



December 2017

Wow, can't believe that we are already into December and our Preschool Christmas tree is up and the children are all getting excited. We are all looking forward to our Christmas party on Sunday 10 – 1pm and hope to see many of you there.

PEANUTS/PEANUT BUTTER/NUT BARS

We have had a new child start in the nursery who is allergic to peanuts. We are asking all nursery parents to refrain from having any peanuts, peanut butter or nut bars containing peanuts in their lunchboxes please. Those that "may contain nuts" are currently OK.

PRESCHOOL GATES

Please do not let your child open the gates as once they know they can or parents allow them to they are tending to open them when no one is looking either into the kitchen or the foyer and this is a serious health and safety risk. Thank you

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

We look forward to seeing you all at the Preschool Christmas party on Sunday 10th December – 10am – 1pm Remember to bring your hats and put on sunscreen!

The big man will be arriving around 11 (we don't want him to be too late and melt!) then we will have a sausage sizzle for lunch and some bouncing on the castles. All this will be topped off with an ice block ☺ We hope to see lots of you here. Older children, grandparents etc are most welcome.



CALENDARS

Calendars have arrived and we will be giving them out as we see people. If you're not in again this week please pop in and collect yours. Please remember to pay for your order or talk to us about adding it to your account.

AVAILABILITY OF SPACES

Please note – our waiting list in the over 2's is very long and there are no spaces until 2019, yes that's 2019!!!!

There are spaces in the Nursery but this may be dependent on age and when they go through to the overs side.

We are not able to change any current booking if you have not already asked and been added to the list, sorry.

WORKING BEE

Thank you to all the parents who came along and helped at our working bee, we were able to get many jobs done. If you couldn't make it this time we will be having another early next year.



SUNSCREEN

With this super-hot weather we are having please remember to adhere to our sunscreen policy. Do not send your children in vest tops but proper tee shirts please. We are encouraging them to drink lots of water to keep hydrated throughout the day.

KIRWEE SHOW

It was lovely to see so many of you at the show and thank you to the parents and staff that helped on the day.

We do still have raffle tickets to sell so come and see us in the office as we do have some great prizes.

STAFF PROFILES

Kia ora, I'm Netty and I work 3 days in the nursery. I have been working in preschool for a long time and some of the children I looked after are now parents themselves! My partner Graeme and I live in Darfield and our 3 children grew up here, they have all left to discover the wider world. I really enjoy caring, learning and playing alongside your children. This year I have taken on classes in Harakeke / flax weaving and for the rest of my time I like biking, walking, gardening and reading.



NEWS FROM THE NURSERY

Kia Ora Koutou,

This month in the Nursery we were very lucky to have a grant approved from The Four Winds Foundation so that we could purchase two new wooden kitchens for the children. It was very exciting when they arrived as not only did we have the kitchens, we also had many giant cardboard boxes to play in! The kitchens are being used every day, both inside and out. This play is developing our children's' imagination and social skills, as they are actively experimenting with what they have seen and



implementing this in to their play so they can make sense of the world around them.

Kaiako Chelsey has also been setting up some lovely huts outside, so we can all hide away in the shade, have quiet time and read to one another. The children have loved having these spaces available to them, and have enjoyed being there either by themselves, or with their peers lying on



the beanbags reading away to each other. Our immobile babies have also really enjoyed having this space in the shade and being able observe the other children around them.

As it has been quite hot these last few weeks, water play has been a huge part of our days. We have enjoyed having lots of water in the sand pit and getting really messy!!! Sitting and splashing in the puddles in the sand is a form of sensory play and allows the children to develop all of their senses, as well as their physical development, and social and emotional skills!

This month we welcome Henry, Brendon, Harry, Logan, and their Whānau in to the Nursery. We are all very excited to get to know you and your families more.



We have lots of unnamed clothing at the moment. Please ask one of our Nursery Kaiako to show you where the basket is.



With the lovely warm weather please provide us with lots of clothes as we will be using water most days. If your child has a swim t-shirt you are welcome to bring this

along too as we will be getting out the paddling pool as well.

