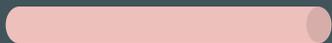




MELROSE
PARK OSHC
BLOG

VACATION CARE WEEK 1



DEAR PARENTS

OUR WEEK AT VACATION CARE

At OSHC Vacation care we Celebrated Easter Day by engaging in craft activities, cooking, games and our very own Easter Scavenger Hunt. For arts and craft the children created their very own Easter Bunny using paper plates. This craft was perfect for all the children to participate in due to the simplicity of it. Googly eyes were firstly glued on and bunny ears cut out and glued on. Once completed, the children used their bunnies in imaginative play. Easter baskets were then decorated by the children. Each child received a blank basket in which they had to assemble. Once constructed, the baskets were then designed and decorated using textures and other materials such as glitter, feathers and pom poms. These would then be used in the afternoon during the scavenger hunt. A game of bingo was then participated in. As counters we used buttons where the children would quickly search for their pictures on the bingo mat that matched the ones being called. Once someone had five in a row they shouted out "bingo" and would win that round! It was then time to create our very own scavenger hunt. The staff placed various clues around the school yard where the children were challenged together to find the clues and eggs which would then lead them to the final prize and small eggs. The clues consisted of various small riddles in which the children had to solve in order to find the next clue. Our last activity for the day was cooking Easter Cookies which were a little like shortbread. The children assisted in mixing the ingredients and piping the icing, all whilst adding additional decorations making the cookies an extra special Easter Treat.

Laser Tag Day was a fun filled day consisted of various games of laser tag throughout the day. The children would evenly split into Teams of Red and Blue and even created their own team flags which would represent their bases. Within this game the children had the opportunity to improve upon their team player skills with their peers in order to accomplish a common goal. For craft the children replaced traditional painting with paintbrushes and instead



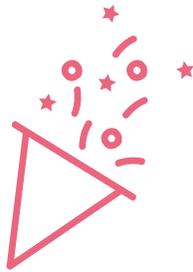


used water guns as a fun outdoor craft activity. By squirting paint onto a large canvas paper using a paint filled water gun, the children had loads of fun experimenting with various painting techniques that could be created. The children tested painting at a close range and from far away both of which created different techniques. The children stated that to create the perfect artwork all they had to do was 'Be Ready, Aim and Fire'. For additional craft the children created recycled collages using old magazines and newspapers. With a white piece of paper the children firstly created their own background where they could chose from a sunrise, sunset or sunny day blue sky. Once dry, the children gazed through the magazines to find images that they liked. These were then used to create a city skyline by cutting out images into the shapes of buildings. Many of the children cut out shapes of the Sydney Opera House, Harbour Bridge and Centre Point Tower.

Movie and Pyjama Day required the children to dress up in their favourite pyjamas and of course be comfortable all day long! The children firstly decorated and designed their own pyjamas using a template provided. Many chose to draw patterns and shapes on their pyjamas. Next, movie treat bags were designed by the children which were used in the afternoon when our movie began. Within this activity each child was challenged to consutrct their own box and then design it with textas, glitter, feathers and various other art materials provided. It was great to see the children getting involved in this activity and assisting eachother in the consutrction of their boxes. After some outdoor play the children then made their very own night light jar. This jar was a fun activity but also provides calming effects for the children during sleep. This was a simple DIY project that turned regular jars into glow in the dark fairy lights. Each child received their own jar and then used glow in the dark paint to create their own designs inside the jar. Many chose to paint small dots around the inside as they believed the effect that would be created at night would be spectacular. Glitter was then added to the top of the jar for an added effect.



Once completed we left the jars in the sun and then turned all the lights off. The children were surprised that they glowed and loved how they sparkled and shimmered in the dark. A Disney movie quiz was then ran where the children were required to split into equal teams and come up with their own team name. As a collective the teams then had to answer a variety of Disney related movie questions and write down their answers. Once the answers were read aloud the children and team captains were responsible for marking their sheets. Through participating in these quizzes the children were very enthusiastic to play more and learn. Before the movie began the children made their own coloured popcorn. We firstly put the popcorn into a large bowl and then boiled sugar and water into a small pan. Food colouring was then added and poured over the popcorn carefully.



Cooking Day required the children to embrace their inner masterchef by baking and cooking delicious food all day long. We began with creating play dough that was used as pretend food in imaginative play. The children used the playdough to mould various food items including tacos, noodles, spaghetti, burgers, cookies and ice cream. Blueberry bliss balls were then made by the children which produced healthy but delicious balls that were of a beautiful colour, making them not only yummy but super pretty too. The ingredients were all blended together and cooled in the fridge. The mix was then rolled into small balls where extra coconut was added on top. After some free play we began preparing lunch by cooking chicken and beef patties for burgers. The children assisted in separating the burger buns and preparing the table with plates. Once the meat was cooked the children built their own burger adding the salads and sauce of their choice.



The afternoon was spent engaging in a game of grocery food bingo where the children were required to place an M&M on the pictures of food items once they were called. When 4 images in a row had M&Ms on them the children would then yell out "BINGO". We then adapted the game to teams where the team on the same table had to all reach bingo before they would become the winners.





This was challenging as each individual team player needed to have their sheets filled for the team to win. Cupcakes were then baked and decorated in the afternoon for a treat after fruit time. The children chose to make vanilla cupcakes and icing and then added various decorations which ranged from sprinkles to farm animals to pineapples and cactus'. Each child was then able to enjoy their own cupcake or take it home. This day was a great opportunity to engage the children in a hands on cooking experience enabling the development of confidence and skills. Following the recipes provided encouraged the children to be self directed and independent, additionally teaching them to follow directions and develop problem solving skills.



Melrose Park OSHC
110 Wharf Road
West Ryde NSW 2114
Phone - 0411 526 238
Email - Melroseparkoshc@gmail.com
Website - www.melroseparkoshc.com.au