

## Renovations

This weekend we are continuing with the preschool playground developments. Those that offered plants or bushes to go in our old sandpit area which is going to be a wild/bushy zone, we are aiming to plant this in approximately a months' time. We are looking for medium sized plants/shrubs/grasses that are slightly established to withstand the rough and tumble of our tamariki.

## Bookings/enrolments

If any part time families would like an extra day, we have a space Monday and Friday in the preschool, and Monday in the nursery.

Our new enrolments are now full for the year but we are taking names on a waiting list in case anything unexpected comes up. Please let us know if you are expecting a baby and would like to enrol them as we give preference to existing families, also please give us plenty of notice if you are moving so we can give families on our waiting list notice.

## Tui Class

The Nursery tamariki currently have a strong interest in korikori – physical skills. We have been exploring what our bodies are capable of, and extending on these skills such as learning to roll, sit, crawl, stand, jump, run and dance. Kaiako have been offering a range of provocations for tamariki to explore and extend on their skills as well as space, time and encouragement to make discoveries independently. We have also been busy engaging in lots of sensory and social exploration!

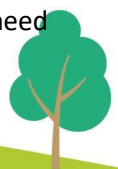


## Pukeko Class

Our recent group planning focused on "Enhancing mana through kaitiakitanga", in which we noticed a positive shift in the way our tamariki interact with and take responsibility for their environment. The introduction of the daily responsibilities chart into the Preschool for our older tamariki has been a great success, as we see how our tamariki take such pride in demonstrating their leadership, independence, initiative and care in assuming these roles each day.

As part of our sustainability journey we recently introduced a chicken scrap bin during kai times, which is then taken away to feed Alice's chickens at home. Kaiako have noticed that this has prompted our tamariki to take an interest in learning about sustainability during kai times, which led kaiako to extend this by engaging in conversations about what packaging from their lunchboxes could be washed to later reuse and/or recycle.

As part of this we encourage you to reduce packaging in lunchboxes and long term we would love to see waste free lunchboxes. The bento style lunch boxes are ideal as food can be separated into compartments and don't require wrapping. Another advantage of this is all of the food is available at once so tamariki don't need



to keep asking for assistance to open their food packets or containers. It enables them to be more independent with their lunchboxes and a great stepping stone to school where they need to be able to eat independently. At present the majority of the preschool children are asking for assistance with their lunch meaning they need to wait for help.

Ways you can support your child: peel mandarins & oranges, put a small cut into the top of a banana, or top of packages items to make them easier to tear open, and empty any canned items into an easy to open container.

If you have any expertise around sustainability we welcome you share this with us as we grow and learn together.



## Tamariki and kaiako

Happy school days to: Jax  
Welcome to our new child: Georgia

Congratulations to Shauna who welcomed her new baby Bruce into the world this week. He is just adorable and we look forward to him visiting us.



We are sad to farewell Sian who is going back to University to complete a Masters Degree. Her last day will be Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. We wish her all the best.

Emma our new Kaiako was going to be covering Shauna's maternity leave but instead is now going to be permanent full time to replace Sian. We are in the process of recruiting a part time kaiako to fill this gap in the preschool.

## Winter weather

Now that the colder weather is upon us, we are sending home all the summer sunhats and sunscreen. Please think about swapping out the spare clothing you send each day to warmer layers along with a warm hat and jacket that you are welcome to leave here. Gumboots or shoes that are more water resistant are great. Please ensure everything is clearly named. The preschool class has hooks in the whānau room (outdoor room) for jackets.

## NZSL Week

New Zealand sign language week is next week. We use baby sign at York Place predominately in the nursery. It's a great tool to support communication for babies and toddlers. Check out the NZSL website for more info [www.learnnzsl.nz](http://www.learnnzsl.nz) and look out for some Seesaw sign language posts next week.



## Book Club

A paper copy of the Scholastic Book Club edition 3 has been put in children's bags this week. These are available online 2 issues per term, one in the first couple of weeks and one midway through the term. Any orders made, we get a % back to spend on books for York Place so appreciate your support. The books are handed out in brown bags to parents discretely and great to tuck away for birthdays/Christmas or other occasions especially the selection of bargain books under \$5. Orders for issue 3 are online and close in two week time 19<sup>th</sup> May.

