

Quantin Binnah

Quarterly Newsletter

January to March 2026

Message from our CEO

Welcome to the start of 2026 and to our 21th quarterly newsletter and first newsletter for 2025.

I do hope you were able to celebrate the arrival of the new year as well as have some rest and relaxation and possibly for some a holiday in a favourite destination?

In this newsletter we are reporting on the 4th quarter of 2025 as well as providing information on what is coming up in the first quarter of 2026.

In the final quarter of 2025, our themes were:

- October - Strangers to Friendship
- November - Creature to Companion
- December - Near to Far

It might seem a while away, but you will be able to see how each program creatively implemented the final quarter themes in 2025 in this Newsletter. It was wonderful for me to have joined in all the year-end celebrations and to see the joy on the children and parents faces during the concerts and performances! I am very grateful for having been invited as I appreciate how much work goes on behind the scenes in preparation.

In 2026 our QB Theme will be: QB Colours Your World! You will be able to see our 2026 Calendar @

<https://www.qbcc.org.au/annual-reports> and we will also have some calendars available at our main office. Each month of the calendar is beautifully illustrated with quotes included for inspiration. Please also find a summary 2026 calendar for events and our monthly 2026 themes at <https://www.qbcc.org.au/newsandpolicies>.

The themes for the first quarter of 2026 will be:

- January - Community and Celebration
- February - Adventure and Bravery
- March - Friendship and Inclusion

I wish to thank you for your patience at the final term at QB. As per my communication to you all last year I was very concerned that the works of kindergarten being constructed Westgrove (planned and built by the Department of Education WITHOUT any consultation with Quantin Binnah) caused additional issues in our car park. I had been for numerous years with the Wyndham Council to get a solution on the ongoing challenges in our car park – making accessibility difficult for our community and our staff

Please note Quantin Binnah will continue to provide 3 yr and 4 yr kindergarten programs in 2026 and beyond with increasing hours for the children according to the roll out of the

kindergarten reforms <https://www.vic.gov.au/best-start-best-life-reforms>.

Additionally, all of our other services will continue to be available to our centre users.

However, I look forward with optimism for a great year for QB in 2026. Our Team at QB has planned some wonderful activities and we will continue to work alongside you and your family planning the programs to support your experience. Our first quarter themes embody our organisation goals and values. I am hopeful in the new year we will see a return to a safer community for all. I ask that you all show each other kindness and consideration. This can be demonstrated as we greet and acknowledge each other as we enter our building saying hello to those we might not have met and in the way we interact safely in the car park. I am hopeful “kindness will be contagious” in 2026.

QB will continue to be a hive of activity with all of the education and community programs and activities. We have had great cross team collaboration, and you will have seen this in our “All of Service Events” and we will continue this is 2026. Please keep your ideas coming to support our themes and ideas on how we can enhance our programs. Please check <https://www.qbcc.org.au/community-groups> and <https://www.facebook.com/quantinbinnah> to see a fantastic range of activities for our families and community members of all ages thanks to our Community Team.

Thank you for those who provide feedback on what we can do to enhance our customer service and program delivery. We do listen to your feedback <https://www.owna.com.au/> on our Parent Platform or via our web site <https://www.qbcc.org.au/feedback> and we implement as many ideas as often as possible.

Again, please be mindful and stay focused on safety and drive at the speed limit in the Car Park noting it is ONLY 5 km.

Thank you for NOT leaving your cars running when parked as this is a safety hazard. Please also ensure you are watching out for each other.

Also, please remember to watch again for litter which seems to fall out of cars in the drop-off zones. You may often see me picking up this litter – Please check outside your cars.

Thank you for keeping our Wonderful Community free of litter and Safe for everyone!

Yours Sincerely,
Christine Barca CEO

January to March 2026

2026 Term Dates

	Start Date	Finish Date
Term 1	29 th January	2 nd April
Term 2	20 th April	26 th June
Term 3	13 th July	18 th September
Term 4	5 th October	18 th December (return for 2027 Tuesday 5 th Jan)

Important Dates

January	February	March
1 st New Year's Day	9 th National Pizza Day	1 st Beginning of Autumn
5 th QB & WV Childcare Open 5 th QB VAC Open	14 th Valentines Day	1 st Kindergarten Registrations Open WCC Website
12 th Corpus Christi, St Leo & Carranballac Vacation Care Open	17 th Chinese New Year	4 th - Kindergarten Open Day-TBC
28 th End Vacation Care	20 th World Day of Social Justice	8 th International Women's Day
26 th Australia Day	25 th Board Meeting Strategic Plan Review	9 th Labour Day
27 th Teacher's Return (child free Day)		17 th St Patricks Day
28 th Term 1 Start GOVT Schools		19th QB All Site Evacuation Drill
		20th National Ride2School Day
		21 st World Down Syndrome Day
		25 th Board Meeting
		26 th Purple Day (epilepsy Awareness)
		27 th National Walk to Work day
		29 th Neighbour Day
		31 st Transgender Day of Visibility

Community Support Reflection

I'm not sure about you but Term 4 has felt long and short at the same time?!?!

