



## Welcome Back Natalie

It is wonderful to have Natalie back "on deck", caring and educating all her little children at her Gapsted home. For the last three months she has been on leave.

Nat is welcomed back by her fellow educators, admin staff, parents and most importantly all her special children.

Great to have you back with us, Nat!!

## Happy National Family Day Care Week!

Early in May Alpine Family Day Care celebrated 'Wish upon a Star' as part of the annual National Family Day Care Week celebrations.

National Family Day Care Week provides the service and educators with the opportunity to celebrate the great work of our sector. Family Day Care Australia kicked off the National Family Day Care week celebrations with an 'Evening under the Stars' at Gosford on the New South Wales Central Coast on Sunday.

One of our educators in Alpine Family Day Care, celebrated with her children and below is what she wrote to share with her families.

I am a National Family Day Care Star Week.

Project: Reaching For the Stars

\* Painted night sky – glued stars on it.

\* Glued shapes for rocket, sun, moon, planets & some colouring in on a stencil. Glued this to large paper of sky & stars.

\* Children's wishes or dreams:

Connor – "one day, I would like to drive a police car"

Zack – "I want mum to buy me a rocket so that I can share it with Ruby."

Samuel – "I would like to fly a helicopter when I get bigger."

Isabella – when I get bigger, I'd like an aeroplane for me and Daddy and Mummy and Spencer, so we can fly everywhere and Spencer Can drive it."

(Isabella's first wish was different but she wanted me to write the second one. "I'd like to get a magic wand so that I could get lots of chocolates and lollies and ice-creams, but that's not good for you, so I'd like to get a magic wand and magic it all up.")

## Your toddler's imagination is blossoming.

Child-directed play that involves simple materials that the children are interested in like dinosaurs, allows their imagination to roam, create and grow.

Sharing is a vital skill. It's something toddlers and children need to learn in order to make friends and play cooperatively. Above Mario is really enjoying interacting, plus he is teaching these children how to listen and share.

Maybe they are roaring like dinosaurs!!

Children often take their cues from what they see adults and parents are doing. When you model good sharing and turn-taking in family life, you give your children a great example to follow.

