

# BETHANY ELC NEWSLETTER

4th of February 2026  
Term 1, Week 1



Welcome to Bethany ELC!

We are so excited to begin a new year of learning, play, and growth together. Over these first few weeks, our focus has been on establishing routines, setting expectations, and building strong relationships with our teachers and friends.

At Bethany ELC, we are strong advocates for **play-based learning**. Through play, children develop confidence, social skills, language, problem-solving, and physical abilities, while gaining a deeper understanding of the world around them. You can support your child's holistic growth simply by playing with them at home.

We warmly encourage families to join our **Wednesday Playgroup** on your child's off-Wednesday. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with our community.

Please remember to check **Storypark** regularly for updates. Reading weekly highlights with your child helps them recall, reflect, and feel proud of their learning. You are welcome to add your partner or other family members to Storypark as well.

Please also **save the dates** for all our special Term 1 events, listed on the last page of this newsletter.

## A Few Reminders

- Apply **sunscreen** and bring a **hat** each day
- Check your child's **library borrowing day**
- Ensure you **sign your child in and out** on arrival and departure

"Let all that you do be done in love." – 1 Corinthians 16:14

My prayer for Term 1 is that every child feels loved, cared for, and embraced in friendships.

Blessings,

Wendy Carlesso – ELC Director

# Our Learning

Hi ELC friends,  
You can use our ELC newsletter to show  
your family what we have been learning  
together at the ELC!

We are exploring lots of new  
interests in the ELC: racing  
cars, cooking, music and more!

**What has been your  
favourite thing to do at the  
ELC so far?**



We are learning about caring  
for one another!

**Is there someone in your  
family who you can help and  
show care to this week?**

# Family Involvement

## Nurturing a Love for Reading

Library Borrowing starts this week at the ELC!

Each week, children will bring home their **library folder** with a book they have chosen to borrow. Please check the **ELC display** to find out your child's specific **library day**, and ensure they have their library folder with them on their borrowing day. This helps children develop responsibility and supports their love of reading.

## Top Tips for Reading with Children

- **Start Early** – With up to 85% of brain development happening in the first three years of life, engaging children with books early is powerful.
- **Make Scheduled Reading Time** – Life gets busy! Setting aside regular reading times—like a bedtime story—helps establish positive reading habits that children look forward to.
- **Let Children Lead** – Children learn best when they feel involved. Follow their lead—pause to explore pictures, go back to favourite pages, or let them turn the pages at their pace.
- **Embrace Re-Reading** – If your child wants the same book again (and again!), that's great! Repetition supports language development, memory, and comfort through familiarity.

For more great insight, visit: <https://australiareads.org.au/news/benefits-tips-reading-with-children/>



(Reference: Australia Reads)

# Other Information

## Communication

Please remember to stay regularly updated with us by checking Storypark and your emails for ongoing communication and regular updates of our daily activities.

We understand you may also need to contact the ELC other times throughout the day which you are welcome to via email: [elc@bethany.sa.edu.au](mailto:elc@bethany.sa.edu.au) or phone: (08) 8283 0000.



1. Run around in the rain
2. Play hide and seek in a garden
3. Lie on your back and watch the clouds



### Important Dates in Term 1:

|                                           |                                         |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Twilight Picnic                           | Week 3 Thu (19/2)                       |
| Hearing Screeners                         | Week 5 Thu (5/3) & Week 6 Tue (10/3)    |
| Come & Play                               | Week 8 Mon, Thu & Fri (23/3, 26/3-27/3) |
| Good Friday Public Holiday (ELC Closed)   | Week 9 Fri (3/4)                        |
| Easter Monday Public Holiday (ELC Closed) | Week 10 Mon (6/4)                       |
| Last Day of Term 1                        | Week 10 Fri (10/4)                      |