We've certainly been busy bees in Community Support and I'm sure you've seen us buzzing around the centre. As we head into the Festive Season, please remember that this time of year can bring with it multiple challenges. Be kind to yourselves and those around you.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their involvement with the Community Team; be it directly by being awesome participants in our activities, those who have donated their time and/or resources so that we can run an array of amazing programs and those who have championed QB and what we do in varied forums throughout the wider community. We invite those who have silently watched from afar or made enquiries but were unable to join us in 2026 to come along next year, discover what we have on offer and become part of a welcoming, inclusive, informative and fun community. Term 4 saw many events being held during Carers Week, Seniors Festival and Children's Week. People joined these activities as STRANGERS but finished as FRIENDS(hip) An aim of community activities is to support those looking to engage and make connections, develop their informal network and learn new skills.

Our community members brought many CREATUREs into our QB activities during Term 4. We met guinea pigs, kittens and puppies and enjoyed many cuddles. These interactions had a therapeutic effect and led to people making connections through animals. A dog walking group was established, food scraps shared for chickens and goats and the development of COMPANIONship for those looking for connections. Animals do truly work wonders.

As I started our blurb earlier this has been a short-long term. The term started and we looked at 11 weeks of activities and now we're almost finished so I almost need to write our final 2025 theme backwards, so instead of NEAR TO FAR I'm going to say FAR TO NEAR.

Term 4 of 2025 continued to deliver popular Community Activities and Initiatives including:

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Community Support Reflection

Monday	Breakfast Club
	Café QB
	Chatty Café
	Food Pantry
	Creating Villages Craft
	Walks for Carers
	Wellbeing for Carers
	VMCH Dementia Group
	Home Schoolers Social Club
	Lunch with the Bunch
Tuesday	Craft and High Tea
	Breakfast Club
	Café QB
	Storytime with JoJo
	Food Pantry
	Creating Villages Craft
	CraftABILITY
	Puppet Pals with JoJo
	Games & Cards
	Crafternoon
Wednesday	Breakfast Club
	Café QB
	Creating Villages Craft
	OOey gOOey messy play
	Fresh Food Collection
	BINGO Moves Community
	Community Connector
	Home Schoolers Cooking Class
Thursday	Wonder Women
	Knitting Group
	STRETCH
Friday	Gen U Gardening Group
Saturday	Australian Crochet Club
	Divine Canine Training
	PerformX Academy
Behind the scenes	Volunteer recruitment & management
	Policy development
	Statistics & Data
	Food collection and management
	Room hiring and community groups
	Grant submissions & acquittals
	Program planning & development
	Advertising and promotion
Courses	Barista Essentials
	Everyday Living Skills for People with a Disability – Part 2

Community Support Reflection

Community Initiatives & Partnerships	Community Connectors
	Wyndham City Council
	ACFE – Learn Local
	Victorian Government
	Creating Villages
	Chatty Café
	Trish Simpson Music
	Wyndham Mum's & Mini's
	Foodbank
	Neighbourhood Houses Vic
	Brotherhood of St. Laurence
	Network West
	IPC Health
	Gen U
	Big Group Hug
	VMCH
	Salvos
	Early Leaps Therapy
	Carers Vic
	Fight Parkinsons
	Early Learning Association Australia
	The Smith Family

Pop Up Events	GLOW All Abilities 18+ Disco
	Seniors Festival – Craft & High Tea
	Seniors Festival – Morning Melodies, Hollywood Glamour
	Seniors Festival – Seniors Expo
	Seniors Festival - STRETCH
	Halloween in Café QB
	Kids Clothes Swap
	Carers Week – Care for a Carer lunch
	Carers Week – Sweet Treat in Café QB
	Children's Week – Therapy Playgroup
	Children's Week – Be Their Hero Workshop
	Children's Week – Child Car Seat Information Session
	Morning Melodies – Christmas Celebrations
	Food Drive
	Resilience Workshop
	Transport for All Project Coffee & Share session
	The Smith Family Financial Wellbeing Workshop
	Fight Parkinsons
	QB Foyer Market
	Volunteers Christmas Party
	Carers Christmas Lunch
	Power Saving Bonus applications

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Community Support Reflection

Keep an eye out for how Community Support demonstrates our monthly themes throughout Term 1 of 2026 Community Celebration, Adventure & Bravery and Friendship & Inclusion.

Check out our Community Programs Term 1 Brochure for more details available at <https://www.qbcc.org.au/community-activities-and-programs> or pick up a hard copy in centre. Available from mid-January 2026.

If you haven't met us in the Community Support Team and would like to get a better understanding of what we do at QB, please send us an email or make time to catch us.



For further information on Community Development activities and information please visit www.qbcc.org.au/community-groups, like the QB Facebook to receive posts and information about our Pop-Up Events or pick up a hard copy brochure in centre. To discuss anything in detail email community@qbcc.org.au or call Emma or Penny on 9742 5040.

We are assisting those who require support to apply for the Power Saving Bonus. To be eligible for a \$100 rebate you must have a current electricity bill, a concession card and a form of ID. For help with your application contact the Community Support Tam to make a time to complete your application. This scheme will run until March 2026.

We are currently looking for a new (volunteer) Volunteer Coordinator to assist with managing our Volunteer Program at QB. This person will be responsible for recruiting and onboarding new volunteers and managing volunteers. If this is something that is of interest to you, please contact us to discuss further.

