

# HOPSCOTCH

Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool  
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



**Pānui  
Mahuru**



**Newsletter  
September 2019**

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## Diary Dates

9th Sept: Māori Language Week  
12th Sept: Mobile Ear Clinic  
27th Sept: Term Three Ends  
29th Sept: Daylight Savings Ends  
14th Oct: Term Four Starts



### Why are our teachers away from the centre?

Sometimes our teachers are absent for reasons such as a holiday, illness or family. They'll also be away undertaking professional learning development ('PLD'). Research confirms that the **most important factor** contributing to a child's success is the **leadership and quality of teaching**. For us to be as effective as possible, our teachers are continually strengthening and expanding their knowledge and skills to ensure they implement best practice. Effective PLD focuses on the skills our teachers need in order to address our children's learning challenges - and it will therefore increase the learning and achievement of our children. PLD at Hopscotch comes in many different contexts: a conference, seminar or workshop; online webinars; collaborative learning among our teaching team; a course; discussions amongst our teachers on the floor or at staff meetings; independent reading and research; observations of others; mentoring and learning from peers. It may occur: during our regular day; at Hopscotch after hours; after hours on a teacher's own time; at the weekend; during days that we set aside for PLD.



### Special Male/Persons Afternoon

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

### Daylight Savings Starts

**Sunday 29th September: Fantastic!!**

Daylight savings starts. Please remember to turn your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on the Saturday night.



## Policies for review

The following policies are due to be reviewed: Planning, Assessment & Evaluation, Smoking & Sun Smart. Our policies are on our website, please take the time to read them and provide feedback to any of the staff. Thank you.



## Mobile Ear Clinic

The mobile ear clinic will be visiting Otorohanga on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September. This is a Free Ear Clinic Service for children. They can help with glue ear assessment and management, grommet checks, wax/foreign body removal and treatment of discharging ears. They'll be at the Otorohanga Club Carpark from 12.30 to 3.00pm. For enquiries regarding this service, please contact 07 838 3565.

## Asthma Waikato is here to help, free of charge.

Asthma Waikato offers FREE asthma consults for families of children aged 0-15, living in the Waikato, who struggle with asthma. We accept self referrals.

If your child suffers from asthma and you would like some help getting on top of it, please visit [www.asthmawaikato.org.nz](http://www.asthmawaikato.org.nz) and fill in the online referral form by clicking the blue button top right "Make a Referral". We are here to help.

## Family Updates



### Early Learning Centre

We welcome Devin and Kobe to the Early Learning Centre.

We say goodbye to Isla who is moving up to the Preschool.

We also farewell Luka who is leaving the area.

### Preschool

We welcome Arianah to Preschool.

We also welcome Isla from the Early Learning Centre.

## Staff Updates

\* We're sorry to say that Leia will be leaving us on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Leia has been our friendly face at reception at the ELC. She has a new position in Te Awamutu where she can be closer to home. We're currently looking for a replacement and Charlotte will fill the position until that time.



## Māori Language Week

*Ko tōku nui, tōku wehi, tōku whakatiketike, tōku reo.*

*My language is my greatness, my inspiration, that which I hold precious.*

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa. Greetings to you all.

The dates of 9 - 15 September 2019 are the next Te Wiki o te Reo Māori | Māori Language Week. September 14 is Māori Language Day commemorating the presentation of the 1972 petition on the Māori Language to parliament. Hundreds of people now celebrate September as Mahuru Māori, in which they dedicate themselves to speaking only Māori.

The theme this year will again be 'Kia Kaha te Reo Māori' following on from the success of last year. 'Kia Kaha' is well known in New Zealand English with its correct Māori meaning of 'be strong'. We often talk about languages as if they are people - talking about language health, strength and revitalisation. So when we say 'Kia Kaha te Reo Māori' we're saying -  
'Let's make the Māori language strong'.

