

Christmas holiday dates

Our last day for the year is Thursday 24th December closing at 2.30pm. We reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2027. There will be no charge during this closure. If you intend to be on holiday either before or after this time, please let us know in advance so we can ensure some of our team get a well-deserved break around this time.

We will be hosting a family Christmas party in December, more information to come closer to the time.

Polyfest

Our 3 and 4 year olds performed at Polyfest on Wednesday 9th September. You can watch this online through the Otago Polyfest Facebook page. We are so proud of all the work the tamariki put in learning the songs and actions, and they performed so well.



Learning focus

Our recent group learning focus in the Nursery has been on sensory exploration. The children have been engaging in a wide variety of experiences to explore their five senses, including messy play, music and movement, baking, light, shadow, colour, and different textiles.

These experiences support foundational development by helping children form working theories about the world around them, practice fine motor skills, strengthen spatial awareness, and learn about cause and effect. We've been having so much fun while also supporting language development as children connect new textures, sights, tastes, sounds, and movements to new words.



Recently in the Preschool, tamariki have been enjoying various experiences that promote the use, development and refinement of their fine motor skills. Inside there has been lots of interest in peg boards where tamariki have been exploring mathematic concepts such as patterning, sorting and grouping as they use the small muscles in their hands and fingers to select, place and move the pegs around. Creating necklaces and bracelets has also been incredibly popular as tamariki select, then thread their beads of choice onto a piece of elastic. They have been very proud to show off their work to their peers, kaiako and whānau. Outside our woodwork table has also supported this exploration as tamariki use their hands and fingers to hold onto nails and tools as they work. Lots of concentration and coordination has been showing and what amazing persistence our tamariki have!



Summer weather

Daylight savings is when our sun protection policy begins for the summer. We have already put up the sunshades and started checking the UV rate daily.

Our sunscreen brand is Smart365. If your child has sensitive skin and is not able to use this one, please bring in a named sunscreen for them.

Please also provide a clearly named wide brimmed sunhat for your child. They are required to wear this when playing outside.

Several changes of spare clothes are needed over the summer as we increase our water play on hot days. A long sleeved rash top is great as they dry quickly and provide good protection against the sun.

Your child also needs a wet bag for wet/dirty clothing. This can be any waterproof bag or recycled plastic bag and keeps the wet clothing separate from the dry clothes in your child's bag.

FamilyBoost

The quarterly statements will be out early next week. Please check if you are eligible to apply for this rebate. You can receive up to 40% of your childcare costs.

Our tamariki & kaiako

Happy school days to: Avery

Welcome to our new tamariki: Aroha, Adeline, Artemis, and Dominik

After an extended time on sick leave, unfortunately Sally will not be returning. She has had a long career in early childhood education and we wish her the best.

