

## Snow days

Over winter, we may need to open late due to snow or ice. Late starts are inconvenient but are essential to ensure the safety of staff and children. Late start notices are put on The Hits 89.4 FM. Listen to the radio or check out their facebook page to see the latest updates <https://www.facebook.com/thehitsdunedin?ref=ts&fref=ts>

## Learning

In the preschool there has been a focus on active movement. Teachers have been setting up many climbing, sliding and balancing activities and the children have been enjoying a mini rebounder. The St John Ambulance service visited in July sparking interest in medical role play with the knowledge gained. We have also had many birds visiting our new bird feeders.



In the nursery the children have been trying new things with teachers continuing to provide new intentional activities. The children have been enjoying many new natural and heuristic resources.



Our teaching team have been working on a long term internal evaluation on professional practices. This links to the teaching profession Code and Standards, and part of our ongoing learning and strategic plan.

## Updates

We purchase new equipment and resources every term and recently you may have noticed our new play kitchen has arrived in the preschool. This is popular for role playing and modelling life skills. The makeover continues in



the nursery front room with new cupboards, a feature wall and the fireplace bricked closed.

We won't be attending Polyfest this year. With so many different cultures at York Place, and with a few staff changes we have decided to take a year off this year and look forward to attending again next year.

## Staffing

We would like to warmly welcome Caitlyn back from her maternity leave. She has rejoined the nursery team initially 3 days per week building back up to full time. Shanae who has been covering her leave will stay on with us until she begins her teacher training next year. She will be working with our two year olds as they transition into the preschool. Beth is now teaching predominately in the preschool.

We are very sad to say that the time has come at the end of August for Marina to move to another centre. After 14 years at York Place, she will be greatly missed. Her love for outings such as library visits and her creativity with intentional teaching activities will be missed.

Our new team member Lyn joins us mid August. She is a qualified Early Childhood Teacher and is excited to be a part of the York Place family.



We also have Georgia who will be joining our preschool team in late August relocating from Christchurch. She has her degree in Early Childhood Education and is fully registered so will be a welcome addition to our team.



At times recently you will have noticed the occasional reliever in the preschool from an agency while we have been recruiting and had sick teachers. We aim to keep this to a minimum.

## Our tamariki

Happy school days to: Axel, Ollie, Lucian, and Lucy

Farewell to: Courtney, Kenzie, Eve, Evelyn T  
Welcome to: Chelsea and Isla

## Teacher Training

As we have some very experienced teachers at our centre we have been asked to mentor some student teachers. We have two placements this semester. Hannah who is studying level 4 will be here for 4 months on Wednesday and Fridays in the preschool. Maree is in her final year of her degree and will be in the nursery for 5 weeks at the end of August.

## Reminders

Please ensure children have a warm jacket and hat that are clearly named each day so they can still enjoy our outdoor programme over the winter. Also a reminder to name lunch boxes and bottles. If using vivid, please check it is still on after each wash. Alternatively stick on labels are great as these are more permanent.

If your child is unwell please keep them home to prevent the spread of illnesses. If they suffer from vomiting or diarrhea, they must stay home until 48 hours after the last incident.

