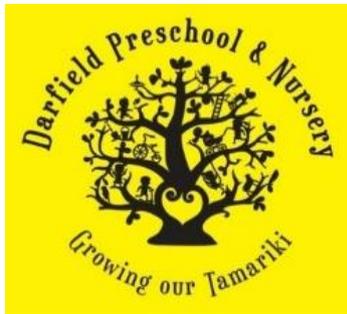


July 2017



Hope you have all been keeping warm during this cold weather, although chilly, it hasn't stopped the children being outside enjoying themselves.

Enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter.

Please let us know if your child is going to be away during the school holidays 10th July – 21st July so that we can adjust our staffing.

Thank you.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Hi there hope all is well with you, Brandon Heslop here, I'm one of the Trustees for the Darfield Preschool and Nursery and following on from last month, here's a little something about me!

My partner Rhyannon and I have two children, George who is 5 years old and Ruby who is 2 years old and they both attend the Darfield Preschool, and we live in Greendale just outside of Darfield. During the working week I'm a self-employed Arborist and any other time when the chance arises I'm a "tinkerer!"

My interests include the odd bit of rustic sculpture, gardening, DIY around the home, and occasionally I enjoy throwing money into "black holes" the technical name for these black holes is termed "old Volkswagen," yes I'm a VW nut!

My reason for wanting to become a member on the Board for the Darfield Preschool was simple, to give something back, in my eyes, the staff and the Centre help raise my two children in their early years and personally that is very important to me and I very much appreciate that, so I felt being a member of the Board could enable me to help the staff and the Centre for the better.

Ok well that's me in a nut shell, I do hope you are managing to keep the winter chills away and are keeping warm, thanks a lot for your time.

Brandon.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE



We have a lovely updated website so if you've got a minute go and check it out. We will be putting our newsletters on here and other news items and upcoming events - Darfieldpreschool.co.nz

HANGI FOR MATARIKI

This year our hangi to celebrate Matariki (Maori New Year) will be on **Monday 17th July 2017 at 5.00pm** and aim to eat at 5.30pm

If you would like to star gaze please bring along your telescopes and binoculars. We will also be toasting marshmallows over a fire in the sandpit.

This year we are not asking for meat or veggie donations but ask instead that you make a koha (donation) to the Spence family – Oliver has just started his 2nd round of chemo and has still has a long road ahead of him.

Please RSVP by 10th July so that we know how many to cater for.

STAFFING

We are pleased to welcome Jasmine as a new teacher to our Centre. She is in the first year of her Early Childhood Education training, please make her feel welcome. Janice will be moving into the Nursery full-time from next week, so will have a few families to get to know.

FROM THE NURSERY

Kia Ora whānau

The nursery tamariki have had a lovely month this past June. We are all looking forward to July bringing us the other half of winter, and closer to spring! Lots of cold mornings have meant we have found some activities inside during the mornings until the sun creeps over our side of the playground.



Some of these activities include:

- Enjoying some nice waiata/music group times, where the children have been eager to have a little kani kani/dance and show off their amazing communication skills, by acting out the actions to songs and asking for their favourites.



· Playing in the rainbow ring - this has proven a favourite for some of our infants, as they have been able to use their sensory skills to explore the texture and feeling of the satiny ribbons on their hands and faces, while of course playing peek-a-boo!



· Making some beautiful contributions to our Matariki display through art and creativity. (For anyone that hasn't read the description on our display, we celebrate Matariki as it is the Maori New Year, and was traditionally a time to harvest the winter veges such as Kumara, and share them together as a whanau.

Of course we have also been loving outside as per normal once we are all rugged up and ready to get mucky! Lots of tearing around with the cars and buggies for our busy bodied tamariki - they continue amaze us with their physical abilities and confidence!



Finally the Nursery team are very excited to welcome Janice to our team full time this July! Most of you will have met Janice as she's been working a few days down with us lately, but if not come and say kia ora! Haere Mai/Welcome Janice! We also welcomed Sylvie and her family to the Nursery in June.

Until next time,
Noho ora mai / Stay well, look after yourself
From the Nursery Team.

HAERE MAI FROM THE PRESCHOOL

Wow what a busy and exciting month it has been. Throughout June we have continued to see some amazing learning happening as our tamariki follow their interests in exploring and learning by doing in both the indoor and outdoor environment. We have been enjoying supporting some strong interests in literacy, creativity, physically active and imaginary play. Children's confidence, problem solving skills and social competence are constantly developing as they engage in play that is meaningful to them. Over the past weeks we have also had a busy time connecting with the community with visits to Sheffield School, The Community Garden, The Selwyn Art Gallery and The Library to watch Te Rerenga, The Fight of The Puppet. These excursions are wonderful learning opportunities that allow children to discuss their links and experience the many great assets we have close by. In addition, the lead performers in the DHS production of Wizard Of Oz visited and entertained the children with some short skits.

