

HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



Early Learning Childcare Centre
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Preschool
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Diary Dates

1st December: Otorohanga Christmas Parade
6th December: Children's Party for all Hopscotch families
11th December: Santa visits Hopscotch
13th December: Preschool visit Beattie Home
15th December: End of Term 4
22nd December: Hopscotch closes at 12 noon
8th 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 Early Learning Centre are planning and organising our float for the Otorohanga Christmas Parade this year. This has been set for **Friday 1st December** and starts at a new time of **6.30pm**. 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. A flier was left in your family pocket regarding the Parade.

Children's Christmas Party

Wednesday 6th 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 juice provided and a sausage sizzle available for \$1.00.

Santa's Visit

Monday 11th 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 **12noon** on **Friday 22nd December**. Your children will need to be collected by 12noon at the latest so that staff can carry out the annual clean-up jobs. Hopscotch re-opens on **Monday 8th January 2018** at **8am**.

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.



Policies for review

The following policies are due to be reviewed: Fees and Paddling Pool. Please take the time to read them and provide feedback to any of the staff. Thank you.



Water Play at Hopscotch

Now that Summer is officially here and the weather is becoming hot, we will be exploring with more water play. Could you please include a **NAMED** towel in your child's day bag and at least one change of clothing.

Naming belongings

It is essential that children's belongings including shoes and hats are named when brought into the centres. There are several children with identical items and this avoids any confusion.



Family Updates

Early Learning Centre

We welcome Tristan to the Early Learning Centre.

We say goodbye to Archie, Hannah and Indie who are moving up to the Preschool in the New Year.

Preschool

We welcome Archie, Hannah and Indie from the Early Learning Centre in the New Year.

We say goodbye to Ashton, Chase, Jazmin, Meili and Ryan who are off to continue their learning journey at school in Term One 2018.



Staff Updates

- We farewell Clare who has chosen to spend more time with her family. Her last day was on November 14th. We wish her well for her future.
- We're sad to be saying goodbye to Vanessa at the end of January. Vanessa has been with us for 5 years, initially working at ELC, then moving to Preschool where she is now the Supervisor. Vanessa will be greatly missed at the Preschool. Good luck Vanessa!
- We welcome on board Ali & Danielle who will be relievers in both centres.
- We're also excited to welcome Annette to the Preschool teaching team in January. Annette is a qualified primary teacher and has recently been working with preschool children in Te Awamutu. She also has extensive specialist education experience working with children with special needs.

Enjoy the Summer...SAFELY

You're on holiday at the beach or visiting friends with a pool. All it takes is one momentary lapse of concentration for your child to wander off.

In New Zealand most of us grow up around or near water. It's something we take for granted. While it's fun and familiar, every year around 10 children under the age of 5 drown—and lack of adult supervision is the common factor. Supervision, without any distractions, is the single most important precaution you can take to keep your kids safe around water.

Water Safety New Zealand encourages all parents to introduce children to water in a positive manner. Encouraging children to explore and learn from water promotes an understanding and appreciation of the dangers of water. Whether at home in the bath or paddling pool, at a pool or at the beach, it is important to introduce children to water in a relaxing way. We can help to ensure that they learn to behave safely and responsibly in and around water without ruining their enjoyment or instilling a fear of water.

Have a splashing good time in the water these holidays!!!



**Thank you for your support throughout the year.
We hope you all have a Happy Christmas and we look forward to lots of fun and laughter in 2018.**

