

NEWSLETTER

December 2024



[Contact details]

68 Woodford Street

ONE MILE

4305 QLD

Tel: 3282 8888

Email:

info@allyskindy.com.au

Directors Letter

Dear families,

Wow, we are coming to the close of another fantastic year at Ally's Kindy!

We held our Kindergarten Graduation on Friday the 29th of November at Immaculate Heart Primary School Hall. All of our children did a fantastic job participating in their concert. It was a night to remember! Thank you to Immaculate Heart Primary School for allowing us the opportunity to utilize the hall for the evening,. Well done and congratulations to all of our Graduating Kindergarten Children!

A friendly reminder to all families that our Family Christmas Party is on Saturday 14th of December beginning at 8:30am and concluding at 10.30am. We will be drawing our Xmas Raffle and Santa will pay us visit!

I would like to mention that both of these events are run on our staffs own free time, this includes the catering. All of our Teachers and Educators go that extra mile for the children at our service as you may already know. A massive thank you to our Centre's staff for making all of this possible for our Centre's children and families to celebrate these great occasions.

Tuesday 24th of December we will be holding a water play centre fun day. Please bring labelled with your child's name; a hat, togs, towel and a bag to put wet clothes into. Please note this day we also close at 2.00pm.

Please note that we are closed for the following Public Holidays: Wednesday 25th December: Christmas Day. Thursday 26th December: Boxing Day. Wednesday 1st January 2025: New Years Day.

All other days are normal trading hours for Ally's Kindy.

Please ensure that you communicate any holidays you may be having over the Christmas Period. Remember that when marked on Holidays gives you a discount of half your weekly gap fee to pay! It also allows us to notify other families who utilize Vacation Care if there is an extra spot available for their child to attend.

Here at Ally's Kindy we utilize the Xplor app. This is a great way for parents to see their children's daily information, posts and program. You can comment on posts and like them. Stay up to date with all Office communications including newsletters and notices in your inbox! It is also a easy way for parents to notify us their child's absence for the day or wanting an extra casual day. View your account and pay with ease using the "Pay Now" feature.

A reminder if you have not done so to complete Re-Enrolment for 2025. This secures your position for the next year and keeps us up to date with your families details.

On behalf of the team at Ally's Kindy, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and joyous New Year!

See you all in 2025!

Kind Regards,
Donna Hayes



NOTICE

A friendly reminder to all of our families to keep your child's vaccinations up to date. **Failure to keep to the schedule will result in a loss of CCS and you will have to pay full fees.** If your child has had any new needles since the time they have been enrolled please ensure an updated copy of the immunization is given to administration to keep on file.



Ally's Kindy

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Centre News

Our Centre came together as a whole on 11/11 for Remembrance Day. We had a small service and was very proud of all the attending children who lined the hallway and stood for a minutes silence. Two representatives walked their room wreath in front of our Kangaroo statue to honour our fallen soldiers. Well done for showing such great respect!

On Tuesday 19th of November, our centre was a majority of blue in support of International Men's day.

Our gardens are looking absolutely lovely after all the recent rain we've had! We have zucchini and cucumber thriving in our back gardens. We've also planted a orange and mandarin trees to the side of Nursery veranda. This will benefit the centre in years to come offering shade to the Nursery Room from the harsh afternoon sun and fruit to eat.

We held one of our biggest events of the year, Kindergarten Graduation on the 29th November 2024. We are so proud of all of our graduation children! They performed in a fantastic short concert and received their Kindergarten Diplomas. We hope all families had a great afternoon celebrating their little graduates.

All of our rooms are getting into the festive spirit of Christmas with decorations all around the rooms as well as arts and crafts. As we get closer to Christmas the children's arts and crafts can be taken home.

Staff Holidays

Some of our team will be taking a well deserved holiday. Their positions will be filled in with the regular faces of our Ally's Team. We hope everyone returns in good health and refreshed!

Miss Monna (Assistant, Nursery) 16/12/2024– 20/12/2024

Miss Elissa (Group Leader, Nursery) 23/12/2024– 06/01//2025

Granny (Assistant, Kindergarten) 30/12/2024– 06/01/2025

Family Christmas Party

Leichhardt Park, Saturday 14th December

Saturday 14th of December we will be holding our Family Christmas Party on Saturday 14th of December 2024 at Leichhardt Park beginning at 8:30am concluding 10.30am.

This is a RSVP event. Please ensure you have RSVP'd to office your attending adult and child/ren.

At our Family Christmas party we will draw our Christmas Raffle and Santa will pay a visit!

