

Kids 1st Childcare & Learning

Centre Ph: 4321411

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019

Kia ora whanau, haere mai. Welcome back to Kids 1st, we wish you all a very happy new year, with lots of love and happiness ahead. Haere mai and welcome to Charlie Palmer, Lily Jones, Thea Pearce, Xavius Colmer, Beau Shanks, Brooke Wilson and their whanau. We look forward to getting to know you all. Welcome back to Neko McAulay and his whanau. Otis and Vann Roughton are staying on at Kids 1st for now. A lot of our tamariki are heading off to school; haere ra and best wishes for happy school days to Spencer Moncur, Liam Hall, Rosie Mackay and Zoe Graham.



Congratulations to Christie and Sean whose baby girl Arlie arrived very early at 27 weeks! Christie and Arlie spent some time in Auckland hospital and are now in Whangarei and doing well. A big welcome to Alice McLennan and Theresa Warren; our new staff members. Please do introduce yourselves when they start. Alice is doing Christie's maternity leave from 12th February, working Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Theresa has filled Robyn's position following her retirement and will be starting on 4th March, working Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Alice has a Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education) having taught for a number of years before having her own children; two of whom attend Kids 1st. Theresa is about to graduate with the same degree and her daughter attends Kids 1st. We are so fortunate to have amazing teachers in our community. Welcome aboard.

Dates to Remember

Nature Programme Dates: for the eldest nine children. Friday 8th and 22nd February. Please be here by 8a.m. so we can make the most of the morning. We need at least one parent helper. Please see one of the staff to let us know when you can help.

Maori Language: To promote the use of Te Reo Maori in our community we include some phrases in our monthly newsletters. Try this: Tau hou hari! (Happy new year!)

Healthy Eating + Active Movement = Healthy Tamariki

How can we encourage our children to become more active? (An excerpt from SPARC: Active Movement: An Introduction)

"Regular physical activity can become part of our child's everyday life. Here are just a few examples:

- *Walking to the park or shops, rather than going in the pushchair or car*
- *Going outside to play*
- *Spending time playing on the floor*
- *Walking along the cracks on the footpath*
- *Collecting twigs or leaves*
- *Walking along and balancing on walls.*

TV, videos and the computer

These are very popular with many children. They can be exciting and interesting but they can encourage children to remain seated and quite still. Try to turn these off as much as possible and enjoy active experiences."

Professional Development: Sarah, Katy-Sue and Amber are taking part in professional development in Oral Language. The Ministry of Education has a strong emphasis on this area of learning at the moment. In the early years strong oral language skills are the foundation skills for literacy. Reading, talking and listening to your children's ideas are key to this. We will keep you informed of our findings.

Our programme:

Underpinning our programme is Te Whariki, the NZ Early Childhood Curriculum. The vision is that children are:

"Competent and confident learners and communicators, healthy in mind, body and spirit, secure in their sense of belonging and in the knowledge that they make a valued contribution to society. "

As quoted from Te Whariki:

"A curriculum must speak to our past, present and future. As global citizens in a rapidly and increasingly connected world children need to be adaptive, creative and resilient. They need to 'learn how to learn' so that they can engage with new contexts, opportunities and challenges with optimism and resourcefulness. For these reasons, Te Whariki emphasises the development of knowledge, skills, attitudes and dispositions that support lifelong learning."



Zoey's early literacy skills develop as she writes the letters of her name.

Frankie and Tui are creative as they draw members of their

whanau; using their oral language skills to talk about the details in their creations. By giving these children the freedom to explore their interests they are engaged and drive their own learning at their pace; developing confident learners.



confident communicators...



Jaymee, Kensi, Harvey, Ryan and Andy play in the pukeko nest. Through naturally evolving play these tamariki are learning to be confident communicators. Jaymee is learning English from these children. They are developing kind and caring dispositions as they play and communicate with children of varying ages.

knowledge...

adapative...



Harvey and Kensi fishing!

creative...



resourceful...



Evan, Otis and Max are in their boat fishing!

Thea wraps her mermaid tail around her body!

Otis and Will create their own sea creatures.



knowledge...

skills...



Reade and Vann (left) and Kinai above, are learning about the human organs and brain as they

experiment and explore, discuss and make sense of the model.

In December the Waipu Cove rescue boat was brought along to Kids 1st as part of our water safety focus.

knowledge...



resourceful...



creativity...

Henry goes fishing in our Sea World area. This area

has provoked creative thinking, creative art, creative dramatic play and more!



resilience...

confidence...

Water slide fun...developing the dispositions of confidence and resilience! Fun, fun and more fun at Kids 1st!

Our early childhood teachers are all qualified with a wealth of knowledge and experience. Please talk to us if you have any concerns about your child and we will do our very best to help you. Have a great month and Waitangi Day.

Ka kite ano. Noela, Sally, Amber, Sarah, Christie, Katy-Sue, Alice, Theresa and Kate.