

# Little Orchard Preschool

## Newsletter April 2016



Kia Ora, He mihi mahana kia koutou katoa. Hello warm greetings to you all from our Douglas Street Centre.

You will have noticed that we have had some staff changes in the past few weeks. Lorraine, Rhonda and Michelle have joined the Little Orchard McGarvey Rd family. Natelle will now be working full time in Tui Room. Rachelle J has moved into Kea Room full time and you can find Sharon in the Patiki Room.

We have some wonderful new relieving team members. Please introduce yourselves and say hi if you see them around the centre. A Big welcome to Lori, Roswin, and Sangeeta.



A huge welcome to our new children and families joining us, Charlie Ash, Kyzah, Perseus, Luke, Hakuene, Ethan and Louie Morgan, Shayla, Rareka, Philip, Neveah and Charlie John.

Good luck and farewell to those children and families moving onto their next exciting adventure, Hazel, Jordan, Jared and Paige Miller, Jessica, Jack, Hannah, Scarlet, Jehrae, Azazel, Jsharn, Maire-Rangi and Taisha.

With the weather a bit colder now we have stopped swimming and will recommence in November when the weather warms up again.

March was certainly a very busy month, what an amazing Family Fun night we had; we fed over 300 people, thanks to all our wonderful whanau and families that attended. This is our opportunity to show how much we appreciate you all, to mingle and meet other parents, and of course get fed and not have to do the dishes. 😊 Huge thanks to our fantastic helpers.

Our Annual visit to the Miniature Train was also another amazing day and once again made a lot easier with fantastic parent/grandparent help and contribution. We thank you all for your support. It was a fun day for our children, team and families to enjoy and get to know each other.





## Kea and Pounamu Rooms

Lots of developmental milestones met this month with our amazing babies; Indie-Rose has learnt to roll over and is all over the room. Shayla and Rareka are walking and gaining confidence to explore in both rooms. Mihaere is crawling and getting around very fast. We have discovered a love of music, Mihaere, Leo and Kyan love the drums, while Shayla and Charlie enjoy the piano. In the Kea room with the older children they too have been enjoying music and love joining in with the rest of the centre doing jump jam, some amazing moves happening. There is a lot of sensory exploration using things such as play dough, finger painting, and gloop. Baedyn, Blake, and Jack love going over three mornings a week to Kowhai Room and exploring the bigger environment. A favourite is the bike track and climbing fort. This is great preparation for when they transition. We are still making use of the beautiful days and spending as much time as possible outside in the sandpit, practising our motor skills, climbing, jumping and riding bikes.

Jamie, Rachel M, Gillian, Rachelle J, Aimee and Amber.



## Kowhai Room

Exploring with the caterpillars that are growing on our swan plants is of huge interest to the children at the moment and there is a lot of excitement watching the caterpillars change, and butterflies hatch. We haven't managed to time it right so that we see the butterfly emerge yet, but we will certainly keep trying. Our interest in arts and crafts has continued with the children making some amazing master pieces with all different mediums. Every week we have a different shape, number, colour and letter, which helps to enhance and extend language development and recognition of basic maths.

Allie, Mere, Sue and Lyn



## Patiki Room

Patiki children are enjoying making science discoveries such as learning about gravity by observing bubbles and examining the feijoas trees to see if the fruit is ready to eat, we keep checking but no, not quite there yet. It's hard to be patient when you are only two! Turn-taking and risk-taking were also practised as children grow confident enough to jump off the boxes, supported by their friends as they took the risk to climb, balance and jump. "I will hold your hand" was heard many times as children encouraged everyone to have a turn.

Carol, Sharon and Marama



## Pohutukawa Room

Our children are still enjoying all the construction going on outside the centre, and building their own amazing masterpieces. We started with two in the sandpit making a river and a lake and ended up with 17 children in the sandpit with islands, lakes, streams, bridges, that covered the entire sandpit. We were engineers, because that's what engineers do. It was amazing to see how they all worked as a team. Another focus has been natural resources and we have had some amazing creations from the children using, shells and driftwood, and at the same time learning about the natural environment and how to care for it. Discussions about healthy bodies and healthy teeth were shared by the children. Even at their young age, they know to drink water, eat healthy, use sunscreen, wear a hat, brush your teeth, and wash your hands.

Harriet, Amrita, Melissa and Nikita



## Tui Room

Wow we have certainly fitted a lot in since our last newsletter, Family Fun Night, Minature train visit, Doug the Digger are just a few of the highlights. We have also been focused on "healthy mouth, healthy bodies". The Tamariki loved this kaupapa and all their thoughts, mahi and contributions were recorded in a scrap book and sent away to be judged, finger crossed we get the results in May. Good Luck Tamariki. We also continued with the caring for our oceans, beaches and sea creatures. It was amazing to hear about their experiences with family and whanau. Tui Room Tamariki decided if you have rubbish and there are no rubbish bins, put it in your pocket until you get to your class. Ka pai tamariki ma.

In the next month we will be focusing on ANZAC, and what it means to us as a country. We will look at uniforms, vehicles, dress styles, food and lots of other things during this time. We look forward to sharing our learning with you.

Trish, Natelle and Shani



## **General Notices**

Our 4-year-old sleep over at Kelly Tarlton's is booked for the 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2016. We have started fundraising with a raffle for petrol vouchers, available from the office. It will be drawn when all the tickets are sold, so please support our 4 year olds and buy a ticket, and you could win \$150 petrol vouchers.

Reminder that I have an open door policy, if you would like a chat, please feel free to pop in and see me or

email: [teena@lops.co.nz](mailto:teena@lops.co.nz)

Phone 3085222.

Alternatively, you may wish to put your concerns or queries in our suggestion box; we will follow up all suggestions with you. Thanks Teena. (Centre Leader) ☺

**Remember to check out our Little Orchard facebook page  
where we share our celebrations and achievements**