Please ensure you bring your child a water bottle, hat and lather them up in sunscreen as it can get quite hot at this time of morning.

We will have sunscreen on hand in case anyone forgets and cool water available for refill of bottles.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Week of 2nd-6th
December**

Christmas Sock Week
Come to Kindy in your best Xmas socks!

**Week of 9th-13th
December**

Christmas Hat Week
Buy or create your own Xmas hat to wear at Kindy!

**Week of 16th-20th
December**

Christmas Shirt Week
Wear your favourite Xmas Shirt at Kindy!

Tuesday 24th December

**Centre Fun Day: Water
Play Party. Early Close
2:00pm**

25th & 26th December
CLOSED: Public Holidays
Christmas and Boxing Day

January 1st 2025
CLOSED: New Years Day



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Accounts

Mim: Account Controller : 0414 867 288

A friendly reminder to all families that under our Fees Policy requires weekly or fortnightly payments in order to keep booking at the Centre. View your account via Xplor Home App under Account today! If you are experiencing any difficulties please do not hesitate to contact Donna (Director) or Mim (Account Controller)

Holidays:

If you are taking any holidays or time away from Kindy please notify Office Administration via email or "Change to Enrolment/Holidays" Form (Yellow slip found to the left of Front Counter) Alternatively email info@allyskindy.com.au or use Xplor App to notify of holiday. This will ensure your holidays are entered into the system and holiday discount is applied.

Absences:

A friendly reminder that CCS is payable for up to 42 allowable absence days for each child per financial year. If you go over 42 days of absence you may be charged full fees.

Ceasing Care

A friendly reminder to give 2 weeks notice for intention to cease care. This gives all of our team time to prepare to say goodbye and collect up any artworks and belongings your child has at the centre. Accounts must be paid in full before leaving the centre.

Free Kindy 2025

Children apart of the **Kindergarten Program 2025** will receive extra subsidy called Free Kindy. This is 15 hours a week (7.5hours two day's a week) of extra subsidy. Free Kindy will begin at a date to be advised in February.

Remember to keep within your session times and to sign in/out DAILY to avoid losing CCS.

Centre Fun Day: Water Play

24th December 2024

Tuesday 24th of December we will be holding a water play centre fun day. Please bring labelled with your child's name; a hat, togs, towel and a bag to put wet clothes into.

Children will be engaging in some fun water play before we close for Christmas Day!

Children will also be having a sausage sizzle and enjoy a movie for rest time.

Please note this day we also close Centre at 2.00pm.

**VIEW ACCOUNT
THROUGH HOME APP**

View account through
Home app under
finance

Pay fees easily through
Pay Now feature on
Xplor Home App

We have EFTPOS
available on site

Set up a Direct Debt!

Account name:
Betterchildcare

BSB: 084-917

Account # 77 33 86
301

Reference: Your
account name (the
guardian who CCS is
linked to)

Sustainability Tip

*Use material instead
of wrapping paper
on presents this
Xmas!*

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Family Support in Ipswich

Ipswich Assist Phone: 3413 1070	Food, Assistance with bills and petrol vouchers	Central Church— 20 Limestone Street manager@ipswichassist.org.au	Times: Mon 9am-3pm Tue: 9am-12pm Tue: 1pm –3pm
St Vincent De Paul Phone: 1800 846 643	Food, Vouchers (inc. Travel) Clothing, some help with bills	272 Brisbane Street West Ipswich www.salvos.org.au	Mon, Weds & Friday 9am– 11.30am
Salvation Army Family Store Phone: 1300 371 288	Food, vouchers, clothing, blankets and assistance with utility bills	307 Brisbane Street, Ipswich	Mon-Fri 9am-4.30pm Sat 9.30am-2.30pm

Christmas in Ipswich

Christmas CALENDAR

For the complete up-to-date list of events visit Christmasinipswich.com.au

NOVEMBER

18-23
Christmas Pop-Up at The Foundry Cafe

19 NOV-11 DEC
Letters to Santa

21
Watercress Creek Olives and Limes Open Day

28
Lighting of the City Christmas Tree
Christmas at Top of Town
Journey Church Carols
Santa and Sirens

28 NOV-6 JAN
City Christmas Tree Lights On

29
Brassall Christmas in the Park

30
Christmas Markets at The Soul Nook Collective
Holly Jolly Twilight Event

DECEMBER

1-9
Vote for Christmas Lights Competition People's Choice

1-25
View Christmas Lights Competition Displays

1
Raceview Community Carols Under the Big Tree

6-15
Off the Wall Art Exhibition
It's a Wonderful Life - A Live Radio Play

7
Ipswich Handmade Expo Pre-Christmas Extravaganza
Sunset Sips at Christmas
Christmas Under the Stars at Tivoli
Marburg Christmas Carnival

