

# HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool  
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



Pānui  
Whiringa-ā-Rangi

Newsletter  
November 2016

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## Diary Dates



4th November: Crazy Hair/Hat Day - Early Learning Centre  
7th November: B4 School Checks - 4 year olds  
23rd November: Teddy Bears Picnic - Preschool  
2nd December: Otorohanga Christmas Parade  
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 12pm  
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

The 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. Please see the flier in your family pocket 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 **12pm** on **Friday 23rd December**. Your children will need to be collected by 12pm at the latest so that staff can carry out the annual clean-up jobs. Hopscotch re-opens on **Monday 9th January 2017** at **8am**.

### 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 and a towel in their bag.

### 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.**

### Japanese student

We have a Japanese student volunteering at local schools and Hopscotch next year. She will require accommodation for three months from Feb-Apr while she is visiting New Zealand. If there are any families who may be interested in this opportunity or know of anyone that would be, please see Gina at the Preschool for more information.



### Family Updates

#### Early Learning Centre

We welcome Brenner, Rylee, Ty and Xander to The Early Learning Centre.

We farewell Braxton and Chase who are moving up to the Preschool. We also say goodbye to Raghav.

#### Preschool

We welcome Daniel, Lily, Luca, Nevaeh and Olivia to Preschool. We also welcome Braxton and Chase from the Early Learning Centre.

We farewell Fletcher and Raven who are off to continue their learning journey at school.



We also say goodbye to Dhruv and Rajni.



## 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.

