



Swannanoa Preschool

Swannanoa Preschool - March Newsletter, 2021

THANK YOU;

Fraser Withers for helping install our new washing machine, it has made Julie so happy!

EVENTS:

- Monday 1st March; Bike Day
- Wednesday 17th March; St Patrick's Day
- Thursday 1st April; Easter Egg Hunt
- Tuesday 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,

As I write this we have just gone back into Level 2.

I want to say "Thank You" to everyone for your patience and co-operation as we move between levels. We are fortunate that for us here in North Canterbury it doesn't change our daily operation too significantly. I do however urge you to stay away if you are sick or have any cold like symptoms. We are here to help in whatever way we can so please get in touch if you need any

support or information from us.

Today is also Bike Day.... the tamariki are just loving it!

Grant Success!!

A massive shout out to our amazing Lorraine.... **WELL DONE to Lorraine**, who has been successful in obtaining a number of grants for us here at Preschool over the last couple of months.

The Rata Foundation:

\$14,800 towards our new floor coverings in the extension.

Oxford Eyre Community Ward:

\$500 towards our new commercial vacuum cleaner (key!)

The Harcourts Foundation:

\$1,000 towards plants for our new environment

The Southern Trust

\$10,000 towards upgrading the bark areas in Atawhai and topping up the bark areas in Manaaki and the Nursery.

A heartfelt thank you to these funders for their generosity towards our special Preschool.

Our new build:

We love it! We are settled and it looks like we have been in there for years!

We are currently working on the outdoor space, the grass has been sprayed, the sheds moved, the fort dismantled and in the process of being reconstructed... by the end of this month it should be fully operational

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

Staffing:

Congratulations to Rachael... Rachael has just gained her Provisional registration, another great milestone towards becoming a fully registered kaiako.

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



**Play Rugby this season
at Ohoka Rugby Club**

Join your mates in a positive team environment on and off the field, play rugby in 2021 for Ohoka Rugby Club located at the Mandeville Sports Centre.

2021 Grades
Juniors
U6-U7 Rippa Rugby
U8-13 Tackle Rugby
U8-13 Rip Rugby (Continuation of Rippa)
U8-U13 Girls Tackle Teams
Seniors
U16, U18, Division 1 and 2

At Schools
Look out for one of our Rugby Skills Sessions coming to participating schools in our community during March, come along and talk to the Coaches and Club Representatives.

More Information
Visit our Website for the seasons program including our registration events that include Mr Wippy, Bouncy Castle, Fun Rugby Sessions and a chance for the club to meet you and answer your questions.

www.ohokarugby.co.nz

Register Now or Call Us:

- Call Mark 027 2000 552 or Stephen 021 921 980
- Register Here [Click Here](#)

Kids 4 and up can play in the Under 6 grade. So turning 4 this year is perfect.



Transition to School

Happy March everyone!

We have contacted school for the transition of the children who are starting school in term one.

Three children have successfully visited Swannanoa School.

Swannanoa Preschool has a robust transition to school program that is planned so that each child gets their first visit to school with teachers that they know well or where

possible with their key teacher.

For anyone who is not familiar with the transition routine, Jess is the contact person in Atawhai and Kerry in Manaaki.

We get in touch with the school your child will be attending the term before your child turns 5. The school let's us know a suitable day for the visit. Two teachers go with the children even if there is only one child going on the visit. The preschool then has cover to release these teachers. It is quite a unique programme that takes planning to ensure that the children have a good first experience at their school.

We also need your help to let us know which school your child will be enrolled at.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask any of the staff.

We are here to help.

Transition to School Team

Jess & Kerry



Enviroschools News

You may have noticed an empty bathtub sitting in the Atawhai playground, well exciting things happened and with the help of Julie and some keen children we transformed it into a worm farm!

The children loved being involved in this process and helping transport the worms from the Manaaki worm farm to their new home in Atawhai. Following this Justin from Eco educate is coming into the classrooms to educate the children about worm farms and how to care for them. Perhaps you could also look at creating a worm farm at home! We are happy to donate some worms and the children would love to share their knowledge on this topic.

Brooke, Jo, Jan, Dayna, Rebecca and Dani.



Atawhai News

March already! I say it every time but the start of the year has just flown by very quickly!

We're noticing the mornings are starting to cool off a bit more now, but turning into lovely warm days so it is still important to remember a sunhat, sunblock and drink bottles each day.

A couple of weeks ago we had a kiwiana themed few days; tamariki wore their gumboots, went camping, won medals for the gumboot toss, and had a mock camp fire to picnic around.

This brought up lots of stories about the adventures the tamariki had during their summer break; some camping, some on farms, some at the beach. It was a lot of fun and allowed us to incorporate our current planning focus around

Manaakitanga into the day.

