

# HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool  
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



Pānui  
Whiringa-ā-Rangi

Newsletter  
November 2015

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## Diary Dates

3rd November: Ruben Road Safety Bear Visit (Preschool)  
18th & 19th Nov: ERO at Early Learning Centre  
19th November: Teddy Bears Picnic (Preschool)  
4th December: Otorohanga Christmas Parade  
9th December: Children's Party for all Hopscotch families  
14th December: Santa visits Hopscotch  
16th December: End of Term 4  
23rd December: Hopscotch closes at 2pm  
7th 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.



## Children's Christmas Party

**Wednesday 9th December:** We will be having our annual Hopscotch disco, which will include both centres at the **Preschool**. The party will start at **6pm**, there will be soft drinks provided and a sausage sizzle available for \$1.00. Who will be able to guess the correct number of lollies in the jar this year?



## Otorohanga Christmas Parade

The Early Learning Centre is planning and organising our float for the Otorohanga Christmas Parade this year. This has been set for **Friday 4th 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. Please see the flier in your family pocket regarding the Parade.



## Santa's Visit

**Monday 14th 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 **2pm** on **Wednesday 23rd December**. Your children will need to be collected by 2pm at the latest so that staff can carry out the annual clean-up jobs. Hopscotch re-opens on **Thursday 7th January 2016** at 8am.

### Sunsmart

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. Hopscotch will provide and apply SPF30+ sunscreen as required. If your child requires alternative sunblock to please let a teacher know and bring your own named bottle.

### 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.**

### Education Review Office Visit

ERO will be visiting the Early Learning Centre on **18th and 19th November**. They will explore how well governance, management, leadership, partnership with parents and whanau, curriculum design and teaching practices are contributing to children's learning and wellbeing. ERO will talk to adults and children, look at documents and observe aspects of the programme. They are very interested in how we consult parents and whanau, and how we support you to participate in your child's learning. If you have time to talk with one of the ERO team whilst they are here, it would be greatly appreciated.

### House to rent

Does anyone have or know of someone that may have a 3 bedroom house to rent in Otorohanga or the surrounding districts. If so, could you please leave the details at Preschool. Thank you.

### Family Updates

#### Early Learning Centre

We welcome Jacob. We farewell Charley, Grace, Ronan, Raven, Saane & Samuel who are moving up to Preschool. We also say goodbye to Kyrin, Renee-Faye, and Sasha.

#### Preschool

We welcome Charley, Grace, Kurt, Matahi, Piri, Raven, Ronan, Saane & Samuel to Preschool. And we farewell our friends Jasmine, Lily & Sienna who are off to continue their learning journey at school.

#### Staff Updates

- Gina & Michelle will be attending the Administrator's Big Day Out, designed specifically for administrators in New Zealand ECE centres.
- ELC are attending a team Professional Development course on Behaviour Management.



## GUY FAWKES FIREWORK SAFETY

New Zealanders celebrate Guy Fawkes Night on 5 November every year. Unfortunately around this time there is also an increase in fireworks-related callouts and injuries. If you are lighting fireworks, we have put together some tips to help you stay safe.

## LIGHTING YOUR FIREWORKS

- Read the fireworks' instructions. Be careful to follow the manufacturer's instructions when using them.
- Light your fireworks in a wide-open area. Keep away from anything that could catch fire
- Fireworks and alcohol/drugs are a dangerous combination.
- Always let an adult light the fireworks. • Keep a bucket of water or a hose handy.
- Keep all unlit fireworks in their box or bag until you are ready to light them.
- Leave dud fireworks alone. Trying to relight them is unsafe.
- If you do get burned, hold your burn under running water for 20 minutes. Think about others.
- Put away the fireworks after 10:30pm.
- Keep your pets inside on Guy Fawkes Night.
- Point fireworks at the stars, not your mates.

