- ♦ Breads, cereals, rice, pasta
- ♦ Milk, Yoghurt, Cheese
- ♦ Lean meat: fish, chicken, meat

Providing children with a variety of textures to explore helps children at their developmental stages.

Sometimes food:

- Chocolate, Iollies, biscuits, chips
- Pastries, pies and sausage rolls
- Fried food chicken and hot chips

Sourced 12/06/19 https://www.health.gov.au/ https://www.health.g

The Department of Health

Sourced 12/06/19 https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/ health/HealthyLiving/childcare-and-healthy-eating Better Health Channel

Feed Your Picky Eater parent workshop...

Date: Thursday 12th September 2019

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

(a recording will be made available after the workshop if for any reason you can't join us live)

Location: Online

GOODIE GOODIE LUNCH BOX https://www.goodiegoodielunchbox.com.au/

Healthy recipes for kids and resources

SUPER HEALTHY KIDS https://www.superhealthykids.com/

Meal planning, recipes, kids fitness, parenting advice, food allergies, resources and course recommendations





Emotional Health QA 1 & 2

Mindfulness apps for Children

- Smiling Minds
- Meditations for kids
- Dreamy kids
- Wellbeyond Meditation for Kids
- Stop, Breathe and Think Kids
- Super Stretch Yoga
- Sleep Meditation for Kids
- Calming Bottle



Children's Meditation

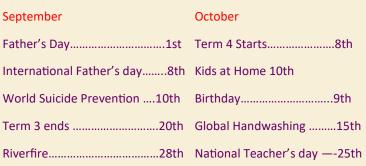
Linking and learning about other cultures is very much a part of our Early Years Learning culture. Deep listening is also called "Dadirri" from the Ngan'gikurunggurr and Ngen'giwumirri languages of the **Aboriginal** people of the Daly River region.

In the Wiradjuri language the **word for meditation**, deep listening, knowing and reflecting is Winhangadhurinya.









Queen's birthday30th Halloween31st





All Souls Day2nd
Melbourne's Cup Day ——5th
Remembrance Day11th
Steve Irwin Day15th

November

Universal Children's day .20th



What children are enjoying each day in KAH

Arani—Jindalee, catching bubbles

Dena- Ormeau Hills, exploring space

Leigh-North Lakes, Investigation nature



Jackie—Burleigh Heads, cow gazing



Sam—Kallangur, drummer extraordinaire



Urith—Edens Landing, light play and reflection



Heidi- Everton Park, growing beans and peas

Susie—Mt Gravatt East, Life skills









Sue—Wondunna, budding photographer, Say Cheese!





What Children are enjoying each day in KAH!

Kelly-Granville, Spider web in the morning dew, and having a chat with our chicken friend





April—Strathpine, Fossicking for the potatoes we have grown

Marie—Pacific Pines, a visit to the dentist

Jody-Rothwell, getting all green and messy



Kim-Point Vernon, music time



WE VISITED THE DENTIST

TO LEARN ABOUT OUR TEETH

PIC-COLLAGE

Tie dye socks

sochs

Sarah— Crestmead, Exploring nature



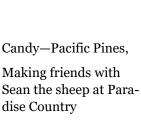
Mari—Bethania, tye dye sock production for fathers day



What Children are enjoying each day in KAH!



Deb-Jacobs Well, science colour discovery







Donna-Elimbah, its snowing in QLD



Dena – Ormeau Hills, relaxing around the camp fire



Donna-Elimbah, Decisions Decisions!



Glynis-Kawungan, some adventures at the park



Amanda— Granville, book







Dalena-Pacific Pines, Fathers day craft and supervision finch eggs getting ready to hatch.