

HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



**PĀNUI
PIPIRI**

**NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2016**

Early Learning Childcare Centre
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Preschool
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Diary Dates

- 6th June: Queen's Birthday - HOPSCOTCH CLOSED**
6th June: Matariki Celebrations Begin
7th June: Hearing/Vision Checks for Four Year Olds at Preschool
8th June: Dress Up Day - Preschool
21st June: Pyjama Day - Early Learning Centre



Special Persons at Hopscotch

A big thanks to all the special people who attended the "special persons" morning/afternoon at both centres. We loved having you here sharing your time with us.



B4 School Hearing & Vision checks

The vision/hearing technician from Waikids will be visiting the Preschool on Tuesday 7th June 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.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent, please advise the centre every day of their absence either by phone or txt. All phone numbers are on the front of this newsletter. Thank you for your cooperation.

Warmer Clothing

Now that the weather is turning cooler, please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately with plenty of spare NAMED clothing.



Lost Property

So much to see!!! Please can parents check through our lost property. Any items remaining will be donated to the Op Shop.

Policies for review

The following policies are due to be reviewed: Accident, Child Health, Medicines, Pest and Vermin. Please take the time to read them and provide feedback to any of the staff. Thank you.

Firewood For Sale

Please call Logan Shaw 027 772 6921.



Family Updates

Early Learning Centre

We welcome Annabel, Ariya, Eli, Isabella, Mila, Olive and Ruby. We farewell Cole and Ryden who are moving up to the Preschool. We also say goodbye to Jackson who is leaving the area.

Preschool

We welcome Ashly to Preschool. We also welcome Cole and Ryden from the Early Learning Centre. We farewell Levi, Talysha and Tyler who are off to continue their learning journey at school. We also say goodbye to Dylan who has left the area.



Staff Updates

- * We're all very sad to let you know that Ness has resigned from the Preschool. After eight years of educating and caring for your children, Ness has made the huge decision to go travelling! Ness' last day will be Wednesday 8th June. Please join us in giving her a fantastic farewell and we wish her all the best in everything she does.
- * The Preschool have been working on a restructure of staff to create more continuity and consistency throughout the day. From 30th May we'll be changing our staffing levels so that we have three qualified teachers all day, and a lunch cover role to cover time off the floor for profile work and breaks. This has resulted in Lauren and Erna continuing as full-time teachers, with Vanessa and Gwen as the joint supervisors. Leanne will join us in the new role as Preschool Support. Unfortunately, Leonie will no longer have a position at Hopscotch but we hope that she'll continue to work with us as a reliever. Leonie has been at Hopscotch for four years and will be missed by the teachers and children alike. We wish her well and hope that we'll continue to see her at Hopscotch. If you have any queries or concerns regarding our new staffing format, please don't hesitate to talk to Vanessa or Gwen.

PRESCHOOL MATTING

UPGRADE

Hooray!!! Preschool have recently replaced the old black matting with tiger turf....what a difference this has made to the playground area!!



MATARIKI

What is Matariki?

Matariki is the Māori name for the cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades.

Different tribes celebrated Matariki at different times. For some it was when Matariki rose in May/June. For others it was celebrated at the first new moon, or full moon, following the rising of Matariki. In the 21st century it is the new moon following the rising of Matariki that signals the New Year.

In 2016, Matariki, the Māori New Year, will start on 6th June.

Matariki literally means the 'eyes of god' (mata ariki) or 'little eyes' (mata riki). According to myth, when Ranginui, the sky father, and Papatūānuku, the earth mother, were separated by their children, the god of the winds, Tāwhirimātea, became so angry that he tore out his eyes and threw them into the heavens.