

February Newsletter



A message from Ellen



Welcome to Term 1! We've loved receiving photos from families of children we've supported beginning school! Many of these children attended our group programs to prepare them for this transition. Coupled with the support of their families, it's meant we've seen some really big 'first day' smiles! You can take a look at our available group programs below. If you're more interested in one-on-one support, please reach out as some of our therapists currently have capacity!

Also, be sure to check out our exciting events

and initiatives coming up (scroll through this newsletter for details):

- **FREE communication screeners** for children starting school in 2026 and beyond
- Our first annual **School Options Workshop**, perfect for parents of children with additional support needs who are starting school in 2026 or 2027
- Back by popular demand, Em Mainey (aka **NeuroWild**) for another **Neurodiversity Affirming Practices workshop**
- Our **2025 Annual Charity Golf Day**

We also have an exciting initiative planned for Neurodiversity Celebration Week, but there'll be more information on that later!

Are you following us on socials? Don't miss out on any news!



2025 Group Programs

We have a great line-up of group programs to support our families in 2025!
They're filling fast, so contact us to secure your child's place!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Andy Bear Club (3-5 years) 8:30am - 11:30am	Andy Bear Club (3-5 years) 8:30am - 11:30am	Sensory Kidz (6 months- 4 years) 9:30am - 11:00am	Communication Explorers (6 months- 4 years) 9:30am - 11:00am	School Ready Kidz (children starting Kindergarten in 2026) 9:30am - 11:30am
Kidz Club (Kindergarten- Year 4) 3:30pm - 5:00pm	School Ready Kidz (children starting Kindergarten in 2026) 12:30pm - 2:30pm	School Ready Kidz (children starting Kindergarten in 2026) 12:30pm - 2:30pm	Kidz Club (Kindergarten- Year 4) 3:30pm - 5:00pm	Details...

Communication screening



We are excited to commence **FREE** communication screeners this term! The screening sessions are for children who will be starting kindergarten in 2026 and beyond. They take about 30 minutes and are designed to help with early detection of any specific communication difficulties. This term, the screeners will be held on Wednesday afternoons with one of our speech pathologists, onsite at the Foundation.

[Book now..](#)

Parent Workshop

We're thrilled to be hosting our first annual **School Options Workshop**, perfect for parents of children with additional support needs who are commencing formal schooling in 2026 or 2027. Hear from representatives from a variety of school settings.

School Options Workshop

Wednesday 26th March, 2025
9am-11.30am
Castle Hill RSL (Phoenix Room)

[Book now...](#)

Professional Workshop

Join us for a 2-hour workshop on Neurodiversity Affirming Practices with Em Mainey, aka NeuroWild! Her last workshop with us was a sell-out, with glowing feedback.



Neurodiversity Affirming Practices Workshop

26 MAR 2025 | 12:30-3:30 PM

CASTLE HILL RSL
(PHOENIX ROOM)

[Book now...](#)

*In the
community*



We want to share a Facebook page with you, created by Kate Strohm, founder of Siblings Australia. **Siblings Matter** is a page dedicated to supporting families of children with disabilities, specifically focusing on tips and resources for supporting their siblings. The page is designed to provide practical advice, insights, and a sense of community for parents who want to ensure their other children feel supported and understood in their unique family dynamic.

[Siblings Matter](#)

Sensitive Storytime is back at **Castle Hill Library!** This is a sensory, sensitive storytime for neurodivergent children 2-5 years of age. Storytime includes stories, songs and a variety of sensory experiences. These sessions allow for a sensitive, friendly time for children and their families to participate in storytime. This term, the sessions are running on Tuesday mornings from 11:30am until 12:15pm. The sessions are FREE and you don't need to book!

St Gabriel's School Open Day for Kindergarten 2026 enrolments will be held on **Thursday, 6th March** from **9:30am-11:00am**. St Gabriel's School is a K-12 school catering for students with a mild to moderate intellectual disability, as well as students who are deaf or hard of hearing; blind or have low vision; have autism and other disabilities.

[Open day information...](#)

It's so exciting to see that the LEGO group has joined the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative! To promote awareness, they are introducing the first-ever LEGO sets featuring Sunflower lanyard users, helping to foster inclusion through play. This exciting step highlights the importance of representation and understanding for those with hidden disabilities.

For those who might not be aware, The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower is a simple tool for you to voluntarily share that you have a disability or condition that may not be immediately apparent – and that you may need a helping hand, understanding, or more time in shops, at work, on transport, or in public spaces.

[Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative](#)

Save the Date

Be sure to mark **Friday, 2nd May 2025** in your calendars! We're hosting our **Annual Charity Golf Day** at the beautiful **Lynwood Golf and Country Club**. Keep an eye out for more details, and in the meantime, check out some pics from the fabulous 2024 Golf Day!



[2024 Charity Golf Day...](#)

Other news



Recently, our team came together for our quarterly all-team meeting, and what a session it was! We kicked things off with some fun get-to-know-each-other activities before revisiting key policies to ensure we're all aligned and set up for success. The highlight? Our Accidental Counsellor training, which equipped us with practical tools to support colleagues and clients in tough moments. It was both insightful and empowering. Here's to a great 2025!

 guardian

 eko Finance & Home Loans

 FundFindrs

 ab anderson boesl lawyers
real people. real solutions.

 TOMCAT AIR
PERFECT YOUR SPACE

 SWC
statewidecivil

Our 2024/25 supporters

 THE HILLS
Sydney's Garden Shire



 CommBank
Staff Foundation

 DigitalPresence[®]
Cloud, Analytics and Automation

 CASTLE TOWERS

 SWC
statewidecivil

 agenzia
PROPERTY INVESTMENT STRATEGISTS

 CHRG
- Castle Hill RSL Group -

 FIRESIDE

 JDI Services Pty Ltd
Business Coaching | Consulting | Sales Training

 GOLDMAN
PLUMBING
SERVICES

 FLEMMING
GROUP

 THE STAGE DOOR
PERFORMING ARTS

 AUTO ONE
IT'S THE ONE!

[Contact us](#)