Manaakitanga is our current group planning focus and stems from the values which we align ourselves with as a centre. With the new tamariki and whānau who have joined us so far this year, using Manaakitanga as a focus has allowed us to focus on and support everyone through showing respect, kindness, and hospitality. We always welcome feedback around our group planning so feel free to have a chat with any of us if there is something you would like to add.

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



Multicultural Group

We recently held a Kiwiana week at preschool where we celebrated all things Kiwi.

Some of the ideas and activities that were included had been suggested by whanau at a parent evening last year.

On Wednesday we held a gumboot day and it was great to see so many tamariki wearing their gumboots to preschool for the day. Each classroom held a gumboot throwing competition and were awarded with medals for their effort and participation. Our oldest tamariki

from Manaaki and Atawhai also got together for a competition with Atawhai being the clear winners of the day. Puawai adapted their gumboot throwing to suit the age of their younger tamariki by throwing balls into a bucket.

On Thursday we held a camping day and had perfect camping weather. We had a fantastic turn out of tents and other camping equipment and it was great to have so many parents involved in helping to set up our campsite. We built pretend camp fires where we sat to tell stories, and cook up our camp dinners. In the afternoon we all enjoyed a sausage sizzle.

Katrina Read



Our Library

Jess is our in-house librarian



Manaaki News

Welcome to our new children and families. Over the coming weeks we look forward to getting to know you all and supporting you as you feel a sense of connection and belonging with Manaaki. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please speak with kaiako.

This term for our group planning we are focused on our centre value of – **Whanaungatanga – all about relationships**. We will be looking at how we support and embrace all relationships, with each other, our families, our peers, our environment and our community. It is through responsive and reciprocal relationships with people, places

and things that tamariki have the opportunity to foster new relationships, are able to try out their ideas and refine working theories and feel a sense of connection and belonging. If you would like to contribute to this we would love to hear your ideas and feedback.

There has been a lot of interest around the chrysalis that Julie has bought in for us. We have 5 chrysalis, that we look at each day to see if there has been any change. There has been a lot of discussions around what is happening and what will happen. The Tamariki have a good understanding of the life cycle of the caterpillar and they have been enjoying sharing their knowledge around this with each other. To support this interest we have also been reading different stories and nonfiction books about caterpillars and butterflies. It is with much excitement and anticipation that we wait for the first butterfly to hatch.

Not only have we been watching the chrysalises, but also the sunflowers that we planted before the holidays. When we came back from our holidays they had grown and now they are really tall and the beautiful yellow flowers are all coming out. Each morning tamariki head outside to see if any more flowers have come out. Once again there has been a lot of discussion and sharing of knowledge and own experiences with sunflowers shared between the tamariki.

We look forward to another busy and fun month ahead and remember if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask any of the kaiako.

Manaaki team



Bicultural News

Kia ora e te whānau, what a busy start to the year we have had!

We are so pleased to be continuing waiata hui this year with Reece Bonner and Kate Monteath, kaiako from Swannanoa School. We have been learning some new **waiata ā-ringa (action songs) which tamariki are loving, see below for kupu.**

The bicultural leadership group has met and we have some really exciting stuff on the cards this year to strengthen tikanga and reo across the centre through developing our knowledge of te Tiriti o Waitangi- The Treaty of Waitangi and Te Ao Māori.

As always, if you have any ideas, suggestions or feedback we would love to hear from you! Please see Courtney (Atawhai), Rachael (Whakanui/Puawai), Ashleigh (Manaaki) or Jo in the office.

Ngā mihi mahana,

Courtney, Rachel, Ashleigh and Jo

PĀKĒKĒ MAI Ō MATIMATI

Pākēkē mai ō matimati *Click your fingers*

Pākēkē mai ō matimati *Click your fingers*

Waewae whiua ki te taha *Legs swing to the side*

Waewae whiua ki te taha *Legs swing to the side*

Takahuri, takahuri, ko wiriwiri *Turn round and round, wriggle*

Takahuri, takahuri, ko wiriwiri *Turn round and round, wriggle*

Kanikani tö tinana *Make your body dance*

Kanikani tö tinana *Make your body dance*

Hei hā

Hei hā

Pakipaki, pakipaki *Clap hands (repeat)*

PĀKĒKĒ MAI Ō MATIMATI

This waiata is usually a waiata ā-ringa (action song). It can be made into a game. The teacher performs an action, and the students sing back the relevant line. When they are familiar with this activity, one student can be the leader and choose the action. There is scope for changing words and actions as students build up their vocabulary. Appropriate dance movements can also be developed.

Ka kite ano

Your Bicultural Leadership Team

Courtney, Ashlee, Rachael & Jo