



# PLAYHOUSE NEWSLETTER

## July 2012



Dear Families/Whanau

BRRRRRRRRRR, July has definitely brought us some frosty days - this morning when the teachers went outside to set up the sandpit cover and the playground were all coated in ice!!

### BIRTHDAYS, WELCOMES AND FAREWELLS!!

This month we are welcoming Shion to the Playhouse family - Shion is joining us for 4 weeks while his family is visiting from Japan ☺ We would also like to wish a HUGE "Happy Birthday" to William H (26<sup>th</sup>) who is turning the big number 5 this month!! We will miss you William but we know that you have many happy school days ahead ☺



### WHOOPING COUGH

Auckland is in the middle of a Whooping Cough epidemic and we recently had 3 cases reported in the centre. We were in contact with Auckland Regional Public Health and followed their guidelines for dealing with this situation. A massive thank you to everyone for their understanding of the potential seriousness of this disease in a centre environment and for making sure that all unwell children are seen by a doctor asap - this is very much appreciated!!

### PUKEKO ROOM PARENT NIGHT

The Pukeko room are holding a 'Parent Night' on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July from 7.00-9.00pm** ☺ This evening is aimed at those parents whose children will be making the transition to school in the next 18 months. The Pukeko team will be explaining how we integrate the skills needed for school into our everyday programme, sharing useful tips and ideas and will be happy to answer any questions you may have about your child's learning ☺ We have also invited the Junior Syndicate Leader from Green Bay School to come along and let you know their expectations of a 'new entrant'. We are hoping for a big turnout as we know so many of you are passionate about your children's education! Please RSVP to the office by **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July** - Coffee and cake provided ☺

### PETITION

You may have seen on the news that there are plans to close the Ranui Special Needs Unit which caters for children with special learning needs. The parents and staff of the unit have created a petition to try and stop this from happening and have asked us to put a copy in our foyer for anyone who would like to support them in their cause. You can find the petition on the signing in table ☺

### WE'RE GETTING READY TO SHAKEOUT

At 9:26am on Wednesday 26 September (9:26-26:9), all children and staff will be participating in New Zealand ShakeOut - a Drop, Cover and Hold earthquake drill for all of New Zealand.

Participating is a great way for us to become better prepared to survive and recover quickly from a damaging earthquake.

You can join in too! We encourage all families to get involved in ShakeOut.

It's easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Sign up at [www.shakeout.govt.nz](http://www.shakeout.govt.nz) (it only takes two minutes).
2. Spread the word (share with friends, family and workmates via word of mouth, Facebook, Twitter and email).
3. Do the Drop, Cover and Hold drill at 9.26am on 26 September 2012.





# KIWI ROOM NEWS



Kia Ora, Welcome

We would like to say a big thank you to all those parents who have supported us with our photo Whanau board by sending in your family photos. It's lovely for the children to be able to see and point out their own family. 😊 Please feel free to check out all the pics on the family Whanau display board, they look fantastic!! We had a lovely student, Jessie from NZTC, in the Kiwi room for the past 3 weeks on her practicum placement with us. She passed with flying colours and we wish her all the best for the future. 😊

The Kiwi children have been busy focusing on their self-help skills and forming relationships with their peers. It has been interesting to watch them learn to comfort others when needed and helping the teachers by putting their empty bottles on the bench. The 'Kiwi' children also have been really interested in watching the ducks from the big window in our room. They have been getting their own chairs to put by the window to stand up and feed the ducks bread and to watch them swim in the puddles. Watching some of the older children becoming more independent we have decided to find more ways to foster this independence and will be focusing on this for the next month

In last month's newsletter, we said that we were looking at getting a bouncy castle for our little 'Kiwi's' - well our "Fun Day" has arrived!!! Watch out for a bouncy castle, coloured balls and balloons on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of July. It's going to be heaps of fun. 😊





## PUKEKO ROOM NEWS



We would like to welcome Aiden T to the Pukeko room and we are farewelling Judge who is moving back to Whangaparaoa, Theo and Sebastian and William who are all starting school this month ☺ The beginning of July has been much quieter than usual in the centre due to illnesses and school holidays but we are hoping that all will return to normal from next week! We are very excited that we now have a mini oven in the Pukeko room for the children to be able to watch the cooking process from start to finish. We have already christened it by making delicious shortbread, vegetable soup and our own mini pizzas - YUM!!

The rising of Matariki has made the children more aware of the dual heritage of New Zealand/Aotearoa. The children have been involved in lots of activities to celebrate the Maori new year - decorating stars, making 'Maori bread', making poi, planting seeds in the garden, and learning some sewing skills.

We are really looking forward to our Pukeko room 'Parent Night' this month - we hope to see you all there!!



From all the Playhouse Team ☺

Greg, Lynnette, Tiffany, Sandra, Tracey, Sam, Nicola, Melanie, Vanessa, Alisi, Molly, Suranji, Jade, Michelle and Rita

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