Community Support Reflection

We encourage you to continue to pop into Café QB Monday to Wednesday and support this fantastic social initiative enterprise. Café QB is serviced by volunteers and is a not-for-profit training venue for people with disabilities and mental health issues to gain valuable experience. All purchases made at the café is reinvested into the menu and activities. We look forward to your ongoing support.

Please get in touch with the Community Support Team at community@qbcc.org.au should you have any requests for programs and activities or if you have any special skills you'd like to share with others. We can't be a community without you!



January to March 2026



Quantin Binnah Service Reflections

School Age Care Reflections

St Martin

This past term at St Martin, our learning environment was enriched with colour, culture, and inquiry as we engaged children in the themes Strangers to Friendship, Creature to Companion, and Near to Far. It was fantastic to see children getting involved and sharing their ideas regarding each theme with their peers, whether it was during our fun daily group discussions, or during their own crafts, their imaginative and outdoor play! When exploring “Strangers to Friendship”, we as a group discussed safety around making friendships with strangers. It was great to see children getting involved and sharing their ideas regarding it. Children were involved in many creative activities such as making cards with welcoming messages, writing notes about hello to their neighbours, making friendship bracelets to name a few activities. Children showed heaps of enthusiasm and even engaged in many made-up experiences.



For the month of October, based on the theme “Creature to companion”, the experiences evolved from crafting or decorating real animals or creatures to imaginary or fantasy creatures. Children had many opportunities and freedom to craft their version of creatures or animals. It was wonderful with different minds with different versions. Innovative week was crafting creatures using recycled materials. Children challenged themselves and manipulated the boxes, rolls, and many more recycled materials to get creative. It was great to see children at our program develop confidence in their learning with our school age care community! Which brings us to the upcoming themes, Community and Celebration, Adventure and Bravery and Friendship and Inclusion. We have many exciting experiences planned and cannot wait to share them with the wider QB community!

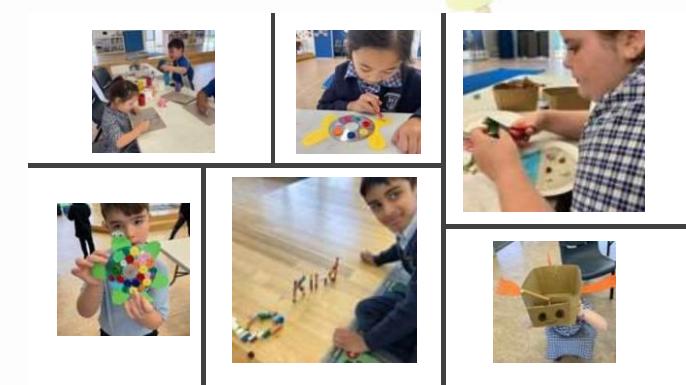
School Age Care Reflections

St Martin

This term, children also took part in our Sustainability Garden Project, where they actively led the process of planning, planting, and caring for their own planter box. From planting the seeds and preparing the soil to watering, observing growth, and celebrating each new sprout, children were deeply involved at every stage. This hands-on experience nurtured important skills such as teamwork, patience, and responsibility, while also strengthening their connection to the natural world. Through caring for living plants, children developed a sense of ownership and pride and gained a meaningful understanding of how their actions can help sustain the environment.



With Term 4 now behind us, we celebrate the many moments of growth and discovery and look ahead with excitement to the next chapter of 2026.





School Age Care Reflections Quantin Binnah

October – “Strangers to Friendships”

October was a month of connection and joy. Through activities like friendship bracelets, necklaces, frames, and kindness clouds, children discovered the beauty of turning strangers into friends. We also celebrated Diwali, filling our space with light and colour through torn art diyas, paper plate rangoli, and greeting cards. To close the month, Halloween brought laughter and creativity with spooky crafts that delighted everyone.



November – “Creatures to Companions”

November invited us to see the magic in creatures and transform them into companions. Children's imaginations soared with fire-breathing dragons, paper roll aliens, owl collages, farm animal masks, and bouncy paper animals. We honoured Remembrance Day with thoughtful wreaths and embraced National Recycling Week by turning everyday items into sustainable creations like cereal box self-portraits and recycled yogurt box crafts. It was a month of creativity, responsibility, and care for our world.



School Age Care Reflections

Quantin Binnah

December – “Near to Far”

December encouraged playful exploration of distance and perspective. Games like finding the nearest and farthest objects and Hoopla toss challenges brought energy and fun. As the festive season approached, our room sparkled with Christmas decorations and themed crafts, filling it with cheer. We ended the year with a joyful Christmas and New Year celebration combined with the Grade 6 graduation party, marking both endings and exciting new beginnings.

These past three months have been filled with friendship, imagination, and celebration. Together, we've built connections, honoured traditions, cared for our environment, and shared in festive joy. As we step into the new year, we carry forward the lessons of kindness, creativity, and community spirit. Thank you for being part of this journey here's to another year of growing, learning, and celebrating together.





School Age Care Reflections Corpus Christi

As we approach the end of the year, we are excited to share what the children have been exploring and learning in our program over the past few months. Each month has brought new opportunities for creativity, connection, and fun!

