

Newsletter July 2015



Governing Group Meeting:

Our next Board of Governance Meeting will be at 7pm Monday 14th November at the Centre.

Please remember you can text or email the centre with absences: **027 654 0356** or **welc@xtra.co.nz**

Welcome to our November newsletter.

Goodness November is here already. I can't believe we are thinking about Christmas - which is just around the corner now! In the next couple of weeks we will be putting a newsletter out about our WELC Christmas children's party. We are now in the process of planning Christmas activities with the children ready for December. We will have the plunket Christmas tree display and Christmas parade coming up as well. If you are interested in helping us to organise these events we would really appreciate any help we can get. Please come and talk to any of the teachers if you have some ideas or are interested in helping out.

The centre will be closing at 1pm on Friday 23rd December for Christmas this year. We will reopen at 8am on Tuesday 10th January 2017. There will be holiday forms out closer to the end of the year for absences or extra bookings in January when we reopen until school returns in February. It's really helpful to have these forms completed for rostering of teachers over this time if you could return these forms asap.

We have had a couple of internal staff changes in the last couple of weeks. Anni Kolff has stepped down from her role of curriculum leader in the over twos after many years working in this position, and has now returned to a teaching role in the centre. We would like to thank Anni for the number of years she has worked in this position and supported the children, teachers and parents of WELC. We welcome Katie Craddock to her new role as Curriculum Leader. Katie has been teaching at WELC for 8 years now, and recently completed her Bachelor of Teaching ECE. If you have any concerns about your child's learning please feel free to have a chat with Katie.

Just a reminder that if your child is approaching the age of 3 to see Rachel in the office in order to get their paper work for the 20 free hours scheme - all 3 and 4 year olds qualify for up to 20 free hours of early childhood education per week, however there is some very simple paperwork that needs to be completed prior to this being claimed.

Have a great month everyone. Ka Kite

Our bank account is ASB Bank, Westport

Acc No: 12-3178-0231117-02 PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU USE THE CORRECT SUFFIX 02, NOT 00, THANKS.

Please put your child's name and also your account number (on the top right hand side of your invoice) as reference details so we can receipt your payment.

CONTENTS OF LUNCH BOXES

Please do not include:

Uncooked noodles – we can reheat cooked ones, however uncooked ones (especially if left in lunch boxes) can not be cooked and cooled in time for children to eat at lunch time.

Fruit strings/fruit turbos/fruit nuggets etc – these are quite “sticky” and we have had recent instances of choking with them, especially with fruit strings. They are also not very good for children’s teeth and we would prefer these be kept for a snack at home.

Some lunchbox ideas that may be helpful:

- ∞ Small sandwiches (can be cut into shapes using cookie/play dough cutters)
- ∞ Crackers and cheese
- ∞ Raisins or dried fruit
- ∞ Carrots, cucumber, tomatoes or other cut up vegetables
- ∞ Healthy breakfast cereal in a small container
- ∞ Naan bread or pita bread
- ∞ Bread rolls, scones, muffins, fruit bread or wraps
- ∞ Leftovers: cold sausages, pasta, rice
- ∞ Cooked rice, pasta or noodles for reheating
- ∞ Boiled egg
- ∞ Plain biscuits
- ∞ Fruit
- ∞ Yoghurt – sometimes this is not all eaten, you may want to consider dividing into smaller spill proof containers.

Huge Thank You’s

Over the last few weeks we have been very fortunate and received some grants. I’d like to say a massive thank you to the following:



- First Sovereign Trust Ltd for \$2497.25 for a new dish drawer and dryer.
- Buller District Council for \$500 for a new tablet to use with the children
- Lottery West Coast/Nelson Marlborough Community for \$5946 towards new outdoor climbing equipment for the children.

Christmas has come early! Look out for the new equipment. Thank you so much Erica Jar for all the work you have put in to applying for these grants for us.

Whats coming up!

27 - 31 July Maori Language Week

Te Reo is incorporated in to our daily programme in many different ways, however in recognition of Maori Language week we will be placing a particular focus next week on phrases around feelings and emotions e.g. "How are you feeling? (Kei te péhea Koe?) , I am hungry (Kei te hiakai ahau), I am sad (kei te pouri ahau) etc.

Friday 31 July - RED Friday - Jump Rope for Heart

Come dressed in red - gold coin donation per family which will be donated to the Heart foundation for the great work they do. We will be making and sharing a Heart Healthy morning tea, face painting and then physical activities with the children such as running and jumping rope to promote a healthy heart.

From Monday 3 August - Amazing Me Programme

Commencing Monday 3 August we are going to be running the Amazing Me programme for our 4 year old children. The key messages in this programme are:

- ∞ How to get help in an emergency
- ∞ How to stop, think then act
- ∞ How to resolve conflict - without hitting and name calling
- ∞ Strategies to help children avoid physical, sexual and emotional harm
- ∞ That all families are special and unique
- ∞ Each child is special and amazing

The programme helps to build an understanding and acceptance of our differences, build confidence and self esteem while giving the children strategies to cope in a wide range of life situations. Although the programme has been around for a long time, it is developed around our early childhood curriculum Te Whāriki and is still relevant and specific to early childhood education.

From 3 August the programme will be run each day for 20 minutes both morning and afternoon to ensure all four year olds attending have the opportunity to participate - and is in addition to our usual Young Explorer's programme for 4 year olds.

If you have any questions regarding the programme (**or you would prefer your child does not participate**) please see Anni or Amy who are happy to talk about the programme with you. You can also have a look online at the videos at www.youngnz.org.nz/amazing-me/teachers.html