



Swannanoa Preschool

Swannanoa Preschool Newsletter - April, 2021

THANK YOU;

CONGRATULATIONS:

Amy & Chris Sherwin on the birth of Beau Sherwin was born on Tuesday 9:14lbs.

EVENTS:

1st April - Easter hunt

13th April - Bike Day

REMINDERS;

- **Our operating hours are 9am until 3pm**, strict adherence to these times is required. Our Fees Policy states - A penalty fee will be charged for tamariki/children picked up after 3:00pm. This is \$25 per tamaiti/child. If you are more than thirty (30) minutes late, there will be a further \$25 charged per tamaiti. Please ensure you are at preschool before 3:00pm to pick up your child.

Please also remember to bring along your child's wet bag each day.

If tamariki or adults are suffering from general illnesses ie hand, foot and mouth, ringworm, slapped cheek, headlice, conjunctivitis, etc they will be asked not to attend preschool until condition has been treated. **Anyone suffering from vomiting or diarrhoea must not attend preschool until 48 hours after last symptoms.**



Nau mai, haere mai,

The days are getting shorter.... and cooler!!

I hope you all had a lovely break over Easter, whatever it was you got up too :)

Its always nice to have a couple of extra days to re-charge the batteries.

We have recently welcomed a number of new families, and I trust you are settling in well and enjoying being part of our community here at Preschool. If you have any questions or queries be sure to ask - we are here to help and ensure a smooth transition for all.

We have just had a wonderful ' Make My March', an event organised by our Social Club. Each staff member has a 'secret' staff member in which they do wee bits and pieces for throughout the month... everyone so kind and thoughtful - and some surprises downright hilarious!

Our new build:

We still love it!

We have just started using the outdoor space, and the tamariki are having a great time exploring the new area.

Again, thank you to everyone for your patience and encouragement throughout our build.

Staffing:

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Tracy - our new teacher in Atawhai.

Tracy starts with us on the 6th of April and will be a full time, permeant teacher.

Tracy comes with many years teaching experience and will be a fantastic addition to our team.

Be sure to have a chat as Tracy settles in :)

AGM

Our AGM is on Tuesday the 6th April at 5pm....all welcome.

We are always looking for new committee members for the Preschool so if you would like to be part of this please come along and see what we are about.

Suggestions

If you have any suggestions or ideas for us here at Preschool we would love to hear them, we are a community based, not-for-profit Preschool - everything we do is for our tamariki, whānau, staff and community!

Facebook:

Do you follow us on Facebook? A great place to keep an eye on updates and visitors. You will also be seeing regular posts of the amazing learning that happens here at Preschool.

We currently have very limited spaces available. If you are thinking you would like extra days please let me know so I can plan accordingly.

I am in the office Monday to Thursday, you are welcome to drop in and see me at anytime.

Nga mihi nui

Jo Dobson

Centre Manager

Whangia ka tupu, ka puawai,

That which is nurtured, blossoms and grows



Whakanui & Puawai News

I think its safe to say our AMAZING, natural, spacious new outdoor area in the nursery is getting the tick of approval from our tamariki 😊 How lucky are we!

He waka eke noa- We are all in this together

-Whakanui and Puawai Kaiako

Ngā mihi nui,

The Whakanui & Puawai teams



Bicultural News

This month tamariki and kaiako enjoyed attending a kapahaka performance at Swannanoa School from the Rangiora High School kapahaka rōpū.

The afternoon started with soft waiata and slowly built up to staunch haka. All involved returned absolutely buzzing, such a fabulous opportunity for our tamariki!

The bicultural leadership team alongside kaiako have been implementing and revitalising phrases across the centre. Over the past month we have been focusing on the phrases:

Kei hea tō____? Where is your____?

Ko te wā____ It's time for____

Last Tuesday we hosted Tahu Loper from Interlead who lead professional development around *Te Tiriti o Waitangai- The Treaty of Waitangi*. This was a very thought provoking session, a refresher for some and enlightenment for others. Either way we all took a lot away from the session.

"Ka mua, ka muri: Looking back in order to move forward"

Ngā mihi nui,

Your Bicultural Leadership Team

Courtney, Ashleigh, Rachael & Jo



Manaaki News

Welcome to the new tamariki and whānau who have joined us. We look forward to getting to know you all better and supporting you to develop a strong sense of belonging within Manaaki.

Are you are aware of our centre values? Whanaungatanga, Manaakitanga, Whakawhiti Kōrerere and Kaitiakitanga. These values represent what makes Swannanoa Preschool an extra special place to be. They provide the foundation for learning and succeeding.