OCTOBER – Strangers to Friendship

Our focus was on building positive relationships and fostering a sense of belonging. The children engaged in a range of team-building games, group art and craft, and shared stories that encouraged kindness, cooperation, and respect.



NOVEMBER – Creature to Companion

Our theme explored the special bond between humans and Animals. The children enjoyed activities around caring for pets and learning responsibility and empathy through imaginative play.

It was wonderful to see their creativity come alive.

DECEMBER – Near to Far

As we move into December, our theme 'Near to Far' encourages children to think about their surroundings – from our immediate environment to the wider world. We will be exploring ideas about community, connection, and discovery through festive crafts, cultural celebrations.

It has been an amazing journey watching the children grow socially and emotionally through these themes. We look forward to continuing our adventures in the new year with more opportunities for learning, laughter and creativity!!!!

School Age Care Reflections

St Leo

This term in after-school care has been full of fun, creativity, and connection. Each afternoon was packed with engaging experiences that encouraged children to play, learn, and grow together in a safe and welcoming environment.

Our themes this term – "Strangers to Friendship," "Creature to Companion," and "Near to Far" – inspired many of the activity's children enjoyed. These themes helped guide experiences that encouraged building new friendships, exploring the natural world, and discovering ideas from both close and faraway places. Children participated in arts and crafts, outdoor games, STEM challenges, construction play, and group projects that encouraged teamwork, curiosity, and imagination.

Daily routines supported balance and wellbeing, with time for snacks, homework, quiet play, and moments to unwind after a busy school day. Throughout the term, children demonstrated wonderful cooperation, built strong friendships, and showed confidence as they tried new activities and supported one another.



We are incredibly proud of everything the children achieved this term and look forward to even more adventures and exciting experiences next term!

January to March 2026



School Age Care Reflections St John

Our sustainability project focused on gardening and recycling, with wonderful support from parents and Bunnings. Children enjoyed planting, caring for our garden, and cleaning the outdoor space. They also used recycled materials to create musical instruments, showing creativity and care for the environment. This project encouraged teamwork, responsibility, and sustainable practices in fun, hands-on ways.



Children showed great excitement and participation in our theme-based activities. We celebrated Diwali through cultural dress-ups, a special food day, cooking experiences, and a variety of engaging activities. We also celebrated Halloween with fun dress-ups, creative crafts, and games, as well as Children's Week, focusing on the theme "Children have the right to be safe, happy, and heard." These celebrations encourage children to appreciate diversity, express creativity, and develop respect and understanding for different cultures. Our activities included listening to traditional songs, colouring beautiful Rangoli patterns, cooking traditional sweets, making card and Henna designs, and creating clay lamps.



School Age Care Reflections St John

we had a wonderful time exploring indoors and outdoors. The children eagerly joined a range of fun activities. We celebrated Halloween, Cultural Week, and Remembrance Day, fostering community spirit and cultural awareness. Through teamwork and play, the children built up confidence, practiced sharing and communication, and developed their fine and gross motor skills along with problem-solving abilities.



January to March 2026



School Age Care Reflections

Carranballac Boardwalk

Themes: Strangers to Friendship | Creature to Companion | Near to Far

This term has been a vibrant and memorable beginning for our new service at Carranballac College P-9. From the very first day, children entered with bright smiles, eager to explore the freshly arranged play spaces. Many were drawn to the LEGO corner, where a small group spontaneously formed a “design team,” sketching ideas before building together—a wonderful early sign of the teamwork and friendships that would continue to grow throughout the term.

Under the October theme Strangers to Friendship, children embraced opportunities to connect with one another.

During group time, they confidently shared weekend stories, favourite games, and new discoveries from the environment. Experiences such as sponge painting, dramatic play, and block building promoted imagination, problem-solving, and collaboration. Children worked together on projects such as designing miniature houses and experimenting with creative painting techniques. Games like Uno and chess encouraged patience, turn-taking, and positive social interaction.



In November, the theme Creature to Companion strengthened empathy and care. One afternoon, children created imaginative “pet habitats” using recycled materials, proudly sharing how their creatures would live, play, and stay safe. The new aftercare room became a favourite hub for exploration, sparking curiosity as children found fresh learning opportunities and supported one another.

School Age Care Reflections

Carranballac Boardwalk

December’s theme Near to Far inspired rich conversations about culture, travel, and traditions. Halloween celebrations brought great excitement, with costumes, themed crafts, and group games that strengthened our sense of community. The LEGO construction challenge was another highlight, as children worked collaboratively to design and build imaginative structures, celebrating each creation with pride.



Overall, this term has nurtured creativity, confidence, and meaningful friendships. As we move into the new year, we look forward to exploring Community and Celebration (January), Adventure and Bravery (February), and Friendship and Inclusion (March), continuing to provide joyful, inclusive, and engaging learning experiences.





School Age Care Reflections Carranballac Jamieson Way

We are very excited to welcome all children and families to our new Quantin Binnah (QB) service. It has been wonderful meeting new families and building positive relationships from the very first day. Families have shared their happiness and appreciation for the warm environment, friendly staff, and smooth transition for their children.

Children are settling in well, exploring new spaces, routines, and forming friendships. Families feel confident knowing their children are safe, supported, and respected.



