



Swannanoa Preschool

Swannanoa Preschool Newsletter - October 2020

Congratulations to Mel & Harry Wigley on the birth of Jack a wee brother for Maddison

THANK YOU;

Kerry & Nick Hammond of KB Asset Solutions (Courtney's Uncle) for donation of facemasks.

REMINDERS;

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,

Spring is in the air...

What typical spring weather we have been having - a bit of everything!

A bit of info for you The cover photo is one of the glass art panels at our entrance way - this amazing artwork depicts our cultural narrative and is stunning backlit with the sun at this time of the year!

For those of you that are having some time away I hope it is fabulous! We are enjoying the slightly quieter days here at Preschool and having lots of fun while we go about our mahi.

As much as it might be a little quiet for us, the contractors certainly haven't quietened down - the building is racing ahead and we now have a real sense of the space we will be getting. The teams are REALLY looking forward to this new space.

Check the noticeboard in the foyer for regular updates.

Quiz Night

What an amazing night!! A MASSIVE thank you to Kristy our Chairperson for organising this.

And thanks to all of you that came and made the night what it was - such fun!

We are currently deciding what these funds will go towards and will let you know pronto!

We are so grateful for the support all of you show to our Preschool.

Next fundraiser is 'Abacus' - calendars and diaries. This year we are highlighting ngā tamariki mihimihi alongside their photos. Details out shortly.

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 a few spaces available so if you are thinking you would like extra days please let me know.

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

Multicultural Group

We celebrated Maori Language week last week and it was great to see everyone getting on board and making an extra effort to learn some new phrases and waiata.

The Multicultural group will be meeting again soon to discuss our next cultural celebration which will be Kiwiana.

Katrina R, Trish, Chontelle T, Sam F



Atawhai News

Wow where has the year gone – Term 4 is just about to begin, and with that so does the countdown to Christmas!!

It also means the start of sunhats and sunblock each day for the children, so if you can please remember to put sunblock on your children each morning, and to bring them a sunhat so they can safely play outside each day. We will re-apply sunscreen before lunch, so if your child has a special sunscreen they use please bring it in and let us know.

The weather has still been a bit up and down, but on those lovely warm days we have been loving the water play! Getting muddy, sandy, and wet is such a great feeling. We have also been exploring other sensory experiences outside too; such as slime, warm soapy water, and shaving foam.

This does mean the tamariki get a bit messy so please make sure they have a change of clothes and their wet bags each day.

If you have any questions or concerns we are always available to talk.

The Atawhai team



Whakanui & Puawai News

We have had lots of new faces join us in both Puawai and Whakanui, a warm welcome to you all, we look forward to developing strong, trusting relationships with you all.

There have been a few transitions across the nursery and beyond with Bryn and Tilly now moving into Puawai and Brooke moving into Manaaki. Avalon, Kase and Meah are beginning their transition into Manaaki with lots of fun visits and reconnecting with old friends.

Warmer weather means water play all round, so make sure to pack lots of comfortable changes of clothes so your child can fully immerse themselves in this experience. Water play releases energy, it can be both invigorating or relaxing and calming for young children.

It increases their ability to concentrate on one activity when presented as a tranquil and repetitive activity (scooping, pouring and running their hands through the water). Gentle water play allows them to unwind, order their thoughts and relax.

It also encourages role play and crucial social skills like cooperation and sharing.

They learn to work with one or several children, to take turns and share the space and accessories with their friends.

We look forward to experimenting with new ways to explore water alongside the tamariki on these upcoming warm days, summer is just around the bend!

He waka eke noa- We are all in this together

-Whakanui and Puawai Kaiako

Ngā mihi nui,

The Whakanui & Puawai teams



Our Library

Jess is our in-house librarian

Celebrating Te Wiki o te Reo Māori 2020

In September we celebrated Te Reo Māori week throughout the centre. There are books always available for everyone to use in their classrooms, waiata, karakia and activities continue on.

Waiata Hui is continuing every Monday with Reece and Kate from Hapu 1 at Swannanoa School they come and sing with us and read stories which has been a real asset for us all.

Happy reading,

Jess, Atawhai.

NZSL Sign of the month
October - Whiringa-a-nuku



New Zealand Sign Language

Courtney, Brooke, Jenni & Jan



Manaaki News

A warm Manaaki welcome to our new Tamariki and whānau. We look forward to you all feeling a sense of belonging and being involved in our programme.

