

# HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool  
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



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## Diary Dates

2nd December: Otorohanga Christmas Parade  
7th December: Preschool visit Beattie Home  
7th December: Children's Party for all Hopscotch families  
12th December: Santa visits Hopscotch  
15th December: End of Term 4  
23rd December: Hopscotch closes at 12 noon  
9th January: Hopscotch reopens at 8am



### January Holidays

Please let us know as soon as possible if your child will be absent during January. Remember that "20 hours ECE" will stop automatically after a continuous absence of more than three weeks—on any day that your child is booked in. Full fees will be charged when the "20 hours ECE" funding stops.

### Otorohanga Christmas Parade

Preschool are planning and organising our float for the Otorohanga Christmas Parade this year. This has been set for **Friday 2nd December** and usually starts at around **7pm**. Please let us know if your child would like to be part of the parade, by giving their name to a staff member at either centre. A flier was left in your family pocket last week regarding the Parade.

### Children's Christmas Party

**Wednesday 7th December:** We will be having our annual Hopscotch disco, which will include both centres at the **Early Learning Centre**. The party will start at **6pm**, there will be juice provided and a sausage sizzle available for \$1.00.

### Santa's Visit

**Monday 12th December:** Santa will be visiting both Hopscotch centres. His sleigh is due at the Early Learning Centre at **10.00am** and then at Preschool at **10.30 am**. Please feel free to come along with your child to meet Santa. As in the past Santa will give a present to the children for the Centre.

### A Date to Remember

Hopscotch will close at **12noon** on **Friday 23rd December**. Your children will need to be collected by 12noon at the latest so that staff can carry out the annual clean-up jobs. Hopscotch re-opens on **Monday 9th January 2017** at **8am**.

### Accounts

Just a reminder that accounts are to be paid weekly unless otherwise arranged.

**Your account must be settled in full before Christmas. Failure to do so could result in losing your child's booking next year.**



### Policies for review

The following policies are due to be reviewed: Fees and Paddling Pool. Please take the time to read them and provide feedback to any of the staff. Thank you.

### Preschool are winners

Our Preschool garden entry into the Beattie Home Rose Show won **FIRST PRIZE!!** The children's garden creations were presented within a recycled timber frame. The children have been very busy in the garden over the last few months, which resulted in us receiving the winning entry! Awesome effort everyone!!



### Water Play at Hopscotch

Now that Summer is officially here and the weather is becoming hot, we will be exploring with more water play. Could you please include a **NAMED** towel in your child's day bag and at least one change of clothing.

### Naming belongings

It is essential that children's belongings including shoes and hats are named when brought into the centres. There are several children with identical items and this avoids any confusion.



### Family Updates

#### Early Learning Centre

We say goodbye to Archie and Sean who are moving up to the Preschool in the New Year.

### Preschool

We welcome Archie, Honor and Sean in the New Year.

We farewell Kadie who is leaving the area.

We also say goodbye to Alexis, Charley, Fletcher, Grace, Maia and Ronan who are off to continue their learning journey at school in Term One 2017.



### Staff Updates

- We are pleased to let you know that Vanessa has agreed to stay on at Preschool, working three days a week from Wednesday to Friday.
- Please join us in welcoming Clare Fraser to Preschool. Clare is a Qualified Teacher and has been relieving at Hopscotch for quite some time. Clare picks up Monday and Tuesday permanently. Please feel free to introduce yourself.
- Please also join us in welcoming Kina Tucker to the Early Learning Centre. Kina has come to us from a centre in Waiouru and is a fully Qualified Teacher. She will be working Monday to Friday. Please feel free to introduce yourself.

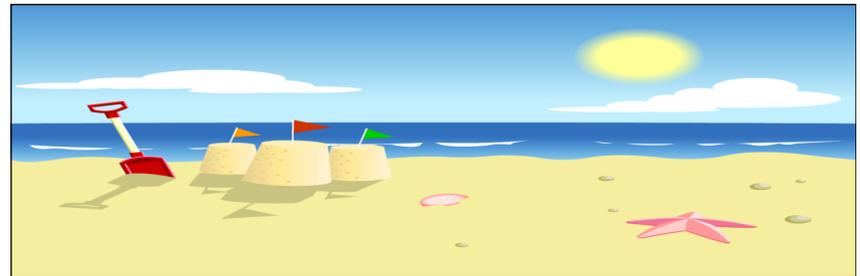
# Enjoy the Summer...SAFELY

You're on holiday at the beach or visiting friends with a pool. All it takes is one momentary lapse of concentration for your child to wander off.

In New Zealand most of us grow up around or near water. It's something we take for granted. While it's fun and familiar, every year around 10 children under the age of 5 drown—and lack of adult supervision is the common factor. Supervision, without any distractions, is the single most important precaution you can take to keep your kids safe around water.

Water Safety New Zealand encourages all parents to introduce children to water in a positive manner. Encouraging children to explore and learn from water promotes an understanding and appreciation of the dangers of water. Whether at home in the bath or paddling pool, at a pool or at the beach, it is important to introduce children to water in a relaxing way. We can help to ensure that they learn to behave safely and responsibly in and around water without ruining their enjoyment or instilling a fear of water.

Have a splashing good time in the water these holidays!!!



**Thank you for your support throughout the year.  
We hope you all have a Happy Christmas and we look  
forward to lots of fun and laughter in 2017.**