In the month of October, we focused on the theme of Friendship, and today's card-making activity successfully supported this learning. Children thoughtfully created personalised friendship cards using watercolour paints and coloured paper. They demonstrated creativity, fine motor skills, and meaningful communication while expressing what makes their friends special. Throughout the session, the children showed patience, cooperation, and encouragement towards one another, strengthening positive relationships.

The activity promoted social and emotional development, cultural expression, and a sense of belonging within the group. Once completed, they proudly displayed their work, fostering confidence and community spirit. Overall, the program was engaging, purposeful, and well received.

School Age Care Reflections Jamieson Way

In November, the theme Creature to Companion strengthened empathy and care. One morning children were excited to discover a millipede crawling on the floor. Their curiosity grew as they followed it and watched how it moved. They decided to make a small home for their new friend "Buggy" using sticks and magnetic tiles. The children showed care and responsibility as they worked together, even pretending it was raining and building shade to protect the millipede. This experience supported their understanding of caring for living creatures and encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and imaginative play. It also connected well with our Creatures to Companions theme, allowing the children to develop respect for the natural environment.

In December, children explored the "Near to Far" theme by learning about the world starting from their immediate surroundings, culture, travel, and traditions. They began by observing familiar spaces, noticing details in the room, playground, and natural environment. Through discussions and hands-on activities, the children shared what they see, feel, and experience in their daily lives. This helped them develop observation skills, curiosity, and an appreciation for their own environment and culture while beginning to think about places beyond their immediate world.



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School Age Care Reflections Our Lady

OLSC's last quarter of this year was filled with excitement as children embraced the values of diversity and inclusion through celebrations such as National Family Week, Diwali Festival, International Children's Day, and Grandparents' Day, fostering friendship and cultural appreciation.



The Creature to Companion theme inspired creativity and environmental consciousness through engaging experiences connected to the National Recycling Week, and Remembrance Day, nurturing teamwork, empathy, and care for the environment. As we moved into December's theme, Near to Far, children joyfully celebrated Summer, Human Rights Day, and Christmas, promoting unity, kindness, and global awareness. Overall, Term 4 was a vibrant and rewarding journey that highlighted the children's creativity, compassion, and growing sense of community—bringing a wonderful close to another inspiring year at OLSC.



Looking ahead to 2026, we are excited to welcome children for a fresh and fun-filled year of learning and connection. January – Community and Celebration will kick off the year with vibrant cultural activities and team-building experiences, February – Adventure and Bravery will spark confidence through exciting challenges and outdoor adventures, and March – Friendship and Inclusion It's shaping up to be an exciting year, full of discovery, joy, and new friendships.

School Age Care Vacation Care

QUANTIN BINNAH VACATION CARE PROGRAM – JANUARY 2026

MONDAY 5TH JANUARY
JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE FUN DAY FILLED WITH EXCITING ACTIVITIES, GAMES, AND HOLIDAY-THMED CRAFTS TO SPARK CREATIVITY!
*CARE PROVIDED ONLY AT Qb

MONDAY 12 TH JANUARY
CREATE STUNNING MASTERSPIECES WITH SAND, BLENDING COLOURS AND TEXTURES, CRAFTING UNIQUE ART PIECES IN A HANDS-ON, IMAGINATIVE SAND ART AND CRAFT EXPERIENCE.

TUESDAY 13 TH JANUARY
UNLEASH YOUR INNER WIZARD! EXPLORE THE SCIENCE BEHIND POTIONS WITH BUBBLING BREWS, COOKING UP INCREDIBLE MAGIC, AND HANDS-ON CHEMISTRY FUN!
*CARE PROVIDED ONLY AT Qb

TUESDAY 13 TH JANUARY
JOIN US FOR A SWEET ADVENTURE AT LOLLIPOP'S INDOOR PLAY CENTER! GET READY TO JUMP, CLIMB, CRAWL, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY—HAVE FUN!

WEDNESDAY 14 TH JANUARY
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT YOUR OWN WOMEN PLANE—CHOOSE A 4-WHEEL OR FAN-PROPELLED MODEL! ADD BLINKING LEDS OR A MINI GLOBE FOR EXTRA FUN. GET CREATIVE, HANDS-ON, AND READY TO FLY!

WEDNESDAY 14 TH JANUARY
DISCOVER THE RAAF MUSEUM, SEE A FLYING DISPLAY (WEATHER PERMITTING), JOIN A SCAVENGER HUNT, AND MEET A REAL PILOT

THURSDAY 15 TH JANUARY
LET'S DANCE WITH A BLAST! FRIDAY FUN DAY WITH ENERGETIC MOVES, CONTAGIOUS LAUGHTER, AND GREAT MUSIC. A DAY FILLED WITH FUN, FRIENDS, AND RHYTHM.
*CARE PROVIDED ONLY AT Qb

FRIDAY 16 TH JANUARY
JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED HOLIDAY INCURSION DAY! EXCITING ACTIVITIES, GAMES, AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES AWAIT CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

MONDAY 19TH JANUARY
GET READY TO EMBRACE THE MESS AND LET YOUR CREATIVITY GO WILD! WE'RE HOSTING A MESSY PLAY IN HOUSE ACTIVITY THAT PROMISES HEAPS OF FUN!