In Manaaki we have been discussing 'what it means to be kind' and how can we be kind and respectful at Preschool. The Tamariki came up with these ideas :

- Look after younger children
- Remind our friends not to drop their rubbish
- Use our manners
- Talk nicely to each other
- Use gentle hands
- If someone is crying give them a flower to cheer them up

Following on from these discussions and ideas, we talked with the Tamariki about starting a kindness jar. This jar sits on the shelf and the Tamariki will be able to add a pom pom to it when they are acknowledged for their acts of kindness at the end of the day mat time. When the jar is full the Tamariki and kaiako will decide on a special day – PJ and movie, disco, bring your bike.

Establishing our kindness jar and what it means to be kind and respectful aligns with our centre values which the tamariki have been introduced to. Our centre values are:

Manaakitanga – respect and kindness

Whanaungatanga – relationships

Whakawhiti Korero – communication

Tiakitanga – enviroschools, guardianship, protection

If you have any questions regarding this, please speak with Kaiako and we will be happy to discuss it with you.

We have been enjoying the beautiful spring days that have arrived (not the wind though) and with this it reminds us that we need to now remember to bring in a named sun hat. We will be applying sun screen to everyone at 11am each day. If you would prefer your Tamariki to have their own sun screen applied, please bring a named bottle, which can stay at Preschool. Thank you.

From all the Manaaki Staff.



Swannanoa Preschool Core Values

Thank you to our Whanau for contributing to our recent internal evaluation around our Core Values. We are pleased to share these with you.



Enviroschools News

Kia-ora Whanau - this past month we have had a focus on your rubbish and our recycling systems within the preschool in order to continue to meet our expectations of being a green gold enviro-school. This involved a waste audit performed by Toni Watts – who is our Enviroschools co-ordinator for Canterbury

We produced 12.52kgs of waste on this day! This amounts to sending the weight of an entire African elephant to landfill

each year. This is why we encourage package free lunches, and send the children's rubbish home with them. The older children have also been involved in rubbish collection from around the preschool grounds and down the driveway - it's great to see their involvement in caring for our environment. Justin from Eco Educate came for another visit, where he educated staff and children about the new recycling regulations and what can and can't be recycled. I wonder if any of the children have been teaching you what they learned at home?

With the warmer weather we will now focus on planting and growing vegetables. If you have any spare New World Mini's Veges we would love them!

Brooke, Jan, Jo & Laura



Whanau Partnership

Welcome to spring!! It's been so lovely to have lighter mornings and longer evenings lately – I wonder if any of you have taken any local walks to enjoy in this time?

There are a number of walkways which are easy and relatively short, as well as interactive making them enjoyable for kids and adults to enjoy together. The map below is the Ohoka stream walkway – a simple stroll that would make a

lovely evening walk for the whole family

Have you looked at our community noticeboard recently? There is a history of the Ohoka area, as well as other walks and local events that might interest you!

If there is ever anything else which you might want further information on, just let us know.

Chauntelle, Tash & Sam



Transition to School

We are in the process of organising transition visits for the children who are turning five before the end of the year and at the beginning of 2021, before the new school year starts.

If you have not yet enrolled your child in school and they are starting in the new year please remember to do so.

If you have someone read to start school, these three things might help:

School Readiness: even more important than the ABCs, is learning to mix with others and looking after yourself.

But what about worries? Be brave! Children copy us, so you need to be a good role model. Look after yourself as well as them.

For your Tamariki - Be positive! They are going to be awesome (and so are you!).

Taken from 'Got a Young One Starting School'? From Mana Ake

Transition to School Team

Jess & Kerry



Bicultural News

Kia ora te whānau, kei te pēhea koe? (How are you?)

We have been celebrating Māori language week at Swannanoa Preschool. This has included continuing new and loved Waiatas and Karakias. Displays throughout the centre and developing phrases for all kaiako, tamariki and Whānau to get involved in.

Throughout the year we continue to develop our knowledge of our kaupapa, our cultural narrative, new stories, legends and waiatas.

The children will have, no doubt, brought home songs and stories from Preschool to enjoy with all of you.

All of our tamariki have the opportunity to learn their mihi and this year we are excited to include these in our fundraising calendars - out soon!

We would love to hear from any of our whānau that would like to get involved or share their knowledge/skills with us.

Ka kite ano

Your Bicultural Leadership Team

Courtney, Ashlee, Rachael, Laura, Dayna & Jo



Policy Review

Follow the link to our current or latest Policy review.

We have a number of Policies and Procedures that guide our practice here at Swannanoa Preschool which we regularly review on a three year cycle.

Policies identify agreed processes that ensure key legislative requirements are met and that we all have a shared understanding of these agreed processes and procedures.

Please find following the link to our latest policy review for your comment.