8
Ulysses Club Annual Ipswich Toy Run
Redbank Plains Community Christmas Carols

13
Rosewood Christmas Festival
Stitch in the 'swich - Christmas Special

13-14
Shiloh Church Christmas Carols

13-22
St Nicholas Precinct

14
Christmas in Ripley

15
Marburg Community Carols Evening

16
Low Sensory Night at St Nicholas Precinct

17-20
Christmas Disco

20-21
Christmas Lights Tours

21
Dive In Movie at Orion

23
Orion Twilight Christmas Markets

31
Celebrate '25 at Tivoli Drive-In Fireworks



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Christmas and Financial Stress

Article

Money worries a major source of stress in Australia, and can lead to relationship problems, depression or anxiety. Some signs that financial stress is affecting your health and relationships include: arguing with the people closest to you about money, difficulty sleeping, feeling angry, fearful or experiencing mood swings, tiredness, aches and pains, withdrawing from others, feeling guilty when you spend money and delaying health care you need due to the cost.

If financial stress is impacting your health and relationships, here are some tips to help you through this difficult time:

- **Be aware of your emotions** — Write down your worries to help you work out which issues to tackle first.
- **Look after your health** — Eat a healthy, balanced diet and exercise regularly. Talk to your doctor if you have a medical condition that can be made worse by stress.
- **Share your feelings with supportive friends** — Identify people you can talk to about how you are feeling, and who will help you stay positive.
- **Be honest with your family** — Tell them about the situation and how it might affect the household budget. If your relationship with your partner is under stress, contact Relationships Australia on 1300 364 277 for support, advice and counselling.
- **Write up a budget** — Write a summary of your finances and include how much money you need to cover each of your major your costs. You may need to limit your spending for a while. Put aside some money for bills, create an emergency fund and pay for essentials first to help ease the stress.
- **Contact your bank** — Most financial institutions have policies in place to help customers experiencing financial problems. The Australian Banking Association website has lots of information about dealing with banks, and how to get help if you are in financial difficulty.
- **Contact a social worker on the Centrelink Employment Services Line** — Call 132 850 (Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm) or visit a Services Australia customer service centre.

Anyone can experience problems with money, whatever their background. It's important not to keep it to yourself or try to deal with it alone.

- ASIC provides tips and advice on managing money through MoneySmart.
- Financial Counselling Australia has a consumer website with tips on managing household bills and debt. You can call their National Debt Helpline on 1800 007 007 for free, confidential financial counselling.
- The Salvation Army Moneycare website also offers a free, confidential financial counselling service on 1800 722 363.
- Services Australia has lots of information about free services to help you manage your money.

Financial stress can trigger or worsen mental health conditions for some people. If you are feeling depressed or anxious about your situation, it's important to seek support to reduce the risk of this happening. If you are feeling stressed, talk to your doctor or another trusted health professional to discuss your situation, and how you are feeling. You can also call a trusted friend or family member.

Some organizations you can reference to help you include:

- Beyond Blue — if you're feeling depressed or anxious, call 1300 224 636 or chat online
- Black Dog Institute — if you are affected by mood disorders visit the website for online help
- Lifeline — if you need support through a personal crisis, call 13 11 14 or chat online

Policy Review

Educational Programs and Practice

Families are asked to:

- *Share information upon enrolment and daily with educators about your child's interests, abilities, strengths, goals, culture and background.
- *Be proactive in participating in the learning program through the sharing of information and/or time and talents.
- *Be understanding of how each child develops differently and maintain open communication with educators.
- *Understand that any items brought from home must be clearly labelled and while all care will be taken, we are unable to accept responsibility for any items that are lost or damaged. Please consider carefully what items are brought into the service.
- *Please dress children in a way that protects them from weather and elements such as the sun and allows them to move freely and participate in messy play.



REWARDS!

Ally's Kindy Referral Rewards Program

No Limit on number of rewards you can earn!

If you are happy with our service and feel we are enhancing the life of your child and your family, we would like to REWARD you for any new families you might bring to our Centre. Not only will we welcome and support them in every way, we will also **CREDIT your account with \$250.00** if they enrol and stay with us for at least 2 weeks. We are confident that once they come and see for themselves, they will be very happy you told them about us!