MONDAY 19TH JANUARY
ALL SERVICES CLOSED

TUESDAY 20TH JANUARY
DIVE INTO STEM BUDDY! A FUN, INTERACTIVE ROBOTIC EXPERIENCE WHERE YOU CREATE, CODE, AND EXPERIMENT

TUESDAY 20TH JANUARY
EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF GRAND PRIX OF EUROPE! CHILDREN WILL ENJOY RACING FUN AND ADVENTURE TOGETHER.

WEDNESDAY 21ST JANUARY
JUMP, PLAY, AND DISCOVER AT THE DIGITAL INDOR PLAY CENTER — THE ULTIMATE INDOOR ADVENTURE FOR CHILDREN!

WEDNESDAY 21ST JANUARY
EXPLORE THE WORLD OF BEES WITH FRIENDS WITH HIGH-INTERACTION ACTIVITIES THAT TEACH CHILDREN ABOUT POLLINATION, SUSTAINABILITY, AND NATURE'S WONDERS.

THURSDAY 22ND JANUARY
MISS GROOVY FACE

FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY
AN UNDERWATER ADVENTURE AWAITS AS CHILDREN ENJOY THE POUT-OUT FISH ON THE BIG SCREEN!

QUANTIN BINNAH VACATION CARE PROGRAM – JANUARY 2026

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MISS GROOVY FACE

FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY
AN UNDERWATER ADVENTURE AWAITS AS CHILDREN ENJOY THE POUT-OUT FISH ON THE BIG SCREEN!

January to March 2026



4 Yr. Kindergarten Reflections

Picnics outside are something we love to do all year round; it prompts some beautiful conversations and friendships. With our friendship flowers, we asked the children to draw a picture of themselves and asked them what they think they are good at, this way of teaching is learning about each other and what we can provide within our programs for them.



The children are always finding our little special creatures in our yards. We find ants, spiders and butterflies. One day some children found a caterpillar in the yard, their teachers talk about our friendly little creatures and how we need to keep him safe and then they read a story called "The hungry caterpillar". We even extended the children's learning into creative artwork.



For the months of November and December we are really getting the children ready for their school year. The children start to go off on their school visits; we have play areas which might look like a classroom and read lots of books. We talk about what we are going to do on holidays and how fun school is going to be when we finished on our holidays. We also talk about how the children are coming back to show us themselves in their uniforms, we are very excited for this.



3 Year Kindergarten Reflections

In celebration of the theme "Strangers to Friendship," this week, the children engaged in an activity of creating colourful friendship bands for their loved ones. Some of them chose to gift these meticulously crafted bands to their peers, deepening their connections and fostering a sense of community. It was good to see the little ones, their tiny fingers deftly threading the vibrant, assorted beads, each choice reflecting their unique personalities. This hands-on activity not only sparked creativity but also nurtured essential social skills and improved their hand-eye coordination.



Teddy bear and soft toy Picnic. One of the highlights of this activity was decorating teddy bear biscuits together. The children eagerly selected their favourite icing colours, mixing them with great enthusiasm to create unique shades.

This activity was not only fun but also immensely beneficial for the children, as it promoted essential social skills through teamwork and communication. Additionally, the activity helped enhance their hand-eye coordination while they decorated the biscuits.

During our Halloween celebration, the children came to kindergarten dressed in their imaginative costumes! It was a wonderful experience to witness everyone's creativity on display. We enjoyed our time together, diving into the world of make-believe as we role-played and explored fantastical scenarios. Each child's unique outfit contributed to the vibrant atmosphere, making our day not only fun but also memorable as we embarked on our adventures in this enchanting fantasy world.



January to March 2026



Playgroup Reflections

Wellbeing Matters: Women's Health Session

This week, our playgroup hosted a special Women's Health Incursion, supported by IPC. Parents had the opportunity to learn more about the importance of self-care, healthy lifestyle choices, and overall well-being. It was a wonderful session that reminded us how caring for ourselves helps us better care for our children and families. A big thank you to Coral for her support in making this session possible. 



Celebrating R U OK? Day

We had a fun time celebrating R U OK? Day at Playgroup by decorating yummy yellow cookies!

R U OK? Day is about checking in with the people you care about. Remember, it's okay to ask "R U OK?" any day of the year. A simple conversation could make a big difference.



Our Playgroup children demonstrated great enthusiasm for our theme-based activities. We celebrated Diwali with a cultural dress-up, a delicious food day, a cooking experience, and engaging activities. These cultural celebrations help foster respect and open-mindedness toward different cultures.

Our activities included: Listening to traditional songs, Coloring intricate Rangoli patterns and Henna designs



Playgroup Reflections

This month Our little learners had a wonderful time exploring this month's themes both indoors and outdoors. They eagerly took part in a variety of activities, from singing songs and writing stories to engaging in imaginative play in our cozy home corner.

We celebrated the festive spirit of Halloween and Children's Week, and also took time to honour Remembrance Day, fostering a strong sense of community and cultural understanding among the children.

Through cooperative play and teamwork, the children continued to develop important social skills—learning to share, take turns, and communicate effectively with their peers. Their participation in diverse experiences also helped strengthen their fine motor skills, gross motor abilities, and problem-solving skills



Community Health Visit

We were delighted to welcome Denise from the Community Health team to our playgroup! We truly appreciate her kind support and valuable guidance.

