



February Newsletter

February 2017 Volume 2

Kia ora, Welcome back....its February!!

I trust everybody had a fabulous break and are still feeling refreshed!

Its been all go here at Preschool already.

As you know there were some staff changes at the end of last year.

These changes are in line with our commitment to our vision of 'ONE CENTRE, ONE TEAM' and to teacher development and growth. Everyone is settling in and excited about the year ahead.

A quick recap:

Gayle left us for adventures new with her husband Paul and their Fifth Wheeler! Happy travels Gayle!

Kerry stepped down from her position as Team Leader in Atawhai in order to spend some quality time with her family and her lovely grandchildren. Kerry is now part of the Whakanui team and enjoying her time with our younger tamariki.

Ange, previously Team Leader in Whakanui, has taken up the position of Team Leader in Atawhai, bringing a raft of skills and huge experience to the role.

Courtney, who has worked throughout the centre over the past year as a student, has accepted a permanent position with us and has joined the Atawhai team. Courtney has recently graduated, and is full with fresh ideas and knowledge and ready to share her strengths of enriching our bi-cultural practice. Welcome aboard Courtney!

New news!! Lyncia will be filling the role of acting Team Leader in Whakanui (the nursery) for Term 1. Lyncia has been part of the Whakanui team for just over 3 years and will do a great job leading the team.

A special welcome to our new families that have recently joined us, we know you will love your time here at Swannanoa.

Swannanoa as always is the place to be and as such we currently have very limited spaces available, if you are thinking of taking on extra days please let us know in the office as soon as you can and we will try our best to accommodate.

If your child is going to be absent for the day please let us know as early as you can, remember if you advise before 8:30 fees for the day are 50%. Your assistance with this is key to us as it affects staffing and casual bookings.

We welcome all & any parent/whānau involvement, please feel free to spend as much time in the centre as you would like, if you have a particular passion or hobby that you would like to share with our tamariki let us know. We have some amazing family evenings and celebrations so be sure to look out for these and get involved.

We are a not-for-profit, community based preschool and as such are governed by a parent committee, headed up by our Chairperson Tracy McKercher. Tracy and her team do a fabulous job and I will be introducing them to you over the next few weeks. Keep an eye out for details on upcoming Working Bee.

I am in the office Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and you are welcome to pop in and see me at anytime.

Ngā mihi nui
Jo Dobson
Centre Manager

Whangia ka tupu, ka puawai,
That which is nurtured, blossoms and grows





Nursery News - From Ange and the Team

Welcome back to everyone and a special welcome to our new families.

We hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer break, we are looking forward to a fun filled 2017 of learning and growing together in Whakanui. If nga whanau have any holiday snaps they would like to share we would love to display these on our whanau tree.

We are very lucky that Kerry has joined us in Whakanui this year. Please remember to apply sunscreen before Preschool and provide spare clothes to allow plenty of water play. If you have any plastic bags these are always appreciated.



Atawhai News

From Kerry and the Team

Tēnā koutou, greetings to all.

Ko Ange tōku ingoa, my name is Ange and I have had the pleasure of taking on the role as team leader in Atawhai.

I have been the team leader in Whakanui (nursery) for coming up to ten years now. I feel privileged to have been offered this position and have enjoyed getting to know tamariki, the team, duties and daily happenings in Atawhai. I look forward to the coming months and sharing ideas and growing our practices in order to provide an environment for tamariki that is rich in knowledge and diversity. I would like to take this opportunity to thank whānau for their patience and support as I settle into this new environment and new way of being. It has been great to catch up with tamariki and whanau who used to be in Whakanui. Courtney, who has worked throughout the centre over the past year as a student, has also joined the Atawhai team. Courtney has now graduated, and is full with fresh ideas and knowledge and ready to share her strengths of enriching our bi-cultural practice. Like myself Courtney has been spending the past few weeks getting to know tamariki, duties and expectations as she takes on a new role as a qualified kaiako and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and patience as she begins the journey of getting to know her key tamariki and their whānau, which does take time. Just so you know Courtney has taken on all of Kerry's learning journals, so if Kerry was your child's key kaiako it will now be Courtney.

Now that the introductions are complete I would like to take this opportunity to welcome tamariki and whānau back to pre-school.

I trust you have all had a safe and happy holiday together, we would love to see memories that have been collected along the way.

A few housekeeping jobs that need to be attended to are could you please check before leaving preschool that tamariki have all of their items packed away in their bags ie lunch box's, drink bottles, snuggles, etc.

