





# THE WKC BUZZ 22 August 2025

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# Wilston Kids Care's Acknowledgement to Country

Wilston Kids Care would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land of which we meet today. Wilston Kids Care is located on Turrbal and Yagura land whose cultures are amongst the oldest living in human history.

We would like to pay respects to Elders past, present, and emerging and acknowledge their continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Wilston Kids Care will always remember that this land is, was, and always will be traditional Aboriginal land.

Wilston Kids Care has a commitment to reconciliation, which is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians.

### Dates for your Diary

4<sup>th</sup> August: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day





9<sup>th</sup> August: International Day of the Worlds Indigenous Peoples

11<sup>th</sup> August: Red Nose Day

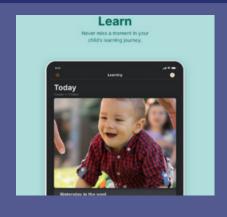




21<sup>st</sup> August: World Senior Citizen Day

#### Office Reminders

We're excited to let you know that you can access and enjoy your child's learning stories and special moments directly in the Xplor Home app! At WKC, our team is dedicated to capturing these wonderful moments of play, exploration, and learning to share with our families.



Through the app, you can view photos, stories, and videos that highlight your child's experiences here with us. Parents can also interact by leaving comments and liking the stories we share—making it easy to stay connected to your child's day!

#### Casual Bookings

A friendly reminder to please submit After School Care bookings prior to 2:30pm to assist us in ensuring appropriate staffing and a safe, well-prepared environment for all children.

#### Marking Absences in Xplor

We kindly ask families to please mark children absent through the Xplor app prior to 2:30pm each day. This ensures we are able to account for all children's whereabouts and is an important child safety issue.

#### Child Care Subsidy (CCS)

When attending Wilston Kids Care Outside School Hours Care (OSHC), you may be eligible for the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) to help offset the sessional fee charged. Just like long day care, our OSHC service is linked with Services Australia to apply your eligible CCS directly to your WKC account, reducing your out-of-pocket costs.

To check your eligibility and learn how to apply, visit the <u>Child Care Subsidy</u> – <u>Services Australia</u>.

## Pupil Free Day: Friday, 5th September 2025

We're excited to announce our Pupil Free Day Program for Friday, 5th September 2025! While Wilston State School will be closed, Wilston Kids Care (WKC) will be open and fully operational from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM, offering a special program for the day.

Bookings are now open! Secure your child's spot by booking through the Xplor Home app today!

https://www.wilstonpandc.org.au/vacation-care



## Book Week 2025: Book an Adventure

From Saturday, 16 August to Saturday, 23 August, we'll be joining Australia in celebrating Children's Book Week, a cherished annual event that encourages young readers to fall in love with stories, authors, and their own imaginations.

This year is extra special, it marks the 80th anniversary of Book Week in Australia. To celebrate, the theme is "Book an Adventure!", inspiring children to see every book as a ticket to explore new worlds, embark on grand quests, and meet unforgettable characters.

Reading plays such a vital role in children's lives, it nurtures creativity, builds language skills, and helps develop empathy and understanding of the world around them. Book Week gives us the chance to share favourite stories, discover new books, and inspire a lifelong love of reading.

This year let's help our little one's "book" their own adventure. Whether that means dressing up as daring explorers, snuggling in for a story time, or getting lost in a new book. Here's to inspiring curiosity, imagination, and a lifelong love of reading.



Children's Book Week 16–23 August 2025



#### Jeans for Genes Day

On the 7<sup>th</sup> August we proudly supported Jeans for Genes Day!

Our team swapped their usual workwear for denim with a purpose, helping raise awareness and vital funds for children living with genetic disorders. Jeans for Genes Day supports research that aims to find treatments and cures, giving hope to thousands of Australian families every year.

By wearing jeans, we are doing our small part to shine a light on this important cause, because every child deserves a bright future. Thank you to our wonderful community for your ongoing support as we continue to raise awareness and make a difference together





Jeans for Genes

### Weekly Highlights

What a week we've had!

Our craft tables were buzzing with creativity as children made personalised bag tags and bracelets, showing off their style while strengthening fine motor skills and practicing patience (those knots can be tricky!).

Guided yoga sessions gave us a chance to slow down, breathe, and test our balance in some fun and challenging poses.

We welcomed some very cute new "residents" to our desks as the children created desk pets, sparking imaginative play and storytelling.



#### Weekly Highlights

In the hall, a mega-sized game of dodgeball had everyone moving, strategising, and laughing, while our Hobby Horse Racing Championship brought a burst of friendly competition and plenty of cheering from the sidelines.

We also spent time indoors enjoying board games, Exploding Kittens was the crowd favourite! And to finish the week, we celebrated Foodie Friday and enjoyed an Ekka-inspired afternoon treat of ice cream and fresh strawberries.

It's been a week of learning, laughter, and new experiences, we can't

wait to do it all again next week!









## ILF Great Book Swap - Donations

We're excited to announce that Wilston Kids Care is once again participating in the Indigenous Literacy Foundation's Great Book Swap! This marks our fourth consecutive year supporting this incredible initiative, and we couldn't be more excited to continue making a difference.

