

Sustainability

Our new Pukeko Explorers' programme for our older preschool children has a primary focus on papatūānuku, getting outside into nature and learning how we can protect it for the future. The focus for term 3 is on learning about the wildlife in the Woodhaugh Gardens. Tamariki have a bird chart for when they observe birdlife and magnifying glasses to examine close up and have been fascinated by the insect life there.

This month in Dunedin the Council has introduced the green bins which supports us to further reduce the amount going into the landfill as well as saving our food scraps for Alice's chickens. If you have any sustainability suggestions for us, these are most welcome.

Polyfest

This is coming up the week of 9-13th September. We have registered for our older tamariki to attend and have begun practicing 4 songs with actions. If you would like to join us as a parent help on the day, please let us know. We will provide more information and permissions slips for this outing when we have our time slot allocated.

Tui Class

In the Nursery we have had a strong interest in korikori - physically active play, developing our gross motor skills and discovering what our bodies can do. Tamariki of all ages and abilities have been working on extending their skills and exploring the next step. We are so proud to see so much determination in action as our friends are learning to sit, crawl, stand, cruise around furniture, ride bikes, climb and continue to challenge themselves through increasingly difficult climbing experiences, ka rawe!



Pukeko Class

Tamariki in the Preschool have been showing a strong interest in the trajectory schema. This is the urge of throwing and catching, as well as the movement of their bodies and objects. To support this we have a new swing ball set the tamariki are really enjoying. They are putting their hand-eye coordination skills to the test as they try and bat the ball to their peer standing on the other side, or back to themselves! We have also been fostering their urge to throw through experiences such as using targets. Tamariki have been throwing bean bags at a target, trying to hit the different numbers. This has also been encouraging their curiosity in numeracy.



Hui Group

The older tamariki are thoroughly enjoying our Pūkeko Hui Time on Thursdays. Over the past few weeks we have been focusing on shapes and we have had lots of fun exploring the properties of different shapes through interactive experiences. This has included things like creating pictures using wooden shapes and mini hammers, drawing shapes in salt as well as creating shapes using a variety of different materials.



Professional Development

This year as part of our ongoing professional learning we have been focused on culturally responsive teaching. We have had a few workshops alongside our regular team meetings to work on this internal review. Our focus has been integrating our centre values into our teaching and linking the Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Improved safety

Our next renovation project is creating a new entrance for the preschool playground. This will be at the top of the driveway to the left. We will be creating a ramp up to the pathway so there will be two gates to get into the playground. This adds to the security of our environment as on occasion parents haven't shut the gate behind them and this eliminates that risk. Your children's safety is our priority.

Immunisations

Each time your child gets a new immunisation, please provide evidence of this so we can update your child's enrolment details. The Ministry requires us to collect this information so that in the event of an outbreak, we can provide this to the required agencies.

Tamariki and kaiako

Welcome to: Emerson, Theo and Nixon
Farewell to: Jhonna and Japreen
Happy school days to: River and Charlotte

Snow Warnings

With the current weather warnings, it is timely to remind everyone that if we require a late start due to snow or dangerous road conditions this will be notified on Seesaw and also on The Hits radio station. They have a list of late starts on their Facebook page. As a general rule, we will be similar to schools in the area.

Fire and Emergency Drills

We frequently have fire, earthquake and lock down drills so the children know what to do and expect during an emergency. Today we had a fire drill and 3 children were not signed in but were present. In the event of an emergency, it is crucial we know who is on site at all times. Please remember to sign your child in and out as this could save us precious time in the event of an emergency.

