

HAWTHORN ST.

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Newsletter – June 2026

Dear Families,

As we welcome the first month of winter, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our families for being such an important part of our Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre community. We have enjoyed a wonderful start to the year and are looking forward to another month filled with learning, discovery, and meaningful connections.

With the cooler weather now well and truly arriving, we kindly ask families to ensure children come to the centre dressed warmly each day. Layered clothing, jumpers, jackets, clearly labelled and beanies are encouraged so that children can comfortably enjoy both their indoor and outdoor learning experiences throughout the day.

Over the past month, our educators have had the opportunity to participate in valuable off-site professional development sessions. These training opportunities have allowed our team to gain new knowledge, fresh ideas, and innovative teaching strategies that will further enrich the learning experiences we provide for the children. We are excited to bring this new wisdom back into our classrooms and continue creating engaging, fun, and meaningful opportunities for every child to learn and grow.

As always, we thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to another wonderful month of teaching and learning, where we continue to learn from the children just as much as they learn from us.

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



Save the Dates

Park Playdates: Saturday 25th July, Saturday 17th October.

Portfolio Nights: Tuesday 21st July,
Tuesday 13th October

Children's Christmas Party: Friday 27th November

Preschool Graduation: Thursday 9th December

Public Holiday Reminder!

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

Labour Day: Monday 5th October

Christmas Day: Friday 25th December

Boxing Day holiday: Monday 28th December.



Our Book "Babies in Groups"

In this chapter from *Babies in Groups*, we explore a simple but important idea — babies do not grow and learn only through one-to-one relationships with adults. They also learn through being part of groups.

Drawing on observations from early childhood settings, the chapter examines how babies watch, respond to, comfort, and learn from one another. It challenges the idea that infants are only socially connected to one primary adult and instead highlights the rich social worlds babies create together.

The chapter also discusses how group experiences can support wellbeing, communication, confidence, emotional regulation, and a sense of belonging. When educators thoughtfully create opportunities for babies to interact with peers, remarkable social capabilities can emerge.

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For our families at Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre, this research reflects something we often see every day — babies are active, social, curious people who learn not only from educators, but also from each other.

If you'd like to read more, you can find the book "Babies in Groups" [Babies in Groups: Expanding Imaginations | Oxford Academic](#)



Learning & Curriculum – Term 2

Throughout this month, the children have been engaged in a wide variety of exciting learning experiences across all curriculum areas. In Science, we have been exploring how ice melts and changes state, with the children discovering hidden animals and plants trapped inside ice blocks as they slowly melted. These hands-on investigations encouraged curiosity, observation, prediction, and problem-solving skills.

In Mathematics, children have been learning about size, comparing objects that are big, small, tall, short, long, and wide through play-based experiences and everyday routines. These activities have helped children develop their understanding of measurement, comparison, and mathematical language.

Within our PDHPE experiences, we have been discussing safe and unsafe objects and learning about ways to keep ourselves and others safe. Through conversations, role play, and guided activities, children have been building their awareness of safety in both the home and learning environment.

These are just a few of the many wonderful learning opportunities that have taken place throughout the month. We encourage families to take some time to read the curriculum displays located on the room walls, where our educators have documented the

children's learning journeys, interests, discoveries, and achievements. These displays provide a fantastic insight into the rich and meaningful experiences occurring each day at Hawthorn Street Early Learning Centre.



At Hawthorn Street ELC, we love celebrating our children's birthdays and making their special day memorable. Children enjoy sharing a birthday cake with their friends, who join to sing "Happy Birthday." Celebrating these important milestones helps create a sense of belonging, joy, and connection within our centre community.



We look forward to another term of rich learning experiences, where children are supported to explore, discover, and grow in a safe and engaging environment.

