

Happenings



November/December 2017

www.theinfantshome.org.au

Carols by Twilight Friday 1st December

One of our favourite family events is Friday December 1st – Carols by Twilight. Please join us from 5.30-7.30pm on the main lawn for an evening of festive family fun. There will be a Dance-a-long with Santa's Elves, a Carols Sing-a-Long, Christmas raffle, BBQ dinner available to purchase and visits from Santa and Rudolf! So bring your picnic blanket and join in our last big celebration for 2017.

Crowdfunding Campaign for Rigby House

We are very excited to have launched The Infants' Home's first crowdfunding campaign in our final bid to raise funds to renovate Rigby House. Renovations will begin in late December and be complete for a fresh start in February 2018. Our target is at least \$10,000 and all funds raised will be matched by one of our generous donors – effectively doubling all donations.

If you have already supported this campaign—thank you! If not, we invite you to join in. Crowdfunding works best if everyone shares the message via email and social media, to help get lots of little donations to reach a target. We hope you can join us by donating a little to help achieve a big outcome.

Follow us on Facebook

Keep up to date on The Infants' Home's news and events, [here](#).



Seeking Records Search Volunteer

Are you interested in history, family trees, or are fascinated by old photographs and documents? We seek a volunteer with a keen eye for detail to help with records search enquiries, and to catalogue historical photographs and documents. If interested, please contact Anne-Marie: 8719 5002 or abyrne@theinfantshome.org.au

Children Move to New Rooms, Houses and Big School

Children in many of the Houses have been following new routines to help transition to a new room, a new centre or to 'big school' as their learning and development progresses. Educators have been working with children to help connect them to their new educators, teachers and environments to help children feel safe as well as to encourage both independence and interdependence.

This is also a momentous year for The Infants' Home. When our new Early Learning and Care Centre opened in 2013, it enabled us to increase the number of children in Murray and Gorton House's early education programs. Now, almost 100 children are ready to transition to 'big school', the largest group of 'graduates' we have ever had.

We are proud to see how ready children are for their next big adventure and, whilst it is hard to say goodbye to those children and families who are leaving us, we wish all of you the very best and hope you keep in touch.

End of Year House Parties

We welcome families to attend End of Year Parties at your child's House(s). Signs are up at the entrances of each House with dates, details and times as below.

Dates for Your Diary

- **Carols by Twilight**, Friday 1st Dec, 5.30-7.30

End of Year Parties for each House:

- **Gorton House:** Friday 1st December, 4-5.30pm
- **Johnson House Preschool:**
Wednesday 13th December, from 4.30pm
- **Johnson House Toddlers:**
Thursday 7th December, 4- 5.30pm
- **Murray House:** Wednesday 6th December 4-6pm
- **Robinson House:**
Tuesday 5th December, 4.30-5.45pm.

Playgroups News



the infants' home
CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

November/December 2017

www.theinfantshome.org.au

What a exciting and busy term. We had visits from TIH nurse Meryl, Speech Therapist Simone and Social Workers Samantha and Alicia. We celebrated Children's Week with petting zoo, face painting. Craft, sand, water and playdough play was enjoyed by all. We decorated biscuits, planted tomato seeds and made yummy bears from muffins and fruit. Our end of year festivities included card and ornament making, Santa faces and tree decorating. We danced sung songs, read stories. Rebecca and Fiona would like to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Safe and wonderful New Year. For all the children starting school, we wish you all the very best, you will be missed. See you all in 2018!



Holiday Safety

1. **Water Safety:** Always supervise children near padding pools, ponds, bathtubs even if there is a fence.
2. **Sunsmart:** Choose loose sun protective clothing that covers legs and arms as well as a hat and sunscreen.
3. **Windows:** Childproof window guards will prevent falls through fly screens.
4. **Road sense:** Make sure you always know where your child is on driveways in car parks or park and camp grounds.
5. **Heat Stroke:** Never leave children in a hot car even if the air condition is on or the windows are down.



Recipe of the month -

Ginger Bread Men

125g softened diced butter
½ cup brown sugar
½ cup golden syrup
2 ½ cups self-raising flour
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1 teaspoon bicarb soda
Method

Preheat oven to 190C, line two baking

trays with baking paper. Place butter and sugar in bowl of electric mixer and beat until light and creamy then add golden syrup. Add sifted flour, ginger and bicarb soda and stir to combine. Knead lightly on a floured benchtop to form a smooth dough. Roll dough between two sheets of non-stick paper until 5mm thick. Use cookie cutter to cut out shapes. Bake for 8 or so minutes/until golden. Cool on trays. Decorate when cold.



Red Bug Playgroup Mondays during school term, 10.00am—12.00pm Ashfield Park, cnr Parramatta Road & Orpington Street, Ashfield (near the playground equipment) **Wangal Playgroup** Wednesdays during school term, 9.30am—11.30am Ashfield Public School (entry via side gate in Murrell Street, Ashfield) **Gurung Playgroup** Fridays during school term, 9.30am—11.30am Croydon Park Public School (entry via Georges River Road, Croydon Park) **Father's Playgroup** Every second Saturday during school term, 9am—11am The Infants' Home, 17 Henry Street, Ashfield