



42 Isabella Drive, SKENNARS HEAD NSW 2478

Ph: 66 87 5961 Fx: 66 87 6706

Email: admin@stannesldcc.org.au or

narelle@stannesldcc.org.au

### What is Easter all about?

**Easter** commemorates the resurrection (return to life) of Jesus Christ following his death by crucifixion. **Easter** is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. On Easter Sunday, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

For **Catholics**, **Easter** Sunday comes at the end of 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving known as Lent.

On Good Friday, Jesus Christ was executed by crucifixion. His body was taken down from the cross, and buried in a cave. The tomb was guarded and an enormous stone was put over the entrance, so that no one could steal the body. On the following Sunday, it was found that the stone had been moved, and that the tomb was empty. Jesus himself was seen that day, and for days afterwards by many people. His followers realised that God had raised Jesus from the dead.

Stained Glass, Detail, Sheffield Window, All Saints Church, Canberra, 1958 orig. St Clements Church Attercliffe, Sheffield, 1917.



### What are Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns are sweet, spiced buns made with dried fruit and leavened with yeast. A cross, the symbol of Christ, is placed on top of the buns, either with pastry or a simple mixture of flour and water. The buns are traditionally eaten on Good Friday, however in Australia they are available in bakeries and stores many weeks before Easter.

A recent variation on the traditional fruit bun has become popular in Australia. A chocolate version is made with the same spiced mixture, but cocoa is added to the dough and chocolate chips replace the dried fruit.

### Who is the Easter Bunny

Early on Easter Sunday morning, the Easter Bunny 'delivers' chocolate Easter eggs to children in Australia, as he does in many parts of the world.

The rabbit and the hare have long been associated with fertility, and have therefore been associated with spring and spring festivals. The rabbit as a symbol of Easter seems to have originated in Germany where it was first recorded in writings in the 16th century. The first edible Easter bunnies, made from sugared pastry, were made in Germany in the 19th century.

### Who is the Easter Bilby

Rabbits are an introduced species in Australia and are unpopular because of the damage they do to the land.

In 1991 a campaign was started by the Anti-Rabbit Research Foundation to replace the Easter Bunny with the Easter Bilby (an endangered species). Author Jeni Bright wrote a children's story called *Burra Nimu the Easter Bilby* to support the campaign.

*Dear Families,*

*No matter how you and your family choose to spend this Easter weekend enjoy your family time together, be safe and may the blessings of Easter be with you all.*

*Yours as we care for and educate your children together,*

*Narelle Dewhurst. CENTRE DIRECTOR*



**St Anne's will close for Easter:  
Good Friday 25 March and  
Easter Monday 28 March 2016**

### Just a tip to help your child learn to recognise and then write their name.

When children start school they are taught to write using NSW Foundation Style Handwriting.

They are also taught to write using **lower case** with upper case (capital letters) for their name's first letter only ..

*eg. James, Sally, Richard*

When writing for your child, especially their name, try to write in lower case so it becomes familiar to them.

There are copies of the NSW Foundation Style Handwriting at the Sign In-Out area—please take one and put it on your fridge at home!

### Staff to Child Ratio Change

Did you know that on January 1 2016 the Education and Care Services National Regulations changed to include a '1 educator to every 5 children' ratio in the 2-3 year age group. (Previously the educator to child ratio was 1:8).

For St Anne's this means that in our Shells Room we now maintain 4 educators for the group of 16 children which gives us a higher staff to child ratio than required. This decision was made as opposed to changing the group size to 15 and working with only 3 educators.

A higher educator to child ratio also exists in our Centre's Nursery rooms with 3 educators with each group of 10 children in the Pebbles and Pippies Rooms. The regulatory educator to child ratio is 1:4.

### Please help us keep ALL children safe at St Anne's by doing the following:

- **Make sure you physically close the door as you enter and leave your child's room so as not to catch a child's hand/arm, also making sure no other child is going through the door without their parent.**
- **If your school child(ren) are meeting you here please ask them to wait for you in the foyer until you arrive—they are then welcome to go to their brother or sister's room with you.**
- **Hold your child's hand in the carpark areas.**
- **Drive VERY SLOWLY in the carpark**



### Did you also know.....

**It is a regulatory requirement that we conduct an "Emergency Response Practice" (either evacuation or lockdown) every 3 months.**

When we evacuate we wheel the babies out in evacuation cots, the toddlers walk together with their educators holding onto a long rope, and the Preschoolers hold hands and walk out of the building with their educators.

Our meeting place is at the western end of the carpark (the entry end).

We talk very simply but honestly with the children about what we are doing:

"We need to practice walking out of St Anne's just in case there was an emergency."

This conversation of course is more meaningful to the older children yet is delivered to the younger children to start their understanding of what that means.



**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SEE A STAFF MEMBER if:**

→ There is a note next to your child's name on the Sign In-Out sheet noting 'First Aid' or 'See Staff re First Aid'

#### FORWARD NOTICE:

**St Anne's Long Day Care Centre will be closed on Monday 25 April This is ANZAC DAY and is a Public Holiday.**

## NSW Foundation Style Handwriting

This is the style of handwriting taught in all schools in NSW.

Please try to model for your children handwriting using this font in lower case. (a, b, c d etc.)

a b c d e f g h i j

k l m n o p q r s

t u v w x y z

A B C D E F G

H I J K L M N O

P Q R S T U V

W X Y Z

Children usually start writing their own name first. Use Upper Case for the first letter and lower case for all other letters eg. Sam, Catherine, David, William, Annabelle

When writing letters always start at the top of letter on the left hand side, writing from left to right just as you read from left to right. All letters are based on three basic movements:



1. Clockwise Ellipse



2. Anti-clockwise ellipse



3. Downward diagonal stroke