

Piwakawaka February Newsletter

Welcome to all our families new and old to Term 1. We are excited to have many new children start with us this term.

We would also love to welcome Michelle, our new Piwakawaka teacher. Michelle has been with us as a reliever for ages so she already knows all the children and is very happy to take on the permanent position.



You will also notice a new face on Wednesday - Carleen (from our Wellsford centre) will be covering so Pip can cut down to 4 days a week.

Hestia Women's
Refuge Collection

Hestia
Women's Refuge

Over the last few weeks we have been inundated with donations from you all. We are so humbled by your generosity and kindness you are showing to this wonderful cause. We are storing all your donations in Denise's garage and she said it is getting mighty crowded in there!

In conjunction with the collection we are looking forward to our Movie Night this Wednesday 15th. You have once again been very supportive and we have SOLD OUT of tickets!! THANKYOU all for your kindness, keep it coming!

PS did you see us in the Rodney Times?

Children's Portfolios

Our teaching team works weekly on your child's portfolio to create a document that is rich in experiences that tell the story of your child's journey here at Kowhai Kids. We encourage parents to add comments to stories or add stories or photos from home. Every few weeks you will notice a pegged note on your pocket saying your child has a new portfolio addition. We encourage you to read through this story at your leisure, remember you can take the portfolio home at any time.

Remember you can find us on FACEBOOK. 'Like' us to keep informed of all our changes and events.

Parent Evening

We will be holding a Parent Evening on the Wednesday 22nd February. This is a relaxed evening where we will have a small talk about Behaviour Management, and then you will have the opportunity to speak one on one with Michelle or Pip about your child. Please let us know if you will be able to attend.

Outside Area



Have you visited the Piwakawaka outdoor area recently? There are a few colourful changes out there. We are doing our best to make this play space as inviting and successful for your children as we can. We are still progressing on our improvements so keep coming out to see how we are getting on.

Interests

We are only a few weeks into the term but we have been so busy! The children have shown us they have a strong interest in cameras and telephones which we have spent a great deal of time supporting.



We have...

- introduced a real working camera that is just for the children to use
- taken photos, played them back on the camera, then printed them off the computer
- created phone art
- collected old non-working phones and cameras for the children to play with
- looked at the style of phones/cameras through the years
- created collage pictures with the phones/cameras we have cut out of magazines

Lately we have also noticed an interest in fishing emerging through the children's play. This is an exciting topic as we live so close to the sea and we are aware that many of our families do go fishing together. We are looking forward to all the exciting learning experiences we can create with this interest.

Please let us know if you have a boat you would like to bring in for the children to investigate.

Family Board

As we do have many new families we have created a family board where we can place photos of the children with their loved ones. This will help the children to build a sense of belonging and familiarity within the centre. Please bring in a photo of you with your child to add to our wall - this can be emailed to us if it is easier.



Caring and Sharing

This term, we wanted to have a group goal of supporting these young children in learning to share and care for their friends. We are using positive encouragement to praise the children when we see evidence of caring and sharing and we are modelling this positive behaviour ourselves.

Feedback

Remember we always welcome feedback of any kind. Your voice helps to ensure we are providing your child with the care you hope for so keep communicating with us - whether it is a concern, question, thanks or positive feedback - we want it all!

“The trouble with learning to parent on the job is that your child is the teacher”

~Robert Brault