

May Newsletter

May 2016 Volume 5 Issue 16

Kia ora koutou,

Its Term Two! I hope those of you who managed a wee break thoroughly enjoyed yourselves.

It's business as usual here at Preschool and we have a really special focus for this term.

As you will all know (hopefully!) we are an **Enviroschool** and achieved our Bronze award some years ago. We are currently in the process of trying to achieve our Silver award.

We take great pride in our sustainable practices here at Swannanoa Preschool, our vege gardens, fruit trees, natural landscape, composting, recycling, worm farms, bug hotels, nappy composting... and much much more....

The Enviroschools kaupapa is based on five guiding principles.

Early childhood centres and schools are encouraged to integrate these five principles in all the learning and action they undertake.

- Empowered Students
- Learning for Sustainability
- Māori Perspectives
- Respect for the Diversity of People and Cultures
- Sustainable Communities

Throughout the term we will share our journey with you and would love to have your feedback and your participation.

Look up www.enviroschools.org.nz for more information about the Enviroschools programme

Nga mihi nui

Jo

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

Girls Night
Out

What a huge success!!

THANK YOU TO KATE HILL AND HER TEAM FOR ORGANISING
MONEY RAISED ON THE NIGHT WAS DONATED TO PRESCHOOL AFTER ALL EXPENSES WERE PAID





Whakanui (to treat with respect) News

From Ange and the Team

Once again we welcome new families to Whakanui, settling is going well. Over the next month or so we will be saying farewell to a few of our tamariki who are about to embark on the next stage of their journey into either Manaaki or Atawhai, very exciting times. Remember to bring along named warm clothes for when we go outside and spare ones if tamariki need changing. Also it would be good if tamariki who are crawling could have spare socks in their bags and even some soft slip-on shoes to keep their feet a bit warmer.

We would like to warmly welcome Cherie Whiting as a student in our Nursery for the next four weeks.



Manaaki (to take care of) News

From Ashleigh and the Team

Welcome to the families that have joined us over the past month. It is lovely getting to know everyone. Please do not hesitate to chat with a teacher about any questions you may have—we will do our very best to help.

Does anyone have any old towels? Please pass on to a Manaaki teacher.

There has been lots of interest in maths recently. This has included numbers, shapes, measurement, pattering and much more. Check out our white board in Manaaki8 and feel free to make a contribution or share your ideas with a teacher.

We will be seeking some of your ideas for our review on physical activity and food and nutrition. The review is displayed on our parent notice board in Manaaki. Some children seem to have increased appetites coming into the cooler season—please ensure that you pack plenty of filling options in your child's lunch box. We are more than happy to warm up food in the microwave, just name the container and pass on to a teacher or pop in the fridge.

Atawhai (to show kindness) News

From Kerry and the Team

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Health & Fitness plan. Thank you for answering the Questionnaire—it really helps us to plan for the curriculum.

The children are showing an interest in threading i.e. making necklaces etc. We are going to plan to extend this interest and develop the children's manipulative and fine motor skills. If anyone has any old beads or buttons or any ideas for fine motor development please talk to the teachers.

Four year old group will start again once the school term starts. We will concentrate on the skills needed for school readiness—listening, participating, negotiating, confidence, questioning are all skills enhanced in four year old group.

Gayle and Penny have organised transition visits for the four year olds. We hope to visit Swannanoa School more regularly. We also intend to have regular collaborative events between Manaaki and Atawhai so that the children get to know each other.

We would like to warmly welcome Ella –Marie as a student with us here in Atawhai.

General News

Please make sure you sunblock in this unprecedented warm weather.

We will continue to reapply sunblock mid-morning.

Please send change of clothes and all clothes to be named.



You will be aware that Entertainment Books are now on sale—we have had a great response to date.

These can be purchased online or enquiries to Belinda Leen (Committee Member)

Enviroschools

Did you know...

Over 40,000 plastic check-out bags are dumped in landfills every hour in New Zealand

Every year 4 million New Zealanders use 1 billion plastic shopping bags. *Source: Plastic Bag-Free New Zealand*

Every year over 6 million tonnes of rubbish is dumped into the world's oceans, 80% of which is plastic, and a further 10% of this being plastic bags .

With an estimated 46,000 pieces for every square mile of ocean, plastic is responsible for killing 1 million sea birds and over 100,000 sea mammals each year

What can I do?

