



August 2017

Well we have had a few weeks of cold, wet and snowy weather but the children have still enjoyed outside play building snowmen, sledding down the hill and jumping in puddles. Hopefully the sun will come out now and warm us all up!



Enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter.

Please remember to complete the online survey if you haven't already done so. Also if you said yes to the focus group please come and see us. Thank you

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PQRRHPC>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Hi, my name is Fiona Stechmann and I live in Glentunnel.

We have two children, one who is 6 years old and now attends Glentunnel School but did attend Darfield Preschool and one who is 3 and who has been at Darfield Preschool part time since she was 18 months old.

I have been on the Board of Trustees for just over a year now and have found the insight into the running of the Centre really interesting. I really love how committed the Staff and Board are to continuously improving the Centre and being able to have some input into this is really rewarding.

In my life before kids I was an Outdoor Instructor and have a degree in Sustainability and Outdoor Education. I am still passionate about educating children in the outdoor environment and promoting sustainability and am excited to see the Centre working towards more sustainable practise.

I am happy to chat with people about what the Board does, so feel free to stop me if you see me during drop off and pickup times.



STAFFING

Ariana Batstone has started with us on a Wednesday and Friday as a volunteer while she completes her Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education).



Hi my name is Ariana Batstone I am currently in my first year of study with Te Rito Maioha. I have four children two that attend Darfield Preschool and Nursery Emily (4) and Harry (1.5) and two older children who attend Darfield High School George (11) and Molly (14). I enjoy working with children of all ages. I enjoy singing, particularly waiata, and both play and coach netball for South Malvern. I look forward to meeting you and working alongside your children.

HANGI

Many thanks to all those families who attended, it was great to catch up with everyone outside the normal busy Centre hours.



Olivier's Mum and Dad, Liz and Kyle, were blown away by all the support you have all shown for their family and have asked me to pass on their thanks. When they were here they could not find the words.

Oliver has had his second lot of chemotherapy and things were looking good. He has been able to be at home which makes a huge difference. We will continue to keep you updated on his progress.

Many thanks to Hirini Mackie for organising the cooking of the hangi. Many thanks also to Clare, Bee's Nan, who made the Maori Fry Bread, this was enjoyed by all.

Again thanks to all those who contributed their time and the donations of money and food.

NEWS FROM THE NURSERY

What a cold wintery month it has been for us here. Even with all the rain and the snow it hasn't stopped the tamariki making the most of all the learning opportunities that arise from the weather. The snow certainly allowed us to all dress up warm and explore the cold white stuff that fell from the sky. With many tamariki getting cold hands while they explored they found that it was more fun watching Kaiako Netty from afar as she built a snowman in the playground.



After the snow we then had a huge amount of rain that made great puddles through the playground. As we were stuck inside for these days, we made the most of having our space on the



deck and borrowed the big blue crash mat from the preschool. The Nursery tamariki really enjoyed this as it is a challenge to climb up on, to stand up and bounce on. What a wonderful fun way to develop those gross motor skills alongside your peers.



We also continued to celebrate Matariki (Māori New Year) throughout the centre. It was wonderful to see so many families attend our annual Hangi to help us celebrate the Maori New Year and also raise money in support of the Spence family.



We were also very lucky to have Kaiako Netty's Sister in Law Linda come to the Centre and show us all how to prepare and weave flax. The tamariki and Kaiako had a wonderful

time taking part in the process and making some lovely goodies for each of the rooms. A huge thank you to Linda for donating her time to do this with our tamariki.

It has been a busy month settling new children in to the Nursery, we welcomed Maize, Georgia, AJ and their whānau to the Nursery.



Also a huge thank you to our wonderful reliever Kate who has been helping us while many of our staff have been recovering from illness.

Arohanui

From the Nursery Team, Emily, Chelsey, Netty, Janice, Mel and Pietta.

FUN IN THE PRESCHOOL

Wow, this month has been so busy with lots of fun things happening.

We had an extremely successful Hangi, with many families coming together to share the delicious kai. A big thank you to all our helpers on the day. Oliver Spence popped in with his family to say hello, it was great to see him as we miss him dearly. We would like to thank our families for their generous donations for the Spence family.

We had some excitement during the school holidays with the snow and then the flooding. During the snow the children enjoyed baking a very yummy chocolate cake and drank some warm Milo to warm up after exploring out in the



snow. We made a snowman and sledged down the hill, it was so much fun. The rain was fascinating for some children too as they watched our sandpit fill with water and the grass area turn into a pond. Luckily we were inside in the warm looking out.



Linda spent the day with us showing us how flax is prepared and how to weave some baskets and placemats. The teachers, children and parents enjoyed participating in this.



Looking forward to more exciting adventures in August.



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

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

We wish the following tamariki a very happy August birthday:

Mitchell Grigg (4)
 Anna George (3)
 Tamati Rangī (3)
 Lachlan Dennis (3)
 Riley Van der Hayden (3)
 Fynn Grenfell (5)
 Chelsea Van Leeuwen (2)
 Ryker Kaal (4)
 Eden Watts (4)



MOVING HOUSE



If you have moved to a new address or have a new phone number please remember to let us know as we will need to update our system with your new details.



Christmas Closure

We will close at 3pm on Friday 22nd December
and
We re-open 7.30am Monday 8th January 2018

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.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Some important dates for you to remember.



School holidays – 2nd October – 13th October 2017

Labour Day – Monday 23rd October – we are closed

Canterbury Day Friday 17th November – we are closed

Christmas Holidays - we will close at 3pm on Friday 22nd December and re-open 7.30am Monday 8th January 2018

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.



FUNDRAISING CORNER

FROOZE BALLS FUNDRAISER



We still have a supply of Frooze Balls if you would like to buy some. They are \$20 per box or \$2.50 per packet. The boxes contain a selection of flavours. Come and see us in the office if you would like some. We are hoping to purchase a new wooden train set and another large black tray with the funds raised from this.

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



Only 5 books left so get in quick if you would like one.

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

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

Thank you for your ongoing support with all our fundraising ventures.



NOTE: If you have lost a Samsung phone recently at or around Jelly Park Burnside please get in contact with us.

Website: <http://darfieldpreschool.co.nz/>
Phone: 03 318 8836