



KidzWay

Early Learning Centre

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Newsletter No.4 – July 2017

“Children are immature and they’ll handle their anger immaturely until they are taught better methods”

(Anon)

Kia Ora Families and Whanau

We trust you are managing to keep yourselves warm out there in our southern winter – brrrr! The children seem unconcerned by these chilly temperatures and are happy to explore, slip and slide in the frost and ice. Their interest is still bubbling along as we enquire into New Zealand’s native birds, and now native plants. The America’s Cup, Wacky Hair Week and Wig Wednesday (in support of Child Cancer) have all added flavour to our learning programme. We are all looking forward to the Lantern Festival on Friday (see below for more details).

A big welcome to new families who have joined us. We trust you and your child are settling into KidzWay; if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask Denise or one of our staff. ☺

Ka Kite, Denise (Head Teacher), Josanne, Michelle, Alison, Nicky, Sally and Fiona (Teachers) and Kath (Administrator)

Lantern Festival 2017

The children are always excited about this event on our KidzWay calendar. This year we plan to hold the Lantern Festival on **Friday 7 July** at Church on the Way, Sussex St Tapanui, starting at 5:30pm. This is a lovely family event celebrating “Jesus, Light of the World.” We start with a simple meal and a song or two, then the story of “Martin the Cobbler” is told in the dark lantern-lit church. We finish the evening with a walk around the block, holding our lanterns shining out into the darkness! If your child does not have a lantern, please come into the Centre to make one ASAP before the event - full instructions and help are available. Please also see KidzWay’s entrance hall way for more details. Please bring a gold coin donation for tea – thank you. ☺ See you there!



Blue Mountain Kāhui Ako (Community of Learners - CoLs)

It is very exciting to belong to this Ministry of Education initiative which is rolling out across the country. The Blue Mountain CoL consists of the following schools: Waikaka, Heriot, Waikoikoi, Tapanui, Blue Mountain College and KidzWay ELC. Antony Criglington has been appointed leader of this group. Our aim is to work together to establish a shared goal that will lift achievement across the school group. Teaching expertise from within our schools and professional development will be sought to help us do this. This is a fantastic opportunity to be part of a system that is connected from preschool through to College, helping our children in their learning achievement. For more information on this, click on this link

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/essential-information/communities-of-learning-kahui-ako/>

From your Principals:

Mrs Lindy Cavanagh-Monaghan, Mr Colin McHutchon, Mr Antony Criglington, Miss Bronwyn McCall, Mrs Lynne Hall, Mrs Denise Sanne

Friendly Reminders

Gladwrap: Gladwrap can be a choking hazard, plus a lot of children struggle to open food wrapped in this. Please use baking paper or some of the other eco-friendly lunch wraps or containers available in your child's lunchbox. Thank you.

Sick Children: In order to protect your children and staff, please be aware that children should not return to the Centre until 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhea. If you are unsure what exclusion times are, view the chart attached with this newsletter, or give us a call. 😊

Handwashing: To support us in our teaching of handwashing here at the Centre, please reinforce this basic healthcare routine at home with your children. Remember: **wet, lather, scrub (20sec), rinse and dry well.** Handwashing is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. 😊

Website

We are currently reviewing the effectiveness of our website. Later this week we will be sending you a link to an online survey consisting of 5 multiple choice questions and one open question to allow you to add any further comments. If you would prefer to complete the survey in hard copy please see Kath in the office for a copy. Please take a few minutes to give your feedback – thank you.

Policies and Procedures Currently Under Review, Also Self Review Focus

Please take a moment to comment on the following procedures up for review, located on your left as you enter the hallway. Thank you – we appreciate your input.

- Poisonous Plants
- Children of Staff Attending the Centre
- Performance Appraisal
- Equal Employment Opportunities
- Role of Management Committee
- Staff Leave Procedures

Self Review Focus: How well do we build complexity into children's learning and learning stories?



Thank You...

- To all of you who donated to the Child Cancer fundraising event during our Wacky Hair Days and Wig Wednesday. We raised \$98.70. 😊
- To all whanau, families and caregivers who let us know when their child is going to be absent and when they will be away over the holidays. This helps us on a number of levels. 😊
- To parents who take an active interest in their child's profile books by reading them regularly and adding comments, both written or verbally to their child's profile teachers. This helps us plan more meaningful learning experiences for your child. 😊

Dates For Your Calendar:

Friday 7 July: Lantern Festival, 5:30pm at Church on the Way. Gold coin donation for dinner please.

Wednesday 26 July: Ngahere Explorers starts for Term 3.

Tuesday 8, Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 August: PJ and Movie Days (please pack their usual day-clothes too, should they want to change).

Matariki

"God hung the stars in the sky – the Great Bear, Orion, the Pleiades and the stars of the South. We cannot understand the great things He does, and to His miracles there is no end." Job 9: 9-10