

HAWTHORN ST.

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Newsletter – September 2025

Dear Families,

September will be a busy and rewarding month at Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre, with a number of important events and celebrations taking place.

On **Wednesday, 3rd September**, we will acknowledge **Educators Day**, a meaningful occasion to recognise and thank our dedicated educators for their ongoing commitment to providing high-quality care and education for the children in our community.

The week commencing **8th September** marks our annual **Photo Week**. We kindly remind families to return photo envelopes promptly to ensure your child's participation.

On **Saturday, 20th September**, we invite you to join us for our **Park Playdate**. This event provides families with the opportunity to connect with one another and with our educators in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

Our **Portfolio Night** will be held on **Tuesday, 23rd September**. Families are encouraged to attend to meet with educators and review the learning and developmental progress of their child across the term.

Finally, on **Thursday, 25th September**, we will participate in **Footy Colours Day**. Children are invited to wear their favourite football team colours, with a gold coin donation supporting the **Kids with Cancer Foundation**.

We look forward to sharing these experiences with you and thank you for your continued partnership in supporting your child's learning journey.

Please take note of our new policy around personal devices and child safe training for educators.

Your Feedback Matters: We value your feedback and suggestions—they help us improve and enrich children's learning. We also love seeing the family photos and weekend adventures you share on our Facebook page.

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



Claire

Upcoming Events and Reminders

Save the Dates

Educators Day – Wed 3rd Sept: Celebrate our wonderful educators.

Photographer: week of 8th September

Park play dates: Connect & Enjoy!

10am Saturday 20th September

Portfolio nights: Tuesday 23rd September

Footy Colours Day – Thu 25th Sept: Wear team colours, gold coin donation for Kids with Cancer Foundation.

Children's Christmas Party: Friday 28th November

Preschool Graduation: Thursday 4th December

Public Holiday Reminder!

Just a friendly reminder that at Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre, we are only closed on Public Holidays.

Monday **6 October**.

Child Safety at Hawthorn Street ELC – A Continued Commitment

We want to take a moment to remind families of our ongoing commitment to child safety at Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre.

PERSONAL DEVICES

We have updated our policies and procedures to reflect the new regulation coming into effect Monday, 1st September.

The new regulation requires that staff must not have personal electronic devices (capable of taking images or videos) on them when providing education and care to children.

This requirement is designed to keep children safe, supervised, and protected. Only service-issued devices may be used for photos, videos, or communication related to children's learning.

We started to implement this change Wednesday, 20th August. Centre issued devices have been provided to all rooms and reception. These devices are signed in and out each day and stored

HAWTHORN ST.

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

at the centre. If brought into the centre, all personal devices will be kept in the staffroom. For emergency purposes only, a personal device will be used (e.g., emergency drills, lockdowns, evacuations, and excursions) in line with the *National Model Code*.

If you have any concerns or queries regarding the new change, please don't hesitate to contact us.

EDUCATOR TRAINING

On Tuesday, 19th August, our educators completed additional training focused on **Child Safe Practice Principle 2: Empowering Children's Voices**.

This means children are supported to:

- Empowering children's voices
- Children being informed about their rights, participating in decisions affecting them, and being taken seriously
- Offering genuine choices, using age-appropriate strategies to explain things, and showing children that their views matter
- Children communicate their needs, ideas, feelings and boundaries in many ways, not always with words

In practice, educators are working to:

- Help children understand their rights
- Promote meaningful and regular participation
- Recognise and support peer friendships
- Use child-friendly ways to express concerns or ideas
- Create a friendly and welcoming environment
- Support educators to understand development needs

If you have any questions about staff training, please reach out to us – we are always here to listen and support.

We Value Your Feedback

We want to make sure our communication is clear, respectful, and helpful.

We'd love to hear from you:

- When we call you about your child, what do you expect from us?

- How would you like incidents or updates to be described?
- What helps you feel informed and supported?

Your feedback will guide how we communicate with families and ensure we're meeting your needs. 

Please share your thoughts with us—we're always wanting to improve.

VACANCIES

We currently have a small number of **vacancies available across a few of our rooms** at Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre. If you have friends or family looking for quality early education and care, we'd love for you to spread the word. Whether it's for a baby, toddler, or preschool-aged child, we welcome new families to come and see the warm, nurturing, and engaging environment our centre offers. Please feel free to contact us for more information or to arrange a tour, contact us on 02 6884 3583 or email:

info@hawthornstreetelc.com.au

