

Whānau Picnic

Our annual picnic is coming up next week. Thursday 29th February from 5-6.30pm at Woodhaugh Gardens. Bring a picnic or some takeaways and join us in the playground area for a relaxed evening. (If the weather is not ideal, we will put a postponement notice on Seesaw.)

Enrolments

We currently have vacancies in our preschool class with a large group of children headed off to school. Please spread the word with your friends/family.

Tui Class

In the nursery our current focus is “self expression” where we have been providing experiences for our tamariki to discover different ways to be creative and expressive. These have included experiences such as sensory exploration, music and movement, literacy - reading many books and dramatic play. We have observed so much incredible self expression emerging, ka rawe tamariki!



Pukeko Class

Tamariki in the Pukeko class have been enjoying lots of scientific and sensory exploration. ‘Potions’ are a favourite of the tamariki as they explore different substances such as corn flour, vinegar and baking soda among other things. They have been using pipettes and popsicle sticks for transferring substances between containers and mixing them together. Tamariki are amazed when a reaction happens, such as when the baking soda reacts with the vinegar and fizzes! As these are popular experiences, tamariki have been putting their wonderful social skills to use by communicating with their peers about sharing resources and negotiating space.

Recently we have also added in a couple of small hui times (group times) during the day before morning tea and lunch. Tamariki have been really enjoying engaging in different stories, musical experiences, finger plays and magnetic stories during this time. Tamariki have also been revisiting what to do in the event of an earthquake through the ‘Turtle Safe’ video (available on you tube) put out by Civil Defence. They really enjoyed listening to Stan the dog who showed us how to be safe under a table or tuck up like a turtle.



Tamariki and kaiako

Happy school days to: Luca, Liam, Rosie, Billy, Violet and Isla

Welcome to: Henley, Charlie, Aiden, Harlow and Emily

Farewell: Roimata and Tobias as they begin their journey at kohanga reo.

We have lots of staffing news this month!

Welcome to Evelyn who has joined our team as a reliever after having a student placement with us last year. We farewell Tina who has been relieving for us for several years and wish her all the best.

Welcome back to Amy as she returns from her maternity leave and brings her baby Harlow to join the nursery class.

It is with great sadness that we farewell Yama who joined us as a 3rd year student and then stayed as a member of our preschool team. She is moving to Christchurch to be with her partner. Her last day is the 15th March.

We have been incredibly lucky to keep Brittany who initially joined us to cover Shauna's maternity leave. She will now stay on permanently as Yama's replacement.

We are quite blessed to have a fully qualified and registered team of incredible teachers. This is quite different to many ECE centres who often have up to half of their team unqualified. We really value having the skills and expertise that qualified teachers bring to the table and we will also be supporting some student teachers on placement throughout the year as our senior teachers are selected as mentors.

Reminders

Please remember that the driveway is for teachers parking and they need quick access to either start their shifts or leave at the end of their workday. Often cars are blocking this space. Please use the 10 minute park and reserve the driveway space as an emergency parking only and respect that it must be very quick transition to not hold up teachers.

A reminder that while children are at York Place they are in ratio and under the care of the teaching team. If you would like to spend time with your child at York Place either to settle at the beginning of the day, or to play or chat at the end of the day this needs to be within their booked times. We have had many times when teachers have been unable to leave at the end of their shifts due to children staying late. Thank you for your support with this.

Upcoming dates

Otago Anniversary Monday 25th March, Easter Friday 29th March and Easter Monday 1st April we will be closed. Enjoy the long weekends.

