



Little Orchard Preschool

July 2017 Newsletter

Kia Ora o te Whanau.

Wow who would believe it is almost half way through the year already? We have had some lovely weather which has seen us enjoy and explore lots of water play which is unusual for this time of the year. We recently farewelled our lovely teacher Andrea from our Ruru Room, who has decided to retire and go on some adventures with her campervan (Hula). We all wish Andrea the very best for her retirement, she was such an inspiration to all of us and she will be dearly missed. Sharon our Room Leader in the Ruru Room is on extended sick leave at the moment and we have Dearne Young who is our Acting Room Leader in the Ruru Room.

We would like to extend a very warm, welcome the new families that have recently joined us here at Little Orchard Preschool and likewise would like to wish all of those children whom have begun new learning journey's at their chosen schools. Thank you all for choosing Little Orchard Preschool for this part of your child's educational journey.

We are about to begin celebrating Matariki. Classrooms will be doing many activities that will help the children gain an understanding of this event. These will include gardening, learning harakeke, baking and sharing of kai, learning some new waiata and tikanga practises and at the end of it we will have a concert to celebrate which will be held on **Thursday the 13th July at 10.30am** followed by a shared lunch. If you could send along some kai for your child to share that will be greatly appreciated.

Ruru Room

What a busy time we have had in the Ruru Room. It all began with one of the children bringing in some ducks that his stepdad had shot. After plucking them, dissecting them, cooking them and then serving them for lunch, we then went on a learning journey about the internal organs of the human body, along with ducks and frogs. We discovered that we all have the same internal organs. We are also exploring different life cycles, one of them being a bean after reading Jack and the Beanstalk. We are trying to grow a beanstalk as big as Jack's. We also have some tadpoles in our classroom and are excitedly waiting for them to grow into frogs.





Kereru Room

We have been very busy in the Kereru room exploring what we can do with our bodies! We have been working hard in the carpentry area – focusing particularly on sawing, climbing, jumping and balancing on the challenge course as well as helping in the garden and playground. We have also been learning in the kitchen, cooking and baking, talking about healthy eating and measurements.

We have also been focusing on letters, numbers and shapes. The children have been practicing in their own individual writing books as well as doing fun activities such as letter hunts, alphabet bingo and number and shape matching.



Pukeko Room

In the Pukeko room, we hear lots of sirens every day. Our tamariki are very interested in these sirens and copy the sounds. In light of this interest of theirs, we invited some special visitors to our preschool. These visitors were dressed in bright yellow and drove a big red truck. You guessed it, they were firemen and they brought their big red fire truck for us to explore. We had so much fun exploring the truck and squirting water from one of the hoses. We are going to continue following the children's interest with sirens and see what other sirens come and visit us at preschool.





Kiwi Room

The tamariki are always very busy and have been really interested in the many art activities that are being offered to them. They are particularly enjoying experimenting with the natural resources and have made some wonderful pictures which are up on the walls in the classroom. Please come and have a look, they are amazing. The children are also enjoying these sunny days and love being outside. The teachers have been setting up obstacle courses for them to explore thus enabling them to gain confidence and control of their bodies and develop their fine and gross motor skills.



Please Be Aware...

Recently at approximately 3.00pm in the afternoon we seem to have a lot of children riding skateboards in and around the Centre, in particular our carpark. This is a very busy time with lots of cars coming and going and safety is a real concern of ours. If you have school aged children that may fit into this category, please talk to them about the danger of riding scooters in the carpark.

Additionally we ask that all school aged children in the Centre must be accompanied by a parent at all times.

General Housekeeping

- Please remember to sign your child or children in when you arrive and when you leave for the day. All our sign in sheets are located at the office or in the entrance to the Pukeko Room.
- With us moving into Autumn and then soon into Winter, we would like to remind you that our children need spare clothes so they can continue to learn and explore. We get some great puddles here on wet days and the children also love mud play. Can you please send your child to preschool with several changes of clothes so that they can do this 😊
- Please remember to send spare named clothing for your child. We do have puddles and water play and children love to join in these activities 😊



A Message from the Office

- From time to time contact details may change, we ask that you please update your contact information with Trina, our Office Administrator; particularly emergency contact numbers, so that we can keep in touch with you, this has recently been highlighted to us with us having to phone you all to collect your children early and some contact details had not been updated.
- Since enrolling your child with us, you may discover your child has an allergy. Can you please ensure your child's documentation is updated with Trina and we can ensure all our team are aware of the changes.
- Likewise if you have changed your views regarding social media and you would like to ensure your child does not appear on our website, facebook page or on any advertising, please speak to Trina about updating your details.

We have an open door policy here at Little Orchard Preschool, if you are concerned about anything at any time or just want to pop in for a chat, please do. Otherwise you can call me or email me on:

Phone: 3087 777 Email: mcgarveycentre@lops.co.nz

Rhonda Newton
Centre Leader