Our group planning for the term has been focused around the value – Whanaungatanga – this is all about relationships. You will see from our planning board that all that we do throughout our day supports this value and how we can support all tamariki to strengthen and grow their relationships with each other, with kaiako and the environment.

Each day we set up an environment which provides open ended experiences –where tamariki can initiate, follow their own ideas and see how the play will evolve. Through open ended experiences/play tamariki are: making discoveries, challenging themselves, problem solving, working/playing cooperatively with and alongside others, refining skills, revisiting, using trial and error, learning to persevere, show patience, make suggestions, support and help each other. Some of the open ended experiences that the tamariki have been enjoying are: water and sand play, construction, loose parts, resources for imaginative play, loose outdoor equipment, painting, making/collage materials, scissors and paper, blocks and different sorting materials.

Please remember to put in extra NAMED clothing (that is for both warmer and cooler days).



Enviroschools News

This Month tamariki have been keeping a close eye on the changes in our garden!

We have been noticing strawberries and tomatoes appearing and changing colour! Tamariki in Manaaki have enjoyed watching the life cycle of a sunflower, and are now waiting for the sunflowers to dry out to then extract the seeds.

Manaaki have also tried making paper bricks for our swap stand which went well and we hope to see the other classes

have a go at making some more! This has been a great way to reduce our paper towel waste. We have been lucky enough to have another visit from Justin at Eco Educate, where he taught us about rubbish! See if your child can remember the numbers on the plastic that can go in recycling (1,2,5). Thanks for your ongoing support with rubbish free lunches, its really appreciated.

Brooke, Rebecca, Dani and Jo.



Atawhai News

We are definitely into Autumn now! The mornings are cooler, the days are shorter, and we are hearing lots of talk about Rugby!

Hudson very kindly bought in his rippa rugby set recently which the children loved! Coach Courtney set up the game and anyone who wanted to join in was able to rotate onto a team, while others were amazing supporters on the sideline. I am very sure that this is just the beginning and we will hear a lot more about rugby over the coming months – maybe even another game against Manaaki!!

Our older children have been loving art and craft experiences, and as such we have made this the focus for our Tui group. Providing opportunities which extend their skills, require focus, and which allow for their creativity to flow. I am sure that some of you may have even seen these masterpieces as they made their way home.

With the weather cooling down a little in the mornings, please make sure that your child has a warm jumper for when we head outside; layers are a good idea as when the day warms up they can just take one off. We are still wearing our sunhats and sunblock until the end of this term as well, and importantly children need a drink bottle each day so they can stay well hydrated – especially with all the physical activity they do.

We are also very excited to welcome Tracy to the Atawhai team! Make sure you come and say hello she will love to meet you all.

As always if you have any questions or queries just let us know, we are always happy to help in any way we can.

The Atawhai team



Our Library

Jess is our in-house librarian - as a tribute to Jess, our library was dedicated to her during our *'Make My March'* month, where staff do something lovely for each other. Can you spot Jess in each of the books on display?



Transition to School

Mahi Tahi

This is an organised group experience for the seven oldest children from Atawhai and Manaaki. This term it has happened on a Wednesday and a Friday at 11:30am. Next term it will be held on a Monday and a Tuesday. This is proving to be a valuable experience for the children as they build confidence in this small group. It is important to us that the children get used to working with different children

and teachers before they go to school.

Transition to School

We have had a few children start at their school this term and are organising visits for the first week back after the Easter holidays for the children who are turning five at the beginning of Term Two.

Please remember to....

*contact your local school to let them know your child/ren will be attending.

*fill out an enrolment pack (you will need to obtain this yourself from the school)

*let our office staff know and your child/ren's key teacher of your leaving date.

If you have any questions about the transition to school process, then please do not hesitate to ask us.

Save the Date

A parent information talk at Swannanoa School and a tour of Hapu 1 and the Nest has been organised for Thursday May 20th from 9:30am - 11:00am. For some children and parents this is the first experience of the primary school environment and an introduction into the modern teaching and learning environment. Anyone can come along to meet the Principal and Teachers and ask questions.

We are here to help.

Transition to School Team

Jess & Kerry

Community News



Thank you



Please



Help

New Zealand Sign Language

This term we have decided as a team to go back to basics with our NZSL, with new families and tamariki transitioning. We have made visual resources that we have put up around our own individual rooms.



Sorry



Sleep/bed



Play

We are keen to know if there is any help we can provide for you for example pictures of signs that you are keen to incorporate at home.

This month we are going to be focus on these signs with our tamariki.

Jan, Courtney, Jenni & Dayna
