

HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



Pānui
Pipiri

Newsletter
June 2014

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Diary Dates

2nd June: Queens Birthday (Closed)
3rd June: 4 year old B4 School Checks
6th June: Footloose dress rehearsal at Oto College
11th June: Mr McGee & Biting Flea Show
13th June: Dress Up Day (Preschool)

Early Learning Centre Playground

Hopefully you've all seen the full page spread in the Waitomo News regarding our playground upgrade at the Early Learning Centre. Stage One of the plans has already begun and work will continue into next week. It's already looking amazing so come on down and take a look. We'll be booking in Stage Two for January next year. In the meantime, look out for exciting changes that are happening at Hopscotch on an ongoing basis.

Transport at Preschool

Our planning is changing and we are now following on from the children's interests. Our new centre plan will focus on Transport. Take a look at our planning board and have a chat with the teachers about how you can be involved.

Wheels Day

What a great day for wheels! However, the weather didn't deter either the children or the teachers and some inventive ways of incorporating wheels were included in the day. Well done everyone!!!

Footloose

The Otorohanga College have invited Hopscotch to attend the dress rehearsal of Footloose. Some of the children will be able to attend for a short while—this should be a great show so buy your tickets for the real thing and have a fun night out.

Mr McGee & The Biting Flea

We still have a couple of tickets available for this amazing show. Please ask at the Preschool if you're interested in attending.

Policies for review



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

Matariki Celebrations



Sunday 29th June: "Matariki", is a group of stars commonly known as the "seven sisters". They appear in the eastern sky, sometime around the shortest day of the year. This also symbolises the coming of the Maori New Year. It is believed the brighter this group of stars are, the more productive the harvest will be in the upcoming year. Both centres are learning about and celebrating Matariki during June.

Welcome All New Families



Welcome to all the families that have recently moved to the Otorohanga District. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to talk to one of the staff members. Please ensure that all your child's belongings are NAMED and a set of spare clothes are in their bags— particularly in the winter season.

Preschool Dress-Up Day

This will be held on Friday 13th June—no theme but could be a scary event! Don your best costume and join in the fun.

Staff Updates

- ⇒ Please welcome Barbara Jones to Hopscotch as one of our lovely relievers. Barbara has a wealth of experience with new entrant children working at Otorohanga South School.
- ⇒ Charlotte will be away from Hopscotch from 3rd to 30th June. She is travelling overseas to catch up with family.

Autumn is here—or is it already winter ?!

The days are shorter, the nights are longer, it's cold and wet and windy. What can you do with your children? Here are some autumnal activities to get you going—



- ⇒ go on a nature walk and collect as you go. You'll be amazed what you can find. Look out for leaves, seeds, birds feathers, conkers, pine cones.
- ⇒ Lay out all the things you've collected and sort them into shapes, colours etc.
- ⇒ Cut out a piece of card to fit your head, with extra length to attach the ends. Tape lots and lots of leaves to the card and create a crown or mask.
- ⇒ Make a natural frame to show off a painting or photograph. Cut a frame with wide edges out of cardboard. Stick on all kinds of leaves, seeds, feathers, twigs, pine cones and anything else you can find!