

# WELCOME TO OUR Monthly Newsletter



#### **Yay Today Update**

Are you ready for October? We sure are! We've had an incredible time with our School Holiday Program so far and can't wait for the final week of fun and creativity. From ice skating to museum visits, the activities have been amazing, and there's still more to come.

October is also Mental Health Month, and we're excited to support well-being with our programs. Plus, with Halloween just around the corner, we've got some spooky-themed art and cookie-making activities planned!

We're excited for all the fun and creativity ahead this month. Stay tuned for more exciting activities and events, and don't miss out on the Halloween-themed fun coming your way. Let's make October truly unforgettable together!

#### Welcome, Marie, to the Team!

We're excited to introduce Marie, our new Admin Assistant at Yay Today! Marie brings her hard work and dedication to the role, and she's about Bachelor of Science graduate with a Biochemistry and Microbiology. Her scientific expertise adds a unique touch to her Outside the office, Marie loves collecting tea and antique books and enjoys taking walks, always hoping to meet some new fluffy friends at the dog park.









### **Highlights from Our Group Activities**

#### FUN, LEARNING, AND NEW EXPERIENCES TOGETHER!

We have been busy exploring new places and creating great memories with our social groups! From gliding across the ice at the rink to discovering wonders at the museum and Sea Life, our participants have enjoyed a variety of exciting activities. These outings are more than just fun - they provide opportunities to connect, learn, and experience the world in different ways.

Check out some of the moments we captured and stay tuned for more adventures with Yay Today!



# Halloween Treats and Creativity

#### GET READY FOR A SPOOKY-CREATIVE OCTOBER!

October is here, and we're excited to celebrate Halloween with some spooky-themed activities! This month, we'll be getting creative by baking Halloween cookies and crafting some fun Halloween-inspired art. Whether you're into baking or art, join us for a spook-tacular time filled with creativity, fun, and plenty of treats!



# The Masterpiece is Complete!

### CELEBRATING CREATIVITY AND HARD WORK

Last month, we shared a sneak peek of an incredible artwork in progress, and we're thrilled to reveal the finished piece! Our talented student has put in great effort and creativity to complete this masterpiece. It's amazing to see the transformation, and we couldn't be prouder. Stay tuned for more creative projects from our workshops!



THURSDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2024



#### **Read Our Latest Blog**

### UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FASD AND AUTISM

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are both neurodevelopment conditions that can impact behaviour, communication, and learning. While they share some similarities, the causes and symptoms are distinct. FASD is caused by prenatal alcohol exposure, leading to cognitive and behavioural challenges, while ASD stems from genetic and environmental factors, often affecting social interactions and communication.

In our latest blog, we explore the key differences between FASD and ASD, and how understanding these differences is crucial for providing the right support and interventions.

## Mental Health Awareness Month

### PRIORITISING WELL-BEING AND SUPPORT

October is Mental Health Month, a time about raise awareness importance of mental health and wellbeing. At Yay Today, we are committed to supporting mental health fostering open conversations and offering resources that promote self-care. resilience and Whether through our psychosocial programs, creative workshops, or community support groups, we are here to help you navigate life's challenges. This month, take a moment to check in with yourself and those around you. Remember, reaching out for support is a sign of strength, and your mental well-being matters!







# Australia's Paralympic Triumph

#### RECORD-BREAKING WINS AT PARIS

Australia concluded the Paris 2024 Paralympics with an impressive haul of 63 medals, including 18 gold, 17 silver, and 28 bronze. Our athletes excelled in para swimming and athletics, contributing 27 and 11 medals, respectively. Standout performers included Timothy Hodge, Alexa Leary, Lauren Parker, and Callum Simpson, each winning two golds and a silver. Records were shattered, with James Turner and Vanessa setting new world records in athletics, and our swim team breaking multiple Paralympic records. Congratulations to all our incredible athletes for their outstanding achievements!



#### One Week Left of Holiday Fun!

#### **FUN TIMES STILL TO COME**

We've had an amazing time during our school holiday program, with everyone joining in on the fun! From creative workshops to exciting outings, last week was packed with laughter and new experiences. With just one week to go, we can't wait for more great moments with everyone. Let's make the final week of the holiday program unforgettable!



#### We Value Your Feedback!