



Early Learning Childcare Centre & Preschool  
Otorohanga



Giving your child a jump start



**Pānui**  
**Hui-Tanguru**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**FEBRUARY 2021**

Early Learning Childcare Centre  
11 Bledisloe Avenue

07 873 8732  
027 773 8732

Preschool  
59 Haerehuka Street

07 873 8739  
027 773 8739

Charlotte Clapcott—Licensee—email: preschool@hopscotch.kiwi

## Diary Dates



1st Feb: Auckland Anniversary Day - **HOPSCOTCH CLOSED**  
3rd Feb: School Term One Starts  
3rd Feb: Swimming at Town Pools starts - Preschool  
8th Feb: Alternative Waitangi Day - **HOPSCOTCH CLOSED**

### Welcome back



We hope you all had a safe and happy Christmas break and we welcome aboard all our new families to both the Early Learning Centre and the Preschool. If you have any queries or concerns, please remember we are here to help. If you'd like an appointment, feel free to ask a member of staff.

Please remember our opening hours: Children must not be left before 8am and must be collected by 5.15pm. Please call us if your child is not going to attend for any reason, and also let us know if you will be late. **You can call on the centre landlines or text the mobiles**—our numbers are on the front of this newsletter.

Accounts must be paid on a weekly basis unless other arrangements have been made with Charlotte, Gina or Vickie. You can pay by EFTPOS, cash, cheque or online banking. Our bank details are on the top of your weekly invoice. Please use your child's name as a reference.

### Changes to foods permitted in early childhood centres

Please read our email or flyer about how to reduce food related choking in infants and young children. Hopscotch is required to alter the foods we offer to lower its choking risk and we will be implementing this in stages over the next few weeks. Parents are not required to follow these guidelines. However, we do recommend that you alter foods to suit the age and stage of your children to reduce the risk of choking.

### Arrival times at ELC

The teachers are finding it increasingly difficult to manage the ELC mat times when children are being dropped off. Our mat time is held at 9.15am so that we can then have our meal times spread appropriately through the day. This enables our children to eat regularly and have minimal disruption to their play time. We have made a conscious decision not to book children with starting hours between 9.00am and 9.30am.

Please ensure that your children are dropped off at their booked times, but if you're running late, please arrive before 9.00am or after 9.30am. If you arrive between these times and your child is upset, we may require you to stay with them until mat time is over. Your cooperation will be very much appreciated.

## Policies for review

The following policies are due to be reviewed: Custodial Arrangements, Financial, First Aid, Philosophy. Please take the time to read them and provide feedback to any of the staff. Thank you.

## Swimming at Preschool

The children at Preschool will have the opportunity to visit the town pools during February. This will help with increasing confidence in the water and give them a good awareness of basic water safety. This will only be possible with the help of parent support, so please see a teacher if you're able to offer a couple of hours of your time.



## Slip, Slop, Slap and Wrap

September 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. Please ensure your children's shoulders are covered and they do not wear string singlets. Children not wearing a hat or appropriate clothing are required to play in allocated shaded areas or indoors. 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.



## Family Updates

### Early Learning Centre



We welcome Cali, Gus, Willow and Zac to the Early Learning Centre.

We say goodbye to Aarlie, Amaya, Ava, Dean, Ellita, Evie, Hamish, Luna, Lynlee, Romi, Sam, Sophie, Taonui & Thomas who are moving up to the Preschool.

### Preschool

We welcome Aarlie, Ava, Dean, Evie, Luna, Lynlee, Romi, Sam, Taonui & Thomas from the Early Learning Centre.

We also welcome Kraytoz and Nichole to Preschool.

We farewell Braedyn, Devin B, Ellie, Noah & Ryder who are off to continue her learning journey at school.



## Staff Updates

\* Please welcome Christine to the Preschool. Christine is now working as the Preschool Support teacher and will be preparing teas and supporting teachers on the floor. We're excited to have Christine join our team and become part of the Hopscotch family.

# Kawhia Kai Festival



Saturday 6th February

9am - 5pm Kawhia Township

Gold Coin Donation

Anyone interested in stalls please contact: Marj Kaati -jmkaati@gmail.com