Hi Parents!

The Christmas Break is now upon us. We thank you for your support this year and we wish you a great Christmas and New Year to you and your families.

If we don’t see you at Vacation Care (which starts again on Monday January 5th 2015) – we look forward to seeing you at our after school services which will start again on Tuesday 27th January 2015.

We know it is an expensive time of year for families, but we would appreciate if you can settle your account before the year end. Even though we are closed, we still have staff holidays to pay!

We look forward to seeing you again in 2015.
Vacations Care (VAC): A Guide for Parents

Some little reminders that help us to keep things running smoothly.

For those of you who have children attending one of our Vacation Care (VAC) services – there are a few small things to remember (as it is a little different from normal after school care).

**PLEASE REMEMBER:**

1. **To sign in and out** your child every day. (This is a legal requirement and could impact your CCB/CCR if you don’t)
2. **To advise us** immediately of any medical conditions (ongoing or temporary) that may be affecting your child. We have a legal responsibility to your child and other children in our care to maintain a healthy and safe environment.
3. **To advise all authorised nominees** who collect your child that they bring photo-id along with them. Please don’t be offended if our staff challenge you or your nominees to provide evidence of their relationship to your child when they come to collect them.
4. **To let us know immediately if your circumstances change** and you no longer need care, or you have issues paying your child care fees. We are here to help families and our first priority will be to provide assistance.
5. **Ask us to explain your customer statement in detail.** One of the biggest sources of questions we receive is about the layout of our customer statement. Unfortunately, we can’t change it – but we can help you navigate your way around and feel comfortable that all your charges and payments are correctly accounted for.

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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*correct at November 2014*
NQF Training Staff Training
From February 2015, our staff will be undertaking customized NQF training in partnership with Child Australia.

Term 1 2015 will not only mean ‘back to school’ for the children, but also for our staff!

We are partnering with Child Australia to deliver a series of customized training sessions that intend to ensure our teams have the knowledge they need to provide the highest quality care.

The National Quality Framework aims to raise quality and drive continuous improvement and consistency in education and care services and school age care.

The training will be held in a series of sessions between February and April 2015.

They will ensure every team member understands and can apply in a practical manner the elements that make up the National Quality Areas.

The Quality Areas (as outlined below) are the criteria by which all child care service provider are rated and assessed by the National Regulatory organisation - ACECQA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QA1</th>
<th>Educational program and practice</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QA2</td>
<td>Children’s health and safety</td>
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<td>QA3</td>
<td>Physical environment</td>
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<td>QA4</td>
<td>Staffing arrangements</td>
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<td>QA5</td>
<td>Relationships with children</td>
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<td>QA6</td>
<td>Collaborative partnerships with families and communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>QA7</td>
<td>Leadership and service management</td>
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Our goal is to have one of our services meet the Excellent Rating within the next two (2) years.

We are also keen to implement behaviour management training with outside training providers early in the New year.

This is an addition to the recent Asthma and Allergy and Anaphalaxis training undertaken with Asthma Foundation NT.

We aim to be open and transparent:
A copy of our Full Assessment Reports for both Rosebery and Gray (when received) will be available for your review.

Ask Janet, Dani or Delaney for more details.
Miss Rebecca won the Santa’s little helper Award for 2014 at Rosebery!

Even Batman was getting into the festive fun at Gray.

Gray had a walk to Salvos to make a xmas donation. The lady from Salvos explains where our donations will go (below).
Christmas has Miss Delaney covered with her Christmas tree hat!

Decorating some Xmas Cookies at Gray....
The bob the builder bouncy castle incursion got a big thumbs up at Rosebery!
The Christmas art at Rosebery certainly made an impression...
Which site had the most Xmas cheer! Rosbery or Gray?.............
NEWS from around the sites.....

GRAY
1. A Ratings and Assessment visit from QualityEC NT was received on Tuesday/Wednesday 2\textsuperscript{nd}/3\textsuperscript{rd} December. We will make the report available when received
2. We are still working on plans to implement a self contained food prep area with new sink, hot water and dishwasher (subject to final approvals)
3. An updated quality improvement plan (QIP) will be submitted to QualityEC NT (if parent have any suggestions/input –please advise Janet)
4. EFTPOS now on site everyday

Wulagi
5. We had a ‘technical difficulty’ getting photos from Wulagi into this edition of the Newsletter. However, they will appear in our January edition.
6. Our first site excursion took place on Wed 17\textsuperscript{th} December as the children visisted the cinema at Casuarina
7. An updated quality improvement plan (QIP) will be submitted to QualityEC NT (if parent have any suggestions/input – please advise Tyson)
8. EFTPOS now on site everyday