Another highlight in June was the sleepover, a great fun filled night where our tamariki excelled themselves. The pyjama day that followed was inclusive of all our tamariki, a day to unwind, relax and enjoy being together as a preschool whanau. It was heart warming to see some of the children who had attended the sleepover revisiting their experiences by making their own bonfire and pretending to roast marshmallows. Tino pai – Excellent!



Looking forward to another great month, from all the Preschool Teachers

Wendi, Corita, Janice, Jo, Hayley, Barb, Alissa, Ann-Clare, Amy, Jasmine and Bee

JULY BIRTHDAYS

We wish the following tamariki a very happy July birthday:



Indiana Carroll-Pudney will be 5 and is off to school

Kendall Petrie will be 1

Mackenzie Blakemore-Willocks will also be 1

Good luck to **Indiana** and **George Heslop** who both start school after the holidays.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the guy's at the MENZ SHED for repairing and painting our wagon for us.



It looks like new and the children have loved having it back.

STARTING SCHOOL

Children usually start school when they turn 5 and our system is set up to account for this and their preschool space will finish once they turn 5.

If your child turns 5 before the end of 2017 and you haven't already let us know they will be staying the likelihood is that we won't have a space for them. If your child is turning 5 in 2018 and you are thinking of

keeping them at preschool after their birthday please see Clare now.

If your child will be starting school in the next year please remember that you do need to enrol them at the school of your choice before they start school. Schools like to know in advance how many children will be starting at their schools to enable them to sort their staffing, classrooms etc.



NO SWEARING PLEASE

We do understand that swearing does happen at home and out in the community, sport, etc but please can you try to refrain from swearing when you come into the Preschool.

ACCIDENT FORMS

If 'accident form' is written next to your child's name on the enrolment form please see a teacher so they can explain what happened and get you to sign the accident form acknowledging that you have been advised. This is a requirement from the Ministry of Education and may help you to understand the bump on their head at bedtime 😊

PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Please understand that our teachers need to keep a professional relationship with parents/caregivers and children at all times. This means we discourage them becoming 'friends' with parents on Facebook so as not to put them in any uncomfortable situations that might arise around discussions about children. We understand that you may have already been friends or family members with them before your children started at Preschool but please don't ask them questions that they may be unable to answer due to our confidentiality rules.



NAPPIES

We are using an increasing number of preschool nappies. We do remind you and ask for nappies to be sent in before they run out either in person or by writing it on the sign in sheet. If we continue to use so many preschool nappies we will start charging \$1 for every nappy that is used.

FROOZE BALLS FUNDRAISER

We will be sending home a box of 8 packets of Frooze Balls for you to sell to family and friends if you can. They are \$20 per box or \$2.50 per packet. The boxes contain a selection of flavours. If you sell them and would like more please come and see us in the office.

We are hoping to purchase a new wooden train set and another large black tray. Thank you for your support.

LABELS FROM STUCK ON YOU

Stuckonyou Labels supply a huge selection of personalised labels, lunch boxes, drink bottles, clothing etc. If you order via the link below we will get a percentage back as a fundraiser.

<https://www.stuckonyou.nz/affiliate/fundraiser/DARFIELDPRESCHOOL>

When ordering please put **DARFIELDPRESCHOOL** as the fundraising code. Thank you.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS



If you are looking for something to do in the school holidays there are lots of ideas in the Entertainment Book - you could try skiing at Porters, a ride on the Gondola, a visit to Willowbank, take in a movie at Hoyts or just a nice visit to a café. We still have a number of books available for purchase – the

digital version is constantly being updated with new places and offers.

Either click on the link below or see Lou to get a book.

<http://www.entbook.co.nz/9a27754>

CLOTHES DURING WINTER MONTHS

As the wet and cold weather is here please make sure your child has a **named** jacket and gum boots as we will still be exploring outside when we can. We are trying to get the children to leave their wet muddy gum boots outside when we come back in so if you would like to bring in a pair of slippers (**named of course**) for them to change into, that would be great. Parents, be a good role model and please leave your boots outside too! Thanks.

****Remember to name all tops, bottoms, socks, slippers, jackets and gum boots as children do take**



their own clothes off and leave them everywhere and sometimes we have trouble trying to match items with their owners (hence the many things in the lost property box).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AGM meeting – Tuesday 4th July 7.30pm at Preschool

School Holidays – 10th July - 21st July 2017

School holidays – 2nd October – 13th October 2017

Labour Day – Monday 23rd October – we are closed

Canterbury Day Friday 17th November – we are closed

Have a great month / Mā te wā

CLARE AND THE TEAM



Don't forget to like our Darfield Preschool & Nursery Facebook page. This is where we post news, important reminders and even closures due to snow etc. so please go and like the page and keep informed. We will of course still send out newsletters, emails and put important messages on our answer machine if needed.