



# October 2019

Another month has been and gone and we've all been very busy as usual. We've had super-hot days and cold wet days to contend with this month, a complete mixed bag of weather we've had to tailor our outside activities to. There's been puddles from the rain to splash in, snow and ice, and then the sprinkler to run through and cool us down!

Take 5 minutes out of your busy day to enjoy our newsletter with a cuppa. ☺

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year the Children's Christmas party is on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 4pm – 6.30pm – more details to come nearer the time.



## HALLOWEEN

Join us if you dare on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 5.30pm – 7pm



Dust off the cobwebs of your favorite dress-up and bring along a plate of food to share.

We're sure to have a 'Spooktacular' time!

If you are able to come and help decorate the Preschool on the day, please let us know, thank you.

## CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN

We will be closing for Christmas/New year on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm and reopening on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30am.

This 2 week period gives our wonderful staff a chance to take a well-earned break and recuperate ready to teach and care for all the wonderful children in the New Year.

## OUR 30<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY BASH

Thank you to everyone who came along and celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday with us. It was lovely to see so many past and present families, teachers and board members. The children really enjoyed catching up with friends that had gone off to school too.

## Fairies in the forest

Wow, if you've been down the planation this week you will have seen the Fairy Doors. These are just amazing

and we would like to thank the Darfield/Malvern Menzshed for their hard work in making them all. Lots of our children have come in and excitedly told us what they saw when they went for a walk in the forest. They are still there for another week so pop down and see if you can find them.

If you would like to know more about the Menzshed here is a link to their page [www.menzshed.org.nz](http://www.menzshed.org.nz)

## Thank You Brandon....

We would like to thank Brandon Heslop for being part of our Board of Trustees for the last few years. Your assistance over the years has been much appreciated.

## CLOTHES SWAP

We will be having our second clothes swap on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 7pm until late-ish. Bring some clothes, shoes, scarves, costume jewellery or bags that you no longer use or like and swap for new ones. A great way to recycle and clear out your wardrobe. Even if you don't have anything to swap, come along with a friend and enjoy a night out.

There will be wine and nibbles and some special guests.

## CALENDARS

The children are busy doing their artwork for the calendars. The order forms will be out this week along with the samples for you to have a look at. If you would like a photo on the calendar, please either send us one to put on, we can print it, or we will try and take one for you.

All orders need to be back by the end of October with payment please at the very latest. They will take about 4/5 weeks to get back to us (in plenty of time for Christmas).



Any questions please ask.

## JACK n JILL PHOTOS

Our Jack n Jill photo day went smoothly thanks to all our helpers throughout the day. We couldn't do these things without our helpers, you are much appreciated. We have raised over \$500 and this will go towards our playground developments.

## STAFFING

It must be something in the water as we have 2 more teachers expecting babies! Congratulations Abby and Sara.

Abby is expecting her baby in March next year, and Sara's baby is due in January and she will be going on maternity leave at Christmas.

Lou will be away for 3 weeks from 25<sup>th</sup> October.



## NO PEANUTS PLEASE

We are a completely peanut free centre. This means no peanuts, no peanut butter sandwiches and no bars with peanuts on. Nutella is fine. This is

due to a child with an allergy to peanuts, so please be considerate.

## IN THE NURSERY THIS MONTH.....

Kia Ora Whānau!

September has been a month full of amazing learning with all of our tamariki

achieving significant milestones. The children's interest in group togetherness has reminded us all of the importance of relationships and the great learning that happens through



observation and getting to know one another. We

have enjoyed many impromptu mat times, action songs have been sung in a variety of places and we have also supported many small group activities such as painting, water play and sandpit exploration. The learning through these experiences is multidirectional and meaningful to each child. It has been immensely rewarding to observe how each child's confidence has developed as they join in or take the lead in initiating an activity. "Whose got the hat" and "Roly poly, up, up up" are regularly heard throughout our day.

