



April 2016

Little Orchard Preschool - McGarvey Rd Newsletter

Kia ora whanau,

We are off to a great start to the colder season, swimming has finished but we have lots of great learning opportunities to share with our children over the next few months.

Team changes:

We have a few new faces in centre and a few changes in the works over the next weeks. I will be heading off on parental leave on May 20th and Rhonda Rosemergy will be stepping into my position as Acting Centre Leader for the next year. As Rhonda has been Room Leader in the Kiwi Room, we have Lorraine Knight stepping in as Acting Room Leader for the Kiwi Room. Tamara Wright has accepted the permanent position of Room Leader for the Kereru Room, and Charlotte Little is Acting Room Leader of the Pukeko Room while Melissa is on Parental Leave.

I have put a list of our team on the last page of the newsletter, please feel free to introduce yourself to our team at any time.



What have we been up to?

Our classrooms have been super busy taking advantage of the end of the warmer weather with lots of water play, sand experiments and large motor skill adventures like obstacle courses, running races, high jump, lots of bike races as well as lots of messy play with slime, gloop and even some gardening.

Our **Kiwi Room** have been enjoying their outdoor area, revamping their sandpit and gardens and bonding with their teachers, Lorraine and Rhonda. Their inside environment has had a change around too, creating quiet small group spaces and getting ready for our new infants who are starting.

The **Pukeko Room** have also been out in the gardens and outdoor areas, check out their emerging vegetable garden they have created with Cindy. We are all looking forward to fresh vegetables and yummy soup over the winter months. Our major focus in this room has been science and investigations. We have had a great time with our new science resources and have been learning lots of exciting science concepts like sink and float, magnetic poles, changing mass from solid to liquid, colour mixing and so much more.



The **Kereru Room** has been focusing on Oral Health as a part of their programme, learning about how to look after their teeth and what food can keep them healthy. The children hosted a beautiful juice bar with freshly made juice full of fruit and vegetables. We have also had a change around in the classroom and have been focusing on how to be nice friends and how to communicate with each other.



The **Ruru Room** have been busy learning about bugs and insects and how they inhabit and effect our natural world. As the future kaitaki (protectors) of our world it is wonderful to see the children taking such an interest in conservation and keeping our natural environment thriving.

We have also been very captivated by ANZAC Day and what it means for us as New Zealanders, we made some beautiful ANZAC creations including poppies for us to wear and a wreath for the Dawn Parade.



Our Annual 4 Year Old excursion:

On June 4th our intrepid adventurers will be heading off to Auckland to visit Butterfly Creek and then have a sleepover at Kelly Tarlton's. This trip is strictly for 4 year olds, so of your child is not yet 4, don't fret because this is an excursion we do each year 😊

As this is a fundraised event you will see we have a lot of events coming up, we would love your support with these. We have a disco this Friday, a bikeathon on May 15th, a gala day/garage sale on May 29th and many raffles that are ongoing including a Yummy Chocolate Raffle and a Fantastic Mother's Day raffle.



Are you tech savvy and have some spare time on your hands? We need someone to help us create and publish a bi-monthly, centre wide Little Orchard Preschool newsletter. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please email our General Manager on Monique@lops.co.nz

Hours, timetables and fees:

We have very limited spaces available on our roll at present, if you need to extend your child's hours or make a change to their days we require 1 week's notice so we can adjust our rosters accordingly.

We will always try to accommodate your needs but as we have strict licencing numbers sometimes it may not be possible to make the change you require. We can however put you on a waiting list and then make the change when the space or time becomes available.

Please also remember that your account must be paid weekly and kept up to date to retain your child's space. If this is a problem for you, please see Trina in the Office.

Lost property:

Please, please, please name all of your child's clothing, even socks and underwear. We have up to 80 children in the centre each day and it is difficult to track every item of clothing your child brings to preschool. We always encourage children to put their clothing into their bags but sometimes this does not happen.



Spare clothing:

Please ensure you are packing at least 2 changes of clothes in your child's bag each day. We have lots of messy play and water play each day and need these clothes so your child can participate fully.

Toilet training:

If your child is toilet training please ensure you pack lots of extra pairs of underwear and pants each day. This ensures your child can remain in underwear rather than going back into a nappy.



Lunchboxes:

Your child is super busy at preschool each day and needs lots of food to keep their little bodies going throughout the day. We can heat up left overs and canned food is more than welcome. If you need any lunchbox ideas please see your child's Room Leader.

We have the following kai times at preschool: morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and a late snack after 3.30pm.



Stork Report:

Jen, Shaun and Aria have welcomed baby Keira to their family. Melissa and Michael have welcomed their baby daughter Rylee.



Keira



Rylee

Absences:

Please remember to text or call the centre **by 8.30am** if your child is going to be absent 308 7777 or 027 510 4144.

Preschool Community Adventures:

Thank you to all our whanau helpers who have assisted over the last few months with our adventures like the Train Day at the River Edge Railway and Sea Week at Ohiwa Harbour.

Our children have enjoyed every minute of these adventures and we would not be able to do them without whanau participation.

Also thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Whanau Fun Night – it is great to see our whanau all together in the centre for a yummy kai, excellent entertainment and more importantly time for us all to get to know each other and the children's friends and whanau as well.

Facebook:

Remember we have a face book page that keeps up to date with what is happening at both of our centres, including any news or events.

That is all for us for now at McGarvey Rd.

Remember to check out our planning boards in your child's room to see what they are going to be doing or have experienced already. Have a look through your child's profile and feel free to contribute to their learning and development via their profile or a whanau voice form.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to see either your child's Room Leader or you can pop into the Office, come and see Rhonda and I, call on 308 7777 or email me on

jo@lops.co.nz

Our Team for 2016:

Rhonda – Acting Centre Leader

Trina - Office Administrator

Jenna - Kitchen Technician

Ruru Team:

Sharon (Room Leader), Andrea, Jordan, Louise, Timatanga and Sam

Kereru Team:

Tamara (Room Leader), Sam, and Chelsie

Pukeko Team:

Charlotte (Acting Room Leader), Cindy, Ana and Rebecca

Kiwi Team:

Lorraine (Acting Room Leader), Leanne and Stevi

Relievers:

Kelci, Tash, Stevie Leigh, Cara, Mitch, Nicole, Ashley and Michelle.

Little Orchard Preschool Core Values:

Whanau/Family

Where connections grow.

Respect

To treat things like they are yours and to treat other people how you want to be treated.

Adventure

To inspire and feed the soul.

Passion

To create magical experiences.