

TERM 2, 2026



From Your Centre Director, Katerina

WUNYA AND WELCOME TO OUR TERM 2 NEWSLETTER!

Over the past few weeks, it has been such a joy settling into my new role as Centre Manager and beginning to get to know the wonderful children, families, and educators who make this community so special. Every day has offered something new to appreciate, from the warm conversations at drop-off and pick-up, to the curiosity and energy in the rooms, to the genuine care I see in the way our educators support each child.

I'm incredibly grateful for the warm welcome I've received. It's clear that this is a centre built on strong relationships, shared values, and a deep commitment to children's learning and wellbeing. I'm looking forward to continuing to build those connections, supporting our team, and working together with families to create a positive, productive year ahead where every child feels safe, supported, and excited to learn.



CHILD SAFETY AS EVERYDAY PRACTICE

At Little Ducks, child safety is part of everything we do. It's not just policies, it's the everyday moments where children feel safe, respected, and listened to. Strong, trusting relationships help children feel confident to use their voices, make choices, and seek help when they need it.

Educators support safety through thoughtful supervision, predictable routines, and environments designed for children to explore confidently. We also encourage children's agency by involving them in simple decisions, helping them understand their rights in age-appropriate ways.

Our team reflects together, engages in ongoing professional learning, and works closely with families to ensure a consistent, child-safe culture. By weaving safety into relationships, routines, and curriculum, we create a community where every child feels protected, valued, and empowered.



UPCOMING EVENTS

25 April ANZAC Day

10 May Mother's Day

27 May National Simultaneous Storytime

27 May - 3 June National Reconciliation Week

05 June World Environment Day

Parenting Information

Staying Healthy in Childcare

At Little Ducks, we follow the Staying Healthy in Child Care guidelines from the National Health and Medical Research Council to reduce illness and keep everyone safe. These evidence-based practices guide our hygiene, cleaning, and illness-exclusion procedures.

You can read the full document by scanning the QR code below. Working together helps protect all children, families, and staff.



Family and Child Connect

Family and Child Connect can help with a range of family and parenting challenges. If your family is going through tough times, contact Family and Child Connect for free, unlimited and confidential advice.

You can call on **13 FAMILY (13 32 64)** or fill out an online referral form <https://familysupportreferral.org.au/>

Supporting Emotional Resilience at Home

Emotional resilience grows through everyday moments of connection. When children feel safe, understood, and supported, they learn to manage big feelings with confidence. Families can nurture resilience by naming emotions with children, offering comfort when they feel overwhelmed, and modelling calm responses. Simple strategies like predictable routines, unhurried time together, and acknowledging children's efforts ("You kept trying even when it was hard") help build a strong sense of capability. Encouraging children to express their feelings, make choices, and solve small problems also supports independence and self-regulation. When home and centre work together in these ways, children develop the emotional tools they need to navigate challenges and thrive.

Toileting Readiness

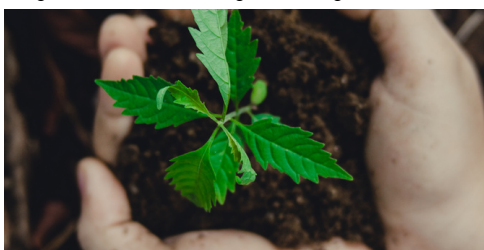
Toileting is an important developmental milestone, and every child reaches it in their own time. At Little Ducks, we follow a gentle, child-led approach that focuses on readiness rather than age. Signs of readiness may include showing interest in the toilet, staying dry for longer periods, communicating needs, or wanting more independence. Educators work closely with families to create consistent routines, offer encouragement, and support children with patience and respect. When children feel safe, confident, and understood, they are more likely to experience success. If you're thinking about starting toileting at home or would like guidance, please chat with your child's educators – we're here to support you and your child through this stage.



A Message from your Educational Leader, Jonna

Hi families,

I cannot believe we are already in Term 2! It has been such a lovely start to the year, and I have truly enjoyed stepping into Risdy's shoes as Educational Leader and continuing to support our educators, children and families. This year has already included valuable Educational Leader networking meetings and reflection around pedagogical leadership, documentation and child safety, which has supported our ongoing work across the centre. Our focus has remained on creating calm, organised and inviting learning environments, and it has been wonderful to see children so deeply engaged in meaningful play, learning and celebrations including Harmony Week, Lunar New Year and Easter. I have especially loved seeing families contribute to our learning through conversations, shared ideas and small moments of connection, reminding us that it truly takes a village to raise a child. Thank you for your continued support, open conversations and valued feedback as we begin another exciting term together.



Supporting Young Children to Be Sustainable

Sustainability is woven into our everyday practice at Little Ducks, helping children learn to care for their world through simple, meaningful actions. We draw on Aboriginal perspectives that remind us that caring for Country is about connection, respect, and responsibility. Educators model gentle habits such as reducing waste, reusing materials, conserving water, and tending to our gardens, while also sharing age-appropriate understandings of how First Nations peoples have cared for this land for tens of thousands of years. Children are encouraged to take part in routines such as sorting recycling, caring for plants, noticing changes in weather and seasons, and using natural materials in their play, building a sense of belonging and stewardship. Families can support this learning at home by involving children in small, sustainable actions and talking about our shared responsibility to look after Country. Together, we nurture thoughtful, environmentally aware learners who understand that their actions make a difference.

Veggie Fritters

A fun, healthy, and easy recipe children can help make!

You will need:

- 1 cup grated zucchini (squeezed to remove excess water)
- 1 cup grated carrot
- 1/2 cup corn kernels
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup self-raising flour
- 1/4 cup grated cheese (optional)
- 1 pinch salt and pepper
- oil for cooking

What to do:

Combine grated zucchini, carrot, and corn in a bowl.

Add eggs, flour, cheese (if using), and seasoning. Mix until just combined.

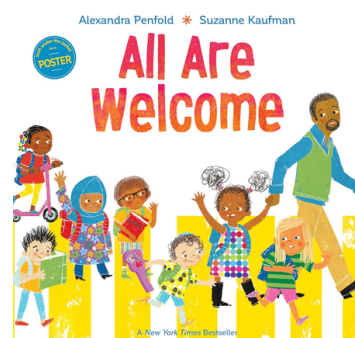
Heat a little oil in a pan over medium heat.

Spoon small amounts of mixture into the pan and flatten gently.

Cook for 2-3 minutes each side until golden and cooked through.



Book of the Month



All Are Welcome, by Alexandra Penfold & Suzanne Kaufman

All Are Welcome is a joyful celebration of diversity, belonging, and community. Through bright illustrations and rhythmic language, the story follows children from many backgrounds as they learn and play together. It reinforces that every child, no matter their culture, family, or identity, has a place where they are valued and included. This message beautifully reflects the environment we strive to create at Little Ducks: one where differences are celebrated and every child feels they belong.