



# LITTLE ORCHARD PRESCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2016

Kia ora e te Whanau. I trust that you are all keeping well and managing to keep the winter colds and flu's at bay. Welcome to my first newsletter as your Acting Centre Leader. I thought that I would begin by telling you all a little about myself.

For those of you who don't already know me, my name is Rhonda Rosemergy and I am looking forward to being your Acting Centre Leader for the next twelve months whilst Jo is away on Parental Leave.

I have been teaching for too many years to count. I have a Diploma in Early Childhood and Montessori Teaching and am experienced in teaching both of these teaching philosophies. I live on a lifestyle block with my partner Pete and my fourteen-year-old daughter Zoe. In our spare time we enjoy jetboating, horse riding and trout fishing.

I have four adult children and six grandchildren, all of whom are a very special part of my life and I try to spend as much time with them as I can.



It was a privilege to recently attend our annual four year old excursion to Butterfly Creek and Kelly Tarlton's. This was such a wonderful weekend I am sure it is still being talked about; I know I am still buzzing about it and I know some of you are looking forward to going again with younger members of your family. I would like to say a big thank you to the fundraising committee who worked tirelessly to organise fundraising events to make this trip happen.







## KERERU ROOM

This month in the Kereru Room they have been celebrating Matariki. This has also supported the children's interest in preparing and sharing kai with one another. There has been a focus on promoting 'thumbs up' (good food choices) kai, and we have extending this by preparing and cooking a variety of food. So far the children have helped make Spaghetti Cups, Meatballs, Fruit Kebabs, Corn Fritters and Fairy Bread. The team are keen to continue following this interest as they still have lots of tasty recipe ideas to share and make with the children.







## PUKEKO ROOM

This month the Pukeko Room have been focusing on Construction. The children seemed to be as intrigued by building and creating as they were by demolishing and dissecting. Through this interest the children are learning about tools and that simple machines make work easier (Science), shapes in Architecture (Geometry), measuring using objects as units(Maths) and using tools in a variety of ways (Science, Inquiry, Motor Skills). Construction play is so much more than just playing with building blocks and some of the activities we have been doing are putting together train tracks and building ramps for our toy cars, building huts and forts, box construction with recycled materials, art – using different tactile mediums such as mud and sand, building sand castles, playdough and carpentry.

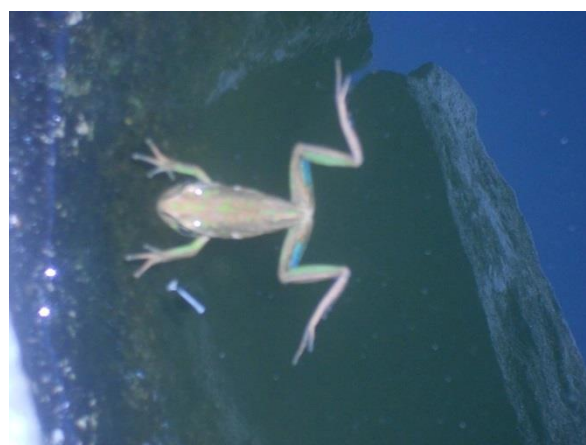




## RURU ROOM

Earlier in the year the Ruru Room were gifted some tadpoles. During the past months the Ruru children have been entranced by their metamorphosis transformation from tadpoles to frogs. Every day the children observed the tadpoles and they noticed all the slight changes. Before long the tadpoles had legs and their tails had disappeared. Finally after weeks of watching and waiting, the tadpoles were now frogs. The next challenge was how to feed them. The children searched under rocks and wood for insects to feed the frogs. To supplement the frog's diet fly pupae were purchased from the vet and offered to the frogs fueling the children's interest further. The children observed the flies hatch and then watched in awe as the frogs jumped high and as quick as lightening caught the flies.

Last week after a discussion with the children, they decided that the frogs would have a better and happier life if they were returned into the safe hands of Paptunanuku (Mother Earth). They then went for a walk to Sharon's house where she has a fishpond and released the frog's where they are now happily co existing with two goldfish. The children learnt respect and have developed a sense of responsibility for the well-being of the frogs whilst in their care. The children are keen to have more pets in the classroom and are exploring ideas; some of which have been, a lizard, mice, goldfish, a bird. I wonder what the children will choose.



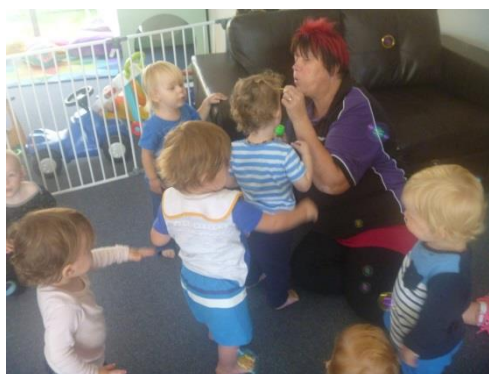




## KIWI ROOM

It has been a very busy month in the Kiwi Room, they have been particularly enjoying the new music wall set up outside and learning some new waiata; I think we may have a few budding musicians in the making. Watch this space. With the warmer weather the children are enjoying playing outside, enjoying the moveable climbing equipment, foam shapes set up as an obstacle course. Climbing is good for their balance and coordination and their fine and gross motor skills.

The sandpit still remains a firm favourite with the children. We have a few budding artists in the making as well, as the children explore and enjoy different art media. The children are learning some self help skill, learning to feed themselves, washing their hands and faces, bringing their plates and cups to their teachers when they have finished eating, all of these new skills are done with the support of their teachers.





## LOST PROPERTY

We seem to accumulate a lot of lost property very quickly. We would love these things returned to their rightful owner, but unfortunately a number of the clothing is unnamed. Over the next few weeks all lost property will be displayed at the centre's entrance so that you can claim it. Any unclaimed lost property left at the end of the school holidays will be sent to charity so please take the time to have a look through it.

## OPEN DOOR POLICY

I have an open door policy, if you have a concern, no matter how big or small, I would love to hear about it. You can pop in for a chat, call me on 07 308 7777 or send me an email

[mcgarveycentre@lops.co.nz](mailto:mcgarveycentre@lops.co.nz)

**He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata! He tangata! He tangata!**

*What is the most important thing in the world? It is people! It is people! It is people!*

Don't forget to take a look at our Little Orchard facebook page where we share our celebrations, achievements and children's learning.