

Coordination Unit business hours are 9-3 Monday to Friday

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Aberdare
2325
Ph 49907402
Fax 49913328

Opposite 26
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Ph 65723810
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Dates to remember:

Monday 11 th April	- School Holidays start
Friday 22 nd April	- Good Friday (Coordination Unit Closed)
Monday 25 th April	- Easter Monday and Anzac Day (Coordination Unit Closed)
Tuesday 26 th April	- Public Holiday (Coordination Unit Closed)
Fri-27 th May – 3 rd June	- National Reconciliation Week

CHILD CARE REBATE REMINDER

Early childhood education and care services are encouraged to remind parents they may be eligible for a child care rebate. The Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Rebate payments are designed to help working families meet the costs of child care and support parents who are returning to the workforce. Families are encouraged to check the [MyChild website](#) for more information on assistance with the cost of child care and access the Estimator to determine the rate of child care-related entitlements. Families can also contact the [Family Assistance Office](#) on 13 61 50 to check their eligibility for these payments.



Baby Bonus or the Paid Parental Leave scheme – which is better for you?

If you're a working parent expecting a baby or adopting a child, you may be eligible to receive either Parental Leave Pay or the Baby Bonus.

Parental Leave Pay and the Baby Bonus cannot be paid for the same child. Most eligible families will be better off receiving Parental Leave Pay rather than the Baby Bonus. If you meet the eligibility criteria for both payments, you can choose which payment is the best financial decision for your family.

So, how do you figure out which option is best for your circumstances? Contact the Family Assistance Office or learn more online www.familyassist.gov.au



Why did the farmer pour
hot water down the rabbit
hole?
Because he wanted hot
cross bunnies!!!!

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

National Reconciliation Week was initiated in 1996 to provide a special focus for nationwide activities. The week is a time to reflect on achievements so far and the things which must still be done to achieve reconciliation.



Did you know: In 1967 over 90% of Australians voted in a Referendum to remove clauses from the Australian Constitution which discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians?

Autism Awareness goes global!

Light It Up Blue is an international awareness campaign coming to Australia next month when Autism Awareness lights the Sydney Opera House blue on the evening of the 1st April 2011. Read about Light It Up Blue at: <http://www.lightitupblue.org>



A wonderful video showing iconic buildings lit up blue all over the world is on YouTube now.

PRODUCT RECALL

There have been a number of important product recalls recently which parents and carers should be aware of.

These include:

- Wiggles Clock
- Shrek Forever Plush Toy
- Lollies—Wicked Fizz Sour Head Lickers
- Numerous Fisher Price toys
- Inflatable Ring
- Cotton On Kids Girls short sleeved pyjamas and nightie
- Tinkers wooden toy animal cars
- Elka Blue Noosa Bear
- Sanbrook Baby Dummies
- Wahu Funky Lounge
- Mattel—Fisher Price Healthy Care, Easy Clean and Close to Me High Chairs



For more info see Kidsafe website www.kidsafe.com.au

EARLY LINKS

Early Links offer an outreach inclusive early intervention service for children and their families, aged 2-6 years. Eligible children may or may not have a diagnosis, and have significant needs in two or more developmental areas. This is a FREE service.

Please feel free to contact Peta (49343773) if you have any questions

Occupational Therapy Tip from Early Links Therapists:

- Have you looked carefully at the size of the tables and chairs you use with kids? If the table height is at chest or arm pit height it is harder for children develop good fine motor skills. As an adult you can try what it is like to write, cut or do a fiddly craft or threading activity when you are sitting at a table at arm pit height. Then try it when your feet are off the floor too!
- Ideally the best position is feet flat on floor, ankles, knees and hips at right angles, forearms resting comfortable on the table in front.

Speech Therapy tip

Use grammatically correct English in simple sentences - leaving in words like "a" and "the" allows your child to hear the natural rhythm of speech, which helps to add meaning to the sentence. For example, when you talk to your child say, "We are going to the shops" rather than "We go shops", or "Where is your train?" rather than "Where train?"



FAMILY FUN DAY!

We are organising a Family Fun Day at Hunter Valley Zoo at Nulkaba, on Saturday 7 May 2011 from 11.30am. There will be a sausage sizzle and face painting, and a chance to meet the animals at the zoo. Cost is \$14/adult, \$12/child (children under 3 years free) or \$40 family (2 adults 2 children). This is a saving of 20% so make sure you let them know you are from Family Day Care! Please see attached flyer.

EASTER CRAFT

What you'll need:

- White poster board
- Pink construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Tacky glue or school glue
- Tape or stapler
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils; optional



How to make it:

1. Cut a strip of poster board about 2" wide by about 24" long.
2. Cut out 2 ears out of poster board each about 8 1/2" long x 3 1/2" wide.
3. Cut out 2 smaller ears out of pink construction paper.
4. Glue the pink ears inside the white ears.
5. Glue the ears inside the band, positioning to fit behind the child's head.
6. Let the child decorate the head band with stickers, markers, crayons, or colored pencils if they wish.
7. Tape or staple the band to fit the child. Cut off any excess.

The Coordination Unit Staff

Janine Voigt - Authorised Supervisor
Karen Lewis - IHC & FDC Child Care Coordinator
Sandy Hart - Child Care Coordinator
Kylie Ledger - Administration Manager
Denise Crossley - Administration Assistant

Cherie Pauling - Placements and Support Officer
Melanie Howlett - Child Care Coordinator
Kell Smith - Child Care Coordinator
Kim Bates - Administration Assistant