The Great Book Swap is a fun and meaningful way to celebrate reading while raising funds to provide culturally relevant books to children in remote Indigenous communities across Australia. This year, the ILF aims to raise \$300,000 to gift 30,000 books to these communities.

We're calling on our wonderful families and community members to donate educational books of all kinds, beginner readers, picture books, chapter books and more! Your generous donations will help us host a successful book swap event, where children can exchange books and contribute to this vital cause.





## ILF Great Book Swap - Donations

#### **Donation Drop-Off Location:**

Wilston Kids Care Office

#### **Event Date:**

September 3rd, 2025 After School Care Session

Let's come together to promote literacy and share the joy of reading with children who need it most. Every book donated and every dollar raised helps close the literacy gap and brings us closer to a more equitable future.

For more information about the Great Book Swap and the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, visit: <a href="https://www.indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au">www.indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au</a>

If you would like to donate to our Wilston Kids Care fundraising page visit: <a href="https://edu.greatbookswap.org.au/wkcgreatbookswap">https://edu.greatbookswap.org.au/wkcgreatbookswap</a>



### **Supporting Families**

At Wilston Kids Care, we know parenting can be both rewarding and challenging. That's why we're committed to supporting our families by sharing resources that can make a difference at home.

The Triple P Positive Parenting Program is a free resource available to all Queensland families. It offers practical tips and simple strategies for building routines, supporting your child's emotions, and managing tricky behaviours in positive ways.

Sharing resources like this is part of our commitment to Element 6.1.3 of the National Quality Standard, ensuring families have access to current information about community services that can support parenting and family wellbeing.

You can learn more or register here: <a href="https://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/au/triple-p/">https://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/au/triple-p/</a>





#### One Talk at a Time

Supporting families with helpful tools is something we value at Wilston Kids Care, and we're pleased to let you know about the One Talk at a Time Activity Booklet, developed by the National Office for Child Safety.

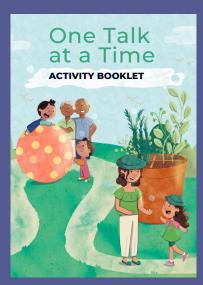
This booklet is filled with simple, fun activities like colouring, baking, gardening, and imaginative play, all designed to help parents and carers start important, age-appropriate conversations with children about body safety, boundaries, consent, and protective behaviours.

The activities are easy to use in everyday life and are a great way to build children's confidence while giving families the tools to talk about sensitive topics in a safe and positive way.

We have sent out an Xplor notification to families with the activity booklet attached. We've also added the resource to our Parent Portal for easy access anytime.

At Wilston Kids Care, we're proud to support families with resources that promote child safety, wellbeing, and open communication.





#### RECIPE OF THE WEEK

## Mini MEM Cookies

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 1 and 2/3 cups Plain flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, <u>softened</u> to room temperature
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 large egg, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 cup mini M&Ms



#### **METHOD**

- 1. Preheat the oven to 180°C. Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper or silicone baking mats. (<u>Always recommended</u> for cookies.) Set aside.
- 2. Whisk the flour, baking soda, and salt together until combined. Set aside.
- 3. In a large bowl using a handheld or stand mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, beat the butter, granulated sugar, and the brown sugar together on high speed until completely smooth and creamy, about 2 minutes.
- 4. Add the egg and vanilla extract and beat on high speed until combined, about 1 minute. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl as needed to combine.
- 5. Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and mix on low until combined. Beat in the M&Ms.
- 6. Roll cookie dough into very tiny balls, about 1 teaspoon of dough per cookie and arrange on the baking sheets.
- 7. Bake for 7-8 minutes or until the edges are lightly browned. Slightly flatten each cookie with the back of a spoon if they didn't spread much. While the cookies are still warm, I like to press a couple extra M&Ms into the tops. This is just for looks! Allow cookies to cool on the baking sheets for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.

### **Enrol for 2025!**

Enrolments for 2025 are open at Wilston Kids Care!

Looking for a safe, engaging, and fun space for your child's outside school hours care? Look no further! Wilston Kids Care is now accepting enrolments for 2025, and we can't wait to welcome new faces to our vibrant OSHC community!

Whether you have a little one starting Prep or a student new to any grade at Wilston State School, our dedicated team is here to provide high quality care and enriching activities that your child will love.



- A fun and supportive environment for children to make friends and learn new skills.
- Diverse activities, from arts and crafts to sports and educational games plus more.
- Convenient care for busy families, before and after school and during vacation care during the school holidays.
- Caring, qualified staff who are passionate about your child's wellbeing.

Simply head to our website to get started or scan the QR code to enrol today! Spots are filling up fast for 2025, so don't miss out on securing your child's place.











Please remember that if your child/ren are enrolled in any extracurricular activities, WKC will require an up to date permission form to be able to release them from our care.

# Feedback!

We value your input and strive to continuously improve the quality of our OSHC services here at Wilston Kids Care. To ensure we meet your expectations and provide the best possible care, we encourage you to share your feedback with us.

Please take a moment to complete the feedback forms available for the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) feedback, Policies and Procedure feedback, and general service feedback. Your responses will help us identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement, ensuring we create a positive and supportive environment for both children and families. Thank you for being a valued part of our community!

Please click the link for each feedback form!

- QIP Feedback Form
- General Feedback
- Policies and Procedures

