

# Kids 1<sup>st</sup> Childcare & Learning

**Centre** Ph: 4321411

**NEWSLETTER February 2017**

Tena koutou katoa he mihi mahana ki a koutou. Hello everyone, greetings to you all. Time is flying; always does when having fun, and we certainly are having fun at Kids 1<sup>st</sup>. A big welcome to Tyler Lunjevich and his family, welcome to Waipu along with Lucy Hoddle who knows the place well with both her brothers having



attended. Haere ra and happy school days to Levi, who is starting school in March.

Sparkle has come back for the children to enjoy riding and caring for her. She is a very quiet pony and adores all the attention. Lots of the children have been riding her and those that don't want to we just allow them time to become

confident around her; working towards just patting her, brushing her and eventually sitting on her. Some of the children have become so confident they are waving to everyone as they ride by.

## Dates to remember:

**Fridays 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Nature Programme excursions (for the eldest 9 children participating every second Friday) please be at the centre by 8.00 a.m. Bring water and suitable footwear please. Please let us know when you can be a parent helper.

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March Monthly Coffee Morning.**

**Drop in for a coffee and baking around 9.45a.m.**



**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March**

**Pukapuka Party!!**

Early Childhood Education providers and Primary Schools are working together to create the "Bream Bay Learning Community" providing a wonderful fun day out. Bring a picnic and enjoy the day.

**Whakatau/informal welcome & BBQ - Tuesday 4 April 5.30 pm**

## Staff Update

Amber graduated last weekend! Three years of study culminating with a Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education.)



Congratulations Amber, we are so very proud of you. Christie is returning from maternity leave on 13 March, welcome back Christie, we have all missed you! Christie will be working Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Robyn has decided to drop back to two days a week which will be Wednesday and Thursday. A big welcome to Lana Doherty who many of you have met whilst she has been relieving here. From 13<sup>th</sup> March we will be staffing for 37 children. This is the position Lana will be filling; starting off with Wednesday and Friday, and when our numbers increase also on Monday. We are now open from 7.30a.m. to 5.00p.m. to accommodate families who need longer hours. If you wish to book your child in for an early start or late finish you are most welcome. Spaces are filling up quickly so if you are keen for your child to attend another day please see Sally or Noela as soon as possible.

Jordan Ford and Wendy Rowsell are job sharing the Educational Support Worker position this term they are both very much appreciated.

## Maori Language

To promote Maori language within the community each month we include a little Te Reo Maori. Try this when reading a book to your child: "Homai te pukapuka" (Pass me the book.)

The following English equivalents are a rough guide to pronouncing vowels in Te Reo Maori:

a (as in far)	e (as in desk) (short and sharp)
i (as in fee, me, see)	o (as in awe) (not oh!)
u (as in new)	

**Lost Property**...please check. Please label all of your child's clothing, bag, lunch box, etc.

**Healthy Eating and Active Movement = Healthy Children**

## LET'S GO WATER ONLY!

**Sugary drinks include fizzy drinks, juice and flavoured milk. They provide empty calories instead of the nutrient dense foods needed to fuel growing bodies.**

**Sugary drinks are linked to weight gain and can cause tooth decay, Type 2 diabetes and heart disease.**

**Water is the best way to rehydrate unless you're doing more than 90 minutes of intense exercise.**

**Swap sugary drinks with water, water infused with fruit and herbs such as berries, lemon, apple and mint or serve plain milk.**

**Make water the main drink at meal times and offer plain milk regularly. Keep anything sweet for special occasions.**

**Go water only by providing only**

**Water and plain milk to drink.**

**Source: Heart Foundation**

## Active Movement

Our new skateboards are very popular; great for our children's balance, developing responsibility for their own safety, courage, taking managed risks and more. Have you taken your children to the skateboard park in Ruakaka and Mangawhai, both are worth a try.

*Mason Hansen with a skateboard.*







Climbing is great for crossing mid-lines, balance, managed risk taking, courage and confidence.  
*Mason Costain and Lila Knight scaling the climbing wall;*

*what a great sense of achievement to reach the top!*

Our Nature Programme...

Encouraging conservation so our tamariki respect and protect our world's tohunga (treasures) is something we try to develop as part of our programme. Nikki discusses the signage at Waipu Cove with the children.



The Arts...

Exploration of art materials gives children the opportunity to experiment and discover; to make their own theories about how things work in their world.



*Becky experiments creatively with playdough (above.) Lucy loves to paint! (left) Ciara-lee has explored the process of*

*screen printing, developing more intricate prints as she experiments, explores and discovers this form of art.*



Social Relationships... This is an area we highly value and work with children to help them develop.

*Tait, Tyler and Jet play a game of fishing for sharks!*

*Through play children develop social skills, communication skills, contribute, explore and develop a sense of belonging.*



Many of our children have been riding Sparkle! Riding is great for our balance skills and confidence. Learning to love, care for and respect animals is something we highly value at Kids 1<sup>st</sup>.



Ka kite ano. Noela, Sally, Amber, Sarah, Nikki, Robyn, Jordan and Wendy.