

HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



Pānui
Paenga-whāwhā

Newsletter
April 2014

Early Learning Childcare Centre
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Preschool
59 Haerehuka Street

07 873 8739
027 773 8732

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Friday 28th February 2014

Diary Dates

6th April: Daylight Savings Ends—remember to turn your clocks back!
9th April: Teddy Bears Picnic & Dress Up Day
17th April: Term 1 Ends
18th April: Hopscotch closed (Good Friday)
21st April: Hopscotch closed (Easter Monday)
25th April: Hopscotch closed (Anzac Day)
5th May: Term 2 Starts



Meals at Preschool



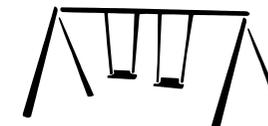
In order to give the children more control over what they eat at lunchtime, we're going to be offering a limited choice for their meals. The meal will ultimately be the same, but with a slight variation. For example, if potato salad is on the menu, we'll offer some with mayonnaise and some without. Or if the meal is corn fritters, we'll offer fritters with corn or fritters with cheese. This will empower the children to choose an alternative if there's an ingredient they don't like, and ensures that all the children are eating at lunchtime.

Appeal for Bras—Papua New Guinea



Thank you to the parents who rummaged through their drawers and supplied us with any unwanted bras. Your "support" for this cause is very much appreciated!! We have donated a total of 42 bras!

Playground at Early Learning Centre



Hopscotch ELC is turning 10 next year !!! Can you believe it? We're currently planning a big playground upgrade which is being designed by Playscape in Auckland. Plans will be available for viewing from next week and we hope the early stages of renovation will start over the Easter break. This is an ongoing project which will take many months to complete so keep coming in to see what's happening. We'd love your comments and feedback.

Policies for review

The following policies are due to be reviewed: *Settling In, Sexuality Education (PS), Staff Health, Substance Abuse, Parents, Caregivers & Visitors attending Hopscotch*. Please take the time to read them and provide feedback to any of the staff. Thank you.



Tara and Courtney have set up a Pinterest page for the Early Learning Centre. If you haven't used Pinterest yet – now is the time to start! Pinterest is a visual discovery tool that people use to collect ideas for their different projects and interests. People create and share collections (called “boards”) of visual bookmarks (called “Pins”) that they use to do things like plan trips and projects, organize events or save articles and recipes. No writing – just awesome pictures. When you click on the pictures, you're connected to the website or blog that they came from. So Pinterest becomes an instant library of collections of things you love.

The Hopscotch link is www.pinterest.com/hopscotchelc/. You can also join up with Pinterest and become a Hopscotch follower - any time we add new pictures, you'll be notified by email. Happy Pinning!

Fees

Just a reminder that your weekly fees are set regardless of whether or not your child is absent. We are happy to discuss refunds for optional charges for absences over two weeks, but otherwise it's expected that fees will be paid as posted.



Healthy Eating at ELC

We are currently focusing on healthy food options at the Early Learning Centre and are increasingly concerned as to the amount of “wrapped”, treat foods that are being provided for lunch. Just take a look at our planning board to see all the wrappers!!! We have ideas for lunchboxes on the board and we encourage you to take a look and see how you can support us and your children in this area.



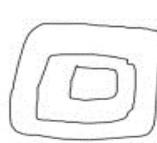
Children's Drawing Stages

At first your child will be more interested in the process of drawing than in the end result. This is quite normal. Avoid asking your child direct questions about what they have drawn or telling your child what to draw as this will gradually limit their creativity. Resist temptation to draw for your child—most adult drawings are very stereotyped, in addition your child may refuse to draw if your drawings are better. Colouring books do not encourage young children to express themselves, and can be very disheartening as they rarely have the motor control to keep within the lines.

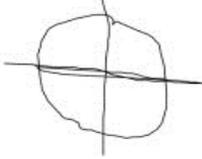
Following experimentation with the basic scribbles, children will begin to link what they know, create new shapes, new designs and will proceed through the following stages prior to creating representational art and prior to drawing and writing.



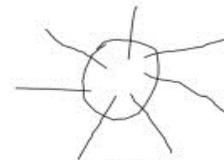
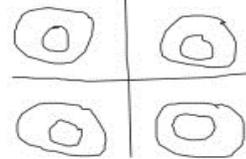
IMPLIED DIAGRAMS AND SHAPES



AGGREGATES - 3 OR MORE SHAPES



MANDALA – DIVIDING SPACE INTO EQUAL PARTS



SUNS

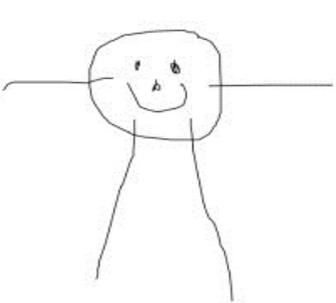


RADIALS



SUNS WITH FACES

HUMANOIDS



HUMANS