We now are a Nut Free Nursery. This is because we have a new child starting who is allergic to nuts. Please no longer send any nut items in your child's lunch box if they attend the Nursery. For example peanut butter sandwiches, nut bars, chopped nuts etc. If you need any lunch box alternatives please ask one of the Kaiako.

Thank you for your understanding.

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

WHAT BEEN HAPPENING IN THE PRESCHOOL?

Kia Ora

November has flown by and I can't believe we had the Christmas tree up on the 1st of December! The weather has hit and we have had some very hot days which has seen us having fun under the sprinkler and in the sandpit with water (please send lots of spare clothes or even a rash top). We are talking to the children about how to be sun smart, learning about the UV lens app. and putting it all into practice.



We are also practising some Te Reo songs for a local get together we are attending on Friday with Annabels & some of the schools in the area. This is part of our Malvern Community of Learning initiative to create partnerships and good transitions for our Malvern learners from 0 -18 years old. We will be taking some of the older children to the High School on a bus, kindly donated by Torlesse Travel.

On November 3rd we spent time at Sheffield School visiting their Pet Day and catching up with Friends.

We have been busy in the garden – weeding, planting and watering the seedlings we have grown. We have also eaten a few strawberries and some children are keeping a close eye on the white ones waiting for them to turn red and be eaten.



We hope you have been finding the 'news board' in the foyer a valuable tool for finding out what we have been up to each day and take the time to have a quick read. If you have

feedback about it please talk to any teacher, we really appreciate knowing if it is working or not.

Have a good month from the Preschool Team

PEA GRAVEL CLOSED

You will see we have tape up at the moment. We have found bees in our dirt around the gravel area. We have spoken to some bee keepers but it is not possible to move them. We are currently dealing the matter but it will take a few days. We wish to keep the children safe. They will be able to explore other areas of the playground and learn new things.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish the following tamariki a very happy November birthday:

Sheena Butler-Chapman (2)
Isabella Boulton (3)
Jack Faulkner (4)
Noel Cattermole (4)
Sophia Forrester-Rolton (5)
Fletcher Monk (3)
Zione Limbe (3)
Aiden Lenssen (2)
Sophia Stechmann (4)



SUNSCREEN QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all those who completed our survey regarding changes we wish to make to our sunscreen policy. As we are right in the height of summer we will be continuing as we are for the time being. Hats & sunscreen compulsory.

The main reason for the delay is that we are very lucky to be receiving a full weather station from the company that developed the UVlens app that we use for our UV levels. They normally only provide it (at a cost) to high schools. Due to the technology part being a bit complicated. However we have a wonderful tech person, Stephan Williamson, who is happy to come and set it up for us.

It will provide not only the temperature, wind, humidity etc but the accurate UV level through the day. This means we will have an actual reading and we will work with it to see how we may make our Sunsmart policy even more effective.

Another bonus is that our actual reading will be able to be downloaded to their app to give an accurate level not an estimated, that everyone in Darfield can use.

So please bear with us while we get this fantastic facility up and running (once it arrives) 😊

TERRACYCLE RECYCLING PROGRAMME



Many of you may have noticed the red lidded container in the foyer with old tooth brushes and empty toothpaste tubes in, well this is a new recycling programme where each toothbrush or tube earns us 2c. That doesn't sound much but if everyone brings in their old brushes etc it soon adds up. The old items that we send in to be recycled are turned into park benches.

So bring us all you old brushes, tubes, floss containers and empty toothpaste boxes and put them in the tub in the foyer and let's see how much we can earn.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Some important dates for you to remember.



Children's Christmas Party – Sunday 10th December

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

We will send out a small newsletter before Christmas along with an invoice up to 15th December.

Have a great month / Mā te wā

CLARE AND THE TEAM



Website:

<http://darfieldpreschool.co.nz/>

Phone: 03 318 8836



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 small 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.

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



These can still be ordered via the link below.

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

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