The biggest easiest thing we can do is pretty simple really- use reusable bags!

Congratulations to....

**Anna and Andy Robson on the birth
of**

**Olivia Louise on the 5th April 2016
a sister for Harry**

**Thank
you!**

- Jamie Nutbrown and Nathan Hyde for sharing their ball skills with the children.
- Emily Dally for donation of toys
- Jo Foley for donation of toys
- Megan Brice (Louie's Mum) for matchbox cars
- The Denny Family for collage materials
- Steven Overend for baking

Children's Learning

If the children learn mainly through their self-directed play then what's the teacher doing?

All of these things and more:

- **Watching the children's skills—physical, social, language, problem solving, negotiation. Using what is observed to plan for each child's further development.**
- **Joining in to extend the play. Dropping in ideas without taking over the play, suggesting props that could be found or made, asking challenging questions.**
- **Helping to draw in a shy child. Suggesting to the child left out how to approach the others and what to say.**
- **Acting as mediator when needed, to teach conflict resolution skills.**

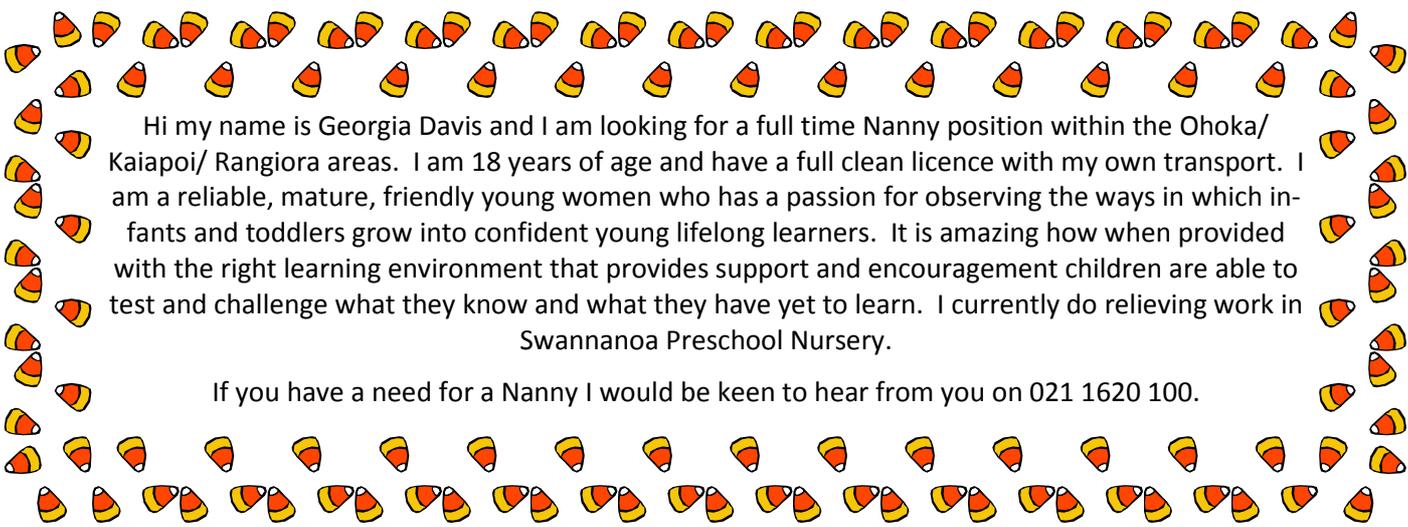
All of these things and more are an important part of teaching in early childhood education.



PLEASE
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SHARE
OUR
FACEBOOK
PAGE

Swannanoa School Plant sale is this year—Sunday 30th October.

We are currently looking for POTS, lots of pots!! Smaller pots.
Please let Jo know if you are having a clear out!



Hi my name is Georgia Davis and I am looking for a full time Nanny position within the Ohoka/ Kaiapoi/ Rangiora areas. I am 18 years of age and have a full clean licence with my own transport. I am a reliable, mature, friendly young women who has a passion for observing the ways in which infants and toddlers grow into confident young lifelong learners. It is amazing how when provided with the right learning environment that provides support and encouragement children are able to test and challenge what they know and what they have yet to learn. I currently do relieving work in Swannanoa Preschool Nursery.

If you have a need for a Nanny I would be keen to hear from you on 021 1620 100.

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***
- No Peanut Butter or Peanut products*
- 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!**