Thank you for sharing important information, offering individual care, and providing educational programs that help parents build strong and supportive networks.

We are so grateful to our wonderful community for trusting us with your children's learning and growth. We look forward to many more exciting experiences together in the coming year. Wishing you all a safe and joyful holiday season.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Quantin Binnah

Quarterly Newsletter

January to March 2026



Woodville Reflections

To celebrate World smile today we created a photo wall display for the families and children to see their happy smiling faces when they first enter the room. One of our families commented that their child loves looking at their photo before they enter the room, encouraging a sense of belonging for their child.

This year to celebrate Halloween, we put up some spooky decorations with the children, and the children were invited to participate in some Halloween painting, the children used their hands to make some scary spiders with their handprints.

To celebrate Diwali this year the children participated in two artwork activities, the children enjoyed making "Fire work painting" and colouring in their own Diya's to represent the festival of light.



Our Festival of Lights celebration at Woodville was a vibrant and heartwarming experience that brought together culture, creativity, and community. The atmosphere was filled with joy as children arrived dressed in colourful attire, proudly showcasing the richness of their cultural heritage.

Throughout the day, the children immersed themselves in a variety of engaging activities that highlighted the traditions of Diwali. They expressed their artistic flair through beautiful Rangoli designs, carefully crafted with bright colours and intricate patterns.

The cooking experience was a delightful sensory journey. Children eagerly participated in preparing laddu and lassi, learning about the ingredients and the cultural significance behind these treats. The aroma of cardamom and rosewater filled the air, adding to the festive ambiance. The day was filled with laughter, learning, and connection, offering a meaningful opportunity to celebrate diversity and community spirit.



Woodville Reflections

There have been a lot of celebrations happening this Month. Our celebrations included Grandparents Day, Halloween, and Diwali. The children were eager to show off their costumes as they entered our room on Halloween dress up day. Dress-up days encourages creative thinking and communication skills.

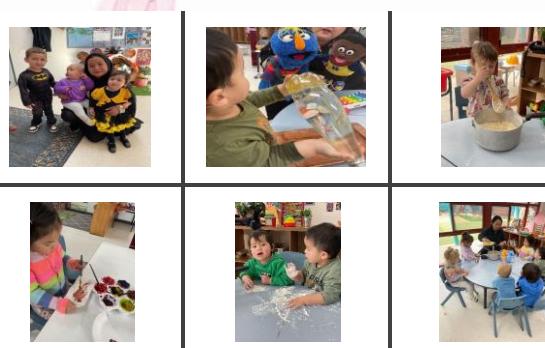
Additionally, it assists children in practicing language development and enhancing their social skills. Children participate in hallow traditional pumpkin cutting with educators on Halloween dress up day. All the children are curious about what is inside the pumpkin. In addition, we produce pumpkin seed play dough for the children to investigate their sensory experiences.

On Monday 28th, we have grandparents' afternoon. We had a wonderful time meeting some grandparents who are willing to join us for afternoon tea and fun activities with the children.

To mark Diwali, the children painted Diwali Diya using recycled paper plate with educators. They are having a good time exploring different coloured paints on their artwork.

World smile day is a day to encourage everyone to support each other and spread smiles, kindness and warmth. World smile Day is being celebrated in the possum room by welcoming our friends with wide cuddles and smiles. We conducted yellow paly dough making experience and painting activity using yellow paint to create our own smiling faces. The goal was to teach children that an emotional smile is a sing of happiness. The educator poses a simple question: Are you happy? If you are happy smile. The children gave a big smile to the response.

This month the children are engaged in a lot of cooking activities. This Month was filled with excitement and a lot of learning activities.



January to March 2026



QB Childcare Reflections

We focused on building connections and creating a strong sense of community. We invited families to share their stories and traditions, helping turn 'strangers' into friends within our preschool room.

Diwali Celebration

A highlight was our Diwali celebration, where families joined us to create beautiful Rangoli designs with the children. It was heartwarming to see children and families working side-by-side, exploring colours, patterns, and the cultural significance of the Festival of Lights. These shared moments helped strengthen the sense of belonging and togetherness within our room.

Grandparents Day

We also celebrated Grandparents Day with a lovely afternoon tea. The children were excited to welcome their grandparents and share special moments, stories, and activities. It was a touching celebration that honoured the important role grandparents play in children's lives.

Children's Week

During Children's Week, we focused on honouring children's rights, voices, and unique identities. The children engaged in various fun and enriching activities that encouraged creativity, confidence, and teamwork. Their enthusiasm and joy filled our room throughout the week.



In the Toddler Room, our learning has been guided by our Centre theme, "Creature to Companion." The children were given many opportunities to explore the different creatures found in our outdoor yard. They enjoyed observing, discovering, and talking about the animals and insects they encountered, helping them build curiosity and confidence in the natural world around them. We also engaged in some fun Melbourne Cup-themed arts and crafts, where the children created colourful pieces and enjoyed expressing their creativity.

QB Childcare Reflections

As we approach the end of the month, we are beginning preparations for our Christmas celebration and graduation. The children have started practising their Christmas songs, and we are excited to share these special moments with you soon.

