

# Term 3 Newsletter



Kia Ora Koutou and welcome to term 3! We are in the midst of winter now and the days are cold! With that, please ensure you pack in you pack a warm hat, jacket and gumboots in your child's bag each day so the children can continue to explore outdoors, learn from nature and attend our Forest programmes.

## Upcoming Events

### Forest Education

CHCH 10am at Bottle Lake Forest -  
Fortnightly on a Thursday.

Selwyn 9:30am, Prebbleton Nature  
Park - Fortnightly on a Tuesday.

Oxford – no planned day, it happens  
spontaneously!

Check in with your educator on venues  
and dates.

**Forest Playgroup** – The Groynes,  
9.30am -11am the last Wednesday of  
each month.

### Playgroup

The first 3 Wednesdays of the month,  
including school holidays.

Spencerville Playcentre - 6 Heyders Rd  
- Spencerville

9:30am – 11:30am

### Outings

'Cooking in the Outdoors'

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August

Wooden Park TBC – waiting for  
approval from CCC. 10am

**Cavan Farm Fresh Milk visit**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September**

56 Ashley Gorge Rd, Oxford 7495

9.30am in time to feed the calves.

### Library Lynette

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August

Spencerville Playgroup, 9.30am

## Parent week - September

Parent week now runs over 10 days from 9<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

September. Organic Kids are sponsoring Celia Hogan from  
Little Kiwis Nature Play to present a workshop titled

'Improving Mental Health through Nature Play – The Early  
Years. We are charging a gold coin donation, with all

proceeds going to The Champion Centre to support the  
amazing work they do for children who need a little extra

support. Tickets will be available through Dash Tickets.

There are some great speakers this year for parents of

children from babies to teenagers. Well worth a look. Celia  
will be talking on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September, save the date!

## Discover.

Thanks for your patience as we iron out a few creases we  
have been having with the system. The tablets have not

proven to be very reliable at times as the developers  
continue to make updates to make the system work

effectively for us. Yes, we are the guinea pigs for the  
software for homebased care and we appreciate your

patience with the issues that have come up. These all hope  
to be sorted asap.

## FAMILY EVENT- Night Nature Walk- come and join us!

We have planned in a family night walk (5.30pm - 7pm)

with rangers from the CCC. Ranger Sarah is coming with her  
BBQ trailer and fire pit so we can toast marshmallows and

have a hot sausage from the BBQ after we have explored  
the track and found hidden lanterns.

The walk will start from the Nature reserve at 303 Radcliff

Rd, push chair friendly (gravel track) on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

September. We would love to have you join us!

"Poipoia te kakano kia puawai"

Nurture the seed and it will blossom.



### Forest Education and Forest Playgroup

Bottle Lake Forest and Prebbleton Nature Park and the Groynes have been our venues this term, we will continue with these venues next term as the children are developing confidence in their physical abilities and are continuing to take on new challenges, these places all have so much to offer.

Forest playgroup at the Groynes has continued to be enjoyed the last Wednesday morning of each month, we have had the added addition of a rope bridge this month whilst keeping the favourite pulley system and mud kitchen. Our new ritual of herbal tea in beautiful china cups have been really popular.

### Playgroup

Last term the children’s interests were mainly outside, the bikes, the new road signs, the sandpit, the metal diggers in the sandpit and monkey bars! We have been learning what the road signs mean as we ride and follow the signs.

The vegetable garden has been worked in with pea seedlings being planted from our community garden outing and general weeding and digging in the planter boxes. We will be involved in a working bee early September with Play Centre, the children will then have access to a new garden area complete with a new bike track.

### Professional Development.

Last term we offered two great professional development workshops to your home educators. The most recent one “Documenting Authentic Learning” has created a lot of reflection on the current way we are writing learning stories. There will be some exciting changes to the way the educators will be documenting learning over a term and we are encouraging the platform of Educa, so parents are updated more regularly on the programme. If you receive an invitation to join, please accept this so it can get underway 😊.

Some of the educators attended a Kimberly Crisp workshop called ‘Kindness’ about relationships and connection being the key to children’s success in ECE “You can’t drink from an empty vessel” meaning children MUST have love and connection first to play and learn. Strong relationships are one of the many benefits with home-based care.

This term we are offering educators the chance to listen to ‘Waste Free Kate’ regarding the amount of waste we use everyday and how we can be actively reducing this.

### Review of term 2 Outings:

May – Bivouac making

What a fun morning this was, we were excited to see the children’s willing engagement to find sticks that would fit the sides of the bivouac to make it stable, some great team works was observed! Scarlett (one of our educators) even took her children back to have a sleep in a bivouac, upon their request.

June – Winter walk in the Botanical Gardens.

This was a lovely way to spend a cool but sunny winters morning. The children enjoyed making kawakawa leaf tea, mint tea and herbal tea as well as playing in the leaves and climbing trees.

July – Loopy Tunes music session!

We love the Loopy Tunes girls! The morning was filled with dancing, action songs and the parachute. Lots of waiata in Te Reo was enjoyed and the children showed us their skill with poi. A lovely morning of moving!

Nga mihi – Bec, Lou and Charlotte

“Whangai ka tupu ka puawai”  
That which is nurtured, blossoms, then grows.