

Term 2 Newsletter



Upcoming Events

Forest Education

CHCH 10:00am - Bottle Lake Forest, Fortnightly on a Thursday.
Selwyn 9:30am - Prebbleton Nature Park, Fortnightly on a Tuesday.
Oxford – no planned day, it happens spontaneously.

Playgroup

Every Wednesday morning, except the last Wednesday of each month (as we are at Forest Playgroup)
Spencerville Playcentre
6a Heyders Rd - Spencerville
9:30am – 11:30am.

Outings

Bivouac Making with a Park Ranger.

Thursday 30th May,
Bottle Lake Forest, 10am
Tuesday 28th May (TBC)
Halswell Quarry, 10am

Forest Playgroup.

Wednesday 29th May and
Wednesday 26th June.
At the Groyne, 10am

Library Lynette visits playgroup.

Wednesday 22nd May 10.30am

Autumn Walk in the Gardens.

Tuesday 18th June
Botanical Gardens 10am

Educator Pot Luck Dinner.

Friday 31st May save the date!

Last day of the term 5th July.

Kia Ora Koutou and welcome to term 2.

We have some fun in the pipeline for this term, parents are always welcome to attend any of our planned programme events, check out the 'upcoming events' section and feel free to join in, we love to see parents involved in the programme!

Mum2mum discount on wet weather gear!

Our Forest programmes will continue over these colder months, so warm and appropriate clothing is paramount. Gumboots, hats and wet weather gear become a necessity, so the children can continue to explore and be warm and dry while out in nature. Organic Kids have a set of wet weather gear available for our Forest Programmes in every size for use if wet weather gear has been forgotten or not available. We have a childcare account with Mum2mum so we can order children's jackets and overalls at about 50% of RRP. Please email louise@organickids.co.nz if you would like more information or prices.

Check out www.mum2mum.co.nz to see what's on offer.

Thanks for showing your support and understanding!

We have had a busy term with new families and educators joining us, the measles outbreak and a still a few hiccups with our invoicing system. It is looking like this is fixed, we will be trialing the invoicing with the educators first and then rolling it out with families beginning of June. Our phones have been red hot all year with a good percentage of our enquires coming from you, our families. We want to thank you all for your own going support and spreading the word about us and your home educator.

Nature Play Conference

Last month Bec, Lou, Sonia and Trina attended the Nature Play conference. This was a great day and a half of learning about all things nature and outdoors and the many benefits this has on children's emotional, physical, social and spiritual development. The outcomes and ideas were shared at our educator breakfast meeting last month, we are all feeling inspired with new learning and refreshed on the value of nature play.

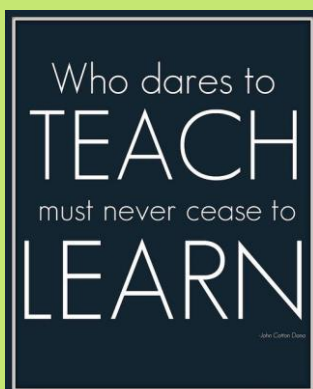
"Ehara taku toa I te toa takitahi, he toa takitini"
My strength is not as an individual, but as a collective.



Professional Development – What's coming up!

This term we have tickets for our team to attend a professional development workshop called 'Kindness' by one of our favourite presenters and speakers in Early childhood, Kimberly Crisp! This is on the 15th May and we are looking forward to attending, touch base with your educator for feedback.

We are also offering a 4E's consulting workshop to our educator team on the 25th June, an update on learning stories and how these are evolving across the sector. We are looking at how best to document children's learning through play, supporting the children's interests and using these to document their successes and growth over time.



Forest Education and Playgroup.

Our newest addition, 'Forest Playgroup' at the Groynes is going well, the children are loving the pulley system, mud kitchen, nature art, building with natural resources, tarpaulin teepees and making shelters. Forest Education is without the extra resources, simply out challenging our bodies and skills and exploring what nature offers us.

Playgroup

During term one we enjoyed watching the children's interests in their new environment at Spencerville Playcentre where we are now having our playgroup. It has been great to see the children building trust in their own abilities and taking on challenges as their confidence has grown riding on the bikes up and down the grass hill and up and down the ramps. There is a great range of vehicles at playgroup on offer and we have plans for utilising the enclosed tennis court next to playcentre for more bike riding fun and challenges.

In term two we have plans for some winter planting in the vege gardens to get this up and running again. Some of the children planted pea seeds at the community garden outing, we have a few to plant into the playgroup garden when they are strong enough. We are also looking into other seeds that are ideal for planting now, any ideas appreciated!

A look back at term one outings:

January – Welcome Back Picnic at Abberly Park, we had a lovely morning at the paddling pool, a shared morning tea and play on the park, lovely to have some parents join us too 😊.

February – Monavale River of Flowers, this was a lovely time to remember those effected by the CHCH Feb 22nd earthquake in 2011. The children put lots of beautiful rose petals into the river and we followed them down stream. We had a super warm, sunny morning to have a picnic morning tea in the beautiful garden.

March – Exploring the Rock Pools, this was a fun outing to the beach, we got the tides just right, with the tide being low there was a lot of active exploring happening and some great sea treasures found. Some very wet, but happy children at the end of the morning!

April – Our trip the Rawhiti Community gardens was great, we planted pea seeds into newspaper pots that we made together to take home for planting when they are strong enough. The children had the opportunity to work as a team to complete the scavenger hunt in the garden looking for different objects, the weather just held out!

Nga mihi – Bec, Lou and Charlotte

“Whangai ka tupu ka puawai”

That which is nurtured, blossoms, then grows.