Also we are in need of girls shorts/trousers for our spare clothing box in times when tamariki get extremely wet and have already used their spare items.

Laura has put a request in for green fingered whanau to help harvest our communal garden, if you could chat to Lorraine at the front office or send in an email as to when you could possibly spare some time.

Manaaki News

From Ashleigh and the Team

Welcome back to all families/whanau, including new families who have joined us in Manaaki since the new year. It is great getting to know you all, please do not hesitate to approach any of the teachers for a chat at this time, settling in to preschool is different for everyone and we want to provide as much support as we can.

It has been great hearing lots of stories from the children/tamariki about their Summer holiday adventures. If you have some holiday photos we would love to see them and the children can share and talk about these at group sharing times. You can bring these photos in or email to preschool with attention to Manaaki.

We are in desperate need of some untreated timber for the children to saw and nail in our carpentry area. It is important that the dust/fibres from the timber is not harmful to children when sawing. Please see a teacher if you think you can point us in the right direction.

It is imperative that you sunblock your child BEFORE preschool everyday. We will reapply sunblock at 11am.



The Flanagan Family for donation of toys for the preschool

De Wys Family for donation of peaches—yummy we loved them

Congratulations to....

Jamie and Kim Nutbrown on the birth of their son Henry Kris born 26th November, 2016 a brother for Scarlett & Hugo

Amy & Duncan Taylor on the birth of Jack a brother for Esther

Jennie & Emmanuel Raika on the birth of Isobel a sister for Emily

Letitia Andrews & Daniel Gillard on the birth of Sapphire a sister for Alice

Amy-Leigh Rockhouse and Scott Wills on the birth of Lauralei a sister for Nivarah and KJ

REMINDER; SWANNANOVA PRESCHOOL IS A SMOKE FREE CENTRE IN ALL AREAS INCLUDING PARKING AREAS

Children's Learning



the sacred urge to play

Putting the childhood back into 'early childhood'

"the truth is that play seems to be one of the most advanced methods nature has invented to allow a complex brain to create itself."

Dr. Stuart Brown, Play researcher and founder of The National Institute for Play USA

Neuroscientists have identified three pivotal factors required for "a complex brain to create itself" during the first seven years of life. The first is **emotional nurture**, that warm, empathetic relationship that grows into trust in human beings. Along with emotional nurture goes **conversation**; the child and adult enjoy each other's company, they enjoy talking together. The third factor is **play, and lots of it.**

The **living and learning** that happen through **play** offers each child their best chance for health, happiness, and success in education and living—both now and in the future. There is no hurry for 'school' learning. Study after study shows that leaving formal cognitively-based learning until **after** the brain has laid down firm foundations gives our children a **'heard' start** when it comes to higher learning.



Ohoka Netball Club

We are a Mandeville based club for passionate netballers of all ages and abilities.

We are looking for members of all ages from Yr 3 and over, including any highschool students and Mums interested in playing.

We participate in North Canterbury Netball's Winter Tournament in Rangiora, playing

Thursday Nights for Premier 1,

Friday afternoons for Years 3 & 4

Saturday's Years 5 and upward including Grade.

For more information please

check out our website www.ohokanetball.co.nz, or

Follow us on Facebook, 'Ohoka Netball' or

Contact us at ohokanetball@gmail.com or

Contact Katrina on 021 175 3128

Interested in being involved in the Club?

We would love to hear from anyone interested in helping out in any other way, such as committee, umpiring, coaching or just helping out for specific events..

No experience needed. Lots of support offered!

CAN WE

TEXT YOU

REMINDERS;

In the unlikely event of a school closure, we would like to be able to text you. We will also send reminders to your mobile about special events, like bike days, preschool barbecues etc Many of you have signed up already, but our aim is to have 100 percent of our parents in our system.

To register for free text

messages

TEXT THE

FOLLOWING

MESSAGE TO:

8987

follow SwannanoaP

(note case sensitive) and that's it you're good to go!

Never miss a dress up day again

General Reminders:

Please name all clothing, bags, bottles, lunch boxes etc

Please pack a change of clothes

Please use recyclable lunchboxes etc, we are an EnviroSchool

Can you please notify us well in advance what date your child will start school

Please phone in if your child is absent for the day

Please apply sunscreen on your child before coming to preschool and we will apply again during the day

Please keep sick school

children out of preschool