Another highlight of November was our Grandparents Day celebration. It was a wonderful and successful event, filled with joy and connection. The children had a fantastic time-sharing activity with their grandparents and parents, and it was heart-warming to see families together in our centre. Thank you for your ongoing support we look forward to a festive and memorable December ahead.



Welcome to our final month of the year! December is always a magical time in the nursery, and we are excited to explore our learning theme "Near to Far" and recognise the immense growth we have observed throughout the year. Alongside gentle, inclusive Christmas activities that help children understand the world around them.

The books we will be reading are Dear Santa – Rod Campbell, Usbourne books, That's not my... And Australian Christmas. As the year comes to a close, we want to thank all our families for your support, smiles, and partnership. We are grateful for each child's unique personality and all the joy they bring to our nursery.

Wishing you a warm, peaceful Christmas season and a wonderful new year ahead!



January to March 2026



PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

QUANTIN BINNAH OPERATES SERVICES AT THE FOLLOWING SITES:

Quantin Binnah 61 Thames Boulevard Werribee- 4-Year-Old Kinder, 3-Year-Old Kinder, Playgroup, Childcare, School Age Care, Vacation Care and Community Programs

Woodville 82 Woodville Park Drive Hoppers Crossing – Childcare, 4-Year-Old Kinder and 3-Year-Old Kinder

Corpus Christi P.S. 29 Russell Street Werribee – School Age Care and Vacation Care

Our Lady of the Southern Cross P.S. Howqua Way Wyndham Vale – School Age Care

St John the Apostle P.S. 76 Kingbird Avenue Tarneit – School Age Care

St Martin de Porres 25 Bellin Street P.S. Laverton – School Age Care

St Leo the Great P.S. 389 Mason Street Altona- School Age Care and Vacation Care

Carranballac P-9 College Boardwalk Campus – School Age Care and Vacation Care

Carranballac P-9 College Jamieson Way – School Age Care



Our services will be running the following activities and more.

	January Community and Celebration	February Adventure and Bravery	March Friendship and Inclusion
4 Yr. Kindergarten	Activities will be combined with February as Kinder is closed in January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Places we find in our community. Adventure walks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friendship Bracelets. Mystery feeling bags
3 Yr. Kindergarten / Playgroup	Celebrating Children's Identity	Overcoming barriers/feeling safe in the environment	Create a friendship card/necklace
School Age Care	<p>January – “Community and Celebration”</p> <p>The new year begins with a focus on togetherness and joy. Children will explore what it means to celebrate as a community through:</p> <p>Community mural project – each child adds their piece to a shared artwork.</p> <p>Celebration circle time – sharing traditions, songs, or dances from different cultures.</p> <p>Kindness chain – writing kind acts on paper links to build a chain of community spirit.</p>	<p>February – “Adventure and Bravery”</p> <p>February invites children to step into the world of courage and exploration. Planned activities include:</p> <p>Treasure hunt adventure – solving clues and finding hidden treasures around the room.</p> <p>Bravery badges – designing badges to celebrate moments of courage.</p> <p>Storytelling circle – sharing tales of heroes, explorers, and personal brave moments.</p> <p>Obstacle course challenge – encouraging teamwork and bravery through physical play.</p> <p>Animal explorers craft – making adventurous animals like lions, tigers, or eagles.</p>	<p>March – “Friendship and Inclusion”</p> <p>March will highlight the importance of kindness, empathy, and welcoming everyone. Activities will include:</p> <p>Buddy bracelets – exchanging handmade bracelets with a friend.</p> <p>“All About Me” posters – celebrating individuality while learning about each other.</p> <p>Circle of inclusion craft – creating a large collaborative artwork showing unity and diversity.</p>

	January Community and Celebration	February Adventure and Bravery	March Friendship and Inclusion
Woodville Childcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Helper Dress-Up Day Children dress as community helpers (e.g. doctor, firefighter, teacher) and engage in role-play scenarios. Family Celebration Collage Families contribute photos or drawings showing how they celebrate special events. Visit from a Local Community Member (e.g. police officer, nurse, librarian) Discussion on how each person contributes to the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Celebration Collage Families contribute photos or drawings showing how they celebrate special events. Family Celebration Collage Families contribute photos or drawings showing how they celebrate special events. Mini Explorers Nature Walk Children explore the outdoor environment, collect natural materials, and discuss discoveries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mini Explorers Nature Walk Children explore the outdoor environment, collect natural materials, and discuss discoveries. Buddy Play Sessions Older and younger children are paired for shared play experiences. Inclusive Story Time Reading and discussing books about diversity, inclusion, and friendship (e.g. "We're All Different, We're All Friends").
QB Childcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help children feel welcome and sense of belonging at the start of the year. "All about me" Welcome collage Making face photo cards of family, caregivers, and key workers Peekaboo books with photos of nursery staff Multi-cultural music playlist for children Family board display 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage exploration and willingness to try new things Encouraging bravery through climbing and balancing Obstacle course adventure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making the friendship tree-everyone belongs Focus on "Together we play- together we learn" Celebrate differences- Harmony week

Please see your OWNA Parent App for regular updates about what's happening during the year.