

Newsletter – March 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Since starting my journey in childcare, I've learned so much—through my studies, working with children and families, and seeing firsthand how important routines are. It's had such a big impact that it's even changed some of the ways I raise my own children! They say it takes a village, and I believe in sharing knowledge to support each other.

Supporting Routines at Home

Routines are a big part of what we do in childcare, but they're just as important at home. It's not just about doing things the same way every day—it's also about helping children understand rules, expectations, and how to manage different situations.

Building routines can start as early as infancy! Even 1-year olds can begin to follow simple steps, like washing their hands, putting toys away, or sitting at the table for meals. These small habits help them feel secure, learn independence, and understand what's expected.

Why Routines Matter

- ✔ **Security & Comfort** – Knowing what to expect makes children feel safe and confident.
- ✔ **Independence & Responsibility** – Repeating daily tasks helps kids learn to do things on their own.
- ✔ **Social & Emotional Growth** – Clear routines teach patience, cooperation, and help prevent frustration.
- ✔ **Healthy Habits** – Regular routines encourage good hygiene, eating habits, and sleep.
- ✔ **Learning & Thinking Skills** – Repetition strengthens memory, problem-solving, and focus.
- ✔ **Smoother Transitions & Fewer Meltdowns** – Predictable routines make changes easier to handle.

Simple Ways to Build Routines at Home

- 🧼 Washing hands before meals (even with help at first!)
- 🧸 Packing up toys before starting something new
- 💬 Taking turns in play and conversations
- 👨🍳 Helping with cooking or cleaning up (e.g., stirring, wiping a table)
- 🌙 Following a bedtime routine (e.g., brush teeth, put on PJs, read a book)
- 🎒 Carrying their own bag to childcare

👟 Putting shoes and belongings in the same place each day

😊 Using kind words like “please,” “thank you,” and “excuse me”

👐 Using gentle hands when playing with others

Tips to Support Routines

- ◆ Keep mealtimes, bedtime, and playtime as consistent as possible.
- ◆ Use pictures or timers to show what's coming next.
- ◆ Give small choices (e.g., “Do you want to brush your teeth or have a bath first?”).
- ◆ Let them try things themselves—like dressing or setting the table.
- ◆ Encourage patience by taking turns at dinner or during play.
- ◆ Praise their efforts (e.g., “Great job packing up your toys!”).
- ◆ Role-play social situations like saying hello or asking for help.
- ◆ Talk about emotions and kindness to help them understand their feelings.
- ◆ Encourage teamwork with family tasks, puzzles, or games.

By starting simple routines from a young age, you're helping your child build important life skills that will support them as they grow, and it's never too late to start.

Thank you for allowing us to support your child's growth and learning. We look forward to a great month ahead!

Kind regards,
Claire Hayward
Nominated Supervisor
Hawthorn Street Early Learning
Centre



HAWTHORN ST.

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Upcoming Events and Reminders –

Save the Dates

Park play dates: Connect & Enjoy!

Saturday 15th March

9:30am at Victoria Park (near swimming pool)

Saturday 21st June & Saturday 20th September

Portfolio nights: Discover Your Child's Progress

Tuesday 8th April, Tuesday 1st July & Tuesday 23rd September,

Children's Christmas Party: Friday 28th November

Preschool Graduation: Thursday 4th December

Public Holiday Reminder!

Just a friendly reminder that we are only closed on Public Holidays.

Good Friday 18th April, Easter Monday 21st April,
Anzac Day Friday 25th April, Kings Birthday Monday 9th June & Labour Day Monday 6th October.



*Fine motor activities help strengthen hand muscles, improving coordination and control. These skills are essential for tasks like **pencil grip, writing, cutting, and buttoning clothes.***

Continuous Learning at Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre

At Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre, we are committed to ongoing professional development to ensure we provide the highest quality care and education for the children in our community.

We value training and actively invest in keeping our educators up to date with:

-  First Aid & CPR – Ensuring our team is always prepared to respond confidently in emergencies.
-  Safe Sleep Practices – Staying informed on the latest guidelines to create a safe and nurturing sleep environment for children.
-  Understanding Behaviours – Equipping our educators with effective strategies to support

children's emotional and social development.

 Teaching & Curriculum Training – Enhancing our knowledge of best practices in early childhood education to foster meaningful learning experiences.

By continuously learning and growing, we strengthen our ability to provide a safe, engaging, and supportive environment where children can thrive. ✨



Share Your Weekend Adventures with Us!

We love staying connected with our families on our **private Facebook group pages!** Sharing what you and your child did over the weekend helps us **engage in meaningful conversations** with them about their experiences.

By knowing what they've been up to, we can:

-  Support their **language development** through discussion.
-  Help them **reflect** on their weekend experiences.
-  Extend on their learning by incorporating their interests into activities at the centre.

Feel free to **post photos or a little update** – we'd love to hear about your weekend fun! 🏠 🍌 🚲

Your Feedback is Essential: We greatly appreciate your feedback and suggestions, as they help us continually improve. We also love the family feedback and photos shared on our Facebook page, showcasing your weekend adventures.

Open Door Policy: Remember that our doors are always open for you. If you ever have questions, concerns, or simply want to chat, please don't hesitate to contact us, or drop by for a visit.