More recently we have noticed a new area of interest emerging as many of our tamariki are learning about how their bodies work and what they can achieve. Our children have been working so hard developing their mobility and exploring different areas and resources. This is such an exciting and important stage which we will be fostering as we move onto our next group focus



of following the children's interest in physical exploration. We will be looking at extending on our resources in the indoor environment and with the warmer weather

upon us we have already enjoyed many days outside, making use of the spacious area to practice and refine existing skills.

Last week the Preschool celebrated their 30th birthday. To mark this occasion we planted a young tree which we will nurture to grow over the next few years. The

tamariki were actively involved in all stages, picking the chosen site, helping to dig the hole and finally planting the tree. Thank you to all of our wonderful tamariki and whānau, you are all amazing!

Earlier in September our friend Milly turned two and has happily settled in the Preschool - happy birthday Milly! Molly, Arlan, Fynn and Ollie are also spending time growing familiar with the Preschool environment ready for their forthcoming transition. The strong friendships our children have established are a great asset as they look forward to new adventures.



Ngā manaakitanga/best wishes from your Nursery Team, Mel, Janice, Netty, Sara, Chelsey, Kate and Pietta.

## PRESCHOOL HAS BEEN SO BUSY.....

Its Primary School holiday time again, which means at Darfield Preschool and Nursery, we are running our very popular 'Holiday Program'

We started the week with an invitation to the special people in our lives to come join us at Preschool and to join us at a few of our favourite activities and share some kai we made specially.



On Tuesday we hopped aboard a bus and drove to Christchurch where we explored the beautiful new public library. Loads found different sized LEGO which was very exciting, especially when there was so much of it! We were also able to dress-up, experience a ride to the top floor in an elevator and look out at the big buildings surrounding the library; lastly we enjoyed



some quiet time reading a selection of stories from the shelves before climbing back on the bus for the ride home where many of us fell asleep!

The adventures will continue for the next two weeks including outings to the Four Square, Garden Centre and Westmar Retirement Village and activities at Preschool include a Pet Day, pyjama day, camping day and Rugby World Cup day!



Lots of fun activities for everyone to experience.

### BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

We would like to wish the following tamariki a very Happy October Birthday to...

- Isaac McInerney (3)
- Molly Overend (2)
- Harry Batstone (4)
- Hannah Grenfell (5)
- Theo McLeod (4)
- Ryan de Ville (4)
- Fynn Gallacher (2)
- Macleod King (5)
- Oakley Cole (4)
- Georgia Cracknell (4)



Off to school this month are Callum Gerritsen, Hannah Grenfell, Annabelle Scollay, Anna George, Cameron Armstrong and Macleod King. We wish them all the best as they start their school adventure.

### An Activity to try at Home...

Make some simple Christmas decorations or presents together! Firstly, go on a scavenger hunt to find fallen dry sticks and other resources, arrange them in size order before safely gluing them in place! These are great to give as presents or put them on your own tree.



### LATE PICKUPS and ABSENCES

Please remember if you are going to be late picking up your child or if they are going to be away you can phone **03 318 8836** or email [darfieldpreschool@xtra.co.nz](mailto:darfieldpreschool@xtra.co.nz) or text **027 594 8423** thank you ☺

**\*\*If you do not let us know you are going to be late picking up your child, you will be charged a late fee of \$1 per minute as per our fees policy.\*\***

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Some important dates for you to remember....



**Clothes Swap evening – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October.**

**Labour Day – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Closed**

**Halloween Party – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 5.30pm – 7pm**

**Canterbury Day – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November – Closed**

**Children's Christmas party – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas Shut Down – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

**Re-open - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

*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.

Phone: **03 318 8836**

Mobile: **027 594 8423** (text only)

Email: [darfieldpreschool@xtra.co.nz](mailto:darfieldpreschool@xtra.co.nz)

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





A child's life is like  
a piece of paper  
on which every person  
leaves a mark.

