

# HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool  
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



## Pānui Hui-Tanguru

### Newsletter FEBRUARY 2017

Early Learning Childcare Centre  
11 Bledisloe Avenue

07 873 8732  
027 773 8732

Preschool  
59 Haerehuka Street

07 873 8739  
027 773 8739

Charlotte Clapcott—Licensee—email: happy@hopscotch.kiwi

## Diary Dates

30th January:	Auckland Anniversary Day - <b>HOPSCOTCH CLOSED</b>
1st February:	Term One starts
6th February:	Waitangi Day - <b>HOPSCOTCH CLOSED</b>
7th February:	B4 School Checks - 4 year olds
8th February:	Wheels Day - Early Learning Centre
13th February:	Swimming at town pools starts - Preschool



### Welcome back

We hope you all had a safe and happy Christmas break and we welcome aboard all our new families to both the Early Learning Centre and the Preschool. If you have any queries or concerns, please remember we are here to help. If you'd like an appointment, feel free to ask a member of staff.

Please remember our opening hours: Children must not be left before 8am and must be collected by 5.15pm. Please call us if your child is not going to attend for any reason, and also let us know if you will be late. **You can call on the centre landlines or text the mobiles**—our numbers are on the front of this newsletter.

Accounts must be paid on a weekly basis unless other arrangements have been made with Michelle or Gina. You can pay by EFTPOS, cash, cheque or online banking. Our bank details are on the top of your weekly invoice. Please use your child's name as a reference.



### Slip, Slop, Slap and Wrap

**October to April** is when the ultraviolet radiation from the sun's rays is most intense in New Zealand. This is a reminder to you about sun protection for your children. We ask that you bring a named sunhat for your child. Children will not be allowed to play outside during the next few months without a protective hat and clothing. Please ensure your children's shoulders are covered and they do not wear string singlets. Hopscotch will provide and apply SPF30+ sunscreen as required. If your child requires alternative sunblock to the one we provide please bring your own named bottle. As we will also be increasing our water play please also ensure a change of lighter weight **NAMED** clothing, appropriate togs and a towel in their bag.



### Swimming at Preschool

The children at Preschool will have the opportunity to visit the town pools during February. This will help with increasing confidence in the water and give them a good awareness of basic water safety. This will only be possible with the help of parent support, so please see a teacher if you are able to offer your time.

### Policies for review

The following policies are due to be reviewed: Custodial Arrangements, Financial, First Aid, Philosophy. Please take the time to read them and provide feedback to any of the staff. Thank you.

### Mobile Ear Clinic

The mobile ear clinic will be visiting Otorohanga on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February. This is a Free Ear Clinic Service for children. They can help with glue ear assessment and management, grommet checks, wax/foreign body removal and treatment of discharging ears. They'll be at the Otorohanga Club Carpark from 9.15am to 2pm. For enquiries regarding this service, please contact 07 838 3565.



### B4 School Hearing & Vision checks

The vision/hearing technician from Waikids will be visiting the Preschool on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 10am. Vicki Dixon will see four year old children who have not been seen for the above checks, or require re-checks from a previous visit. Parents will be notified of all outcomes from these checks and may be advised that their child requires a re-check or to seek further advice from another health professional. If you do not wish your child to be checked, or your child is currently under specialist care for their hearing or vision, please let us know.



### Family Updates

#### Early Learning Centre

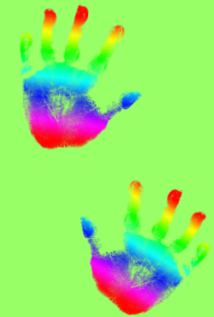
We welcome Archer and Jack. We farewell Archie, Guy, Sean and Thomas who are moving up to the Preschool. We also say goodbye to Bethany.

#### Preschool

We welcome Honor. We also welcome Archie, Guy, Sean and Thomas from the Early Learning Centre.

#### Staff Updates

- \* We are sad to let you know that Gwen is leaving Hopscotch at the end of the holidays. Gwen trained in primary teaching and she's decided it's time to make the change. Gwen has worked at Hopscotch for 9 years and will be missed. Please wish her well in her new endeavours.
- \* As a result of Gwen leaving, we're happy to announce that Clare will be picking up a couple of extra days. Vanessa will also continue to be Centre Supervisor.
- \* Before Christmas Nicole resigned from her position at the Early Learning Centre. She has now left and we wish her all the best with her studies in Primary School teaching.
- \* We're very happy to announce that Ann-Maree Jones will be joining the ELC team as a qualified teacher. Annie brings with her a wealth of childcare experience, having owned and managed her own centre for many years. She recently sold "Annie's" and is excited to now be back full time teaching. Annie is very passionate about early childhood and the ELC are delighted to have her join the team.



**If children played all their childhood, they would be ready for life. They would be emotionally strong and would have all the basic skills to handle life. Our anxiety for children to know certain things at specific ages is an enormous obstacle to trusting and allowing their natural development. When children play, they are the only qualified authors of this magical process. It is rarely too late to acquire knowledge but often it is dangerously too early and out of harmony with the internal journey of the child.**

Naomi Aldort

