

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Have you met our lovely new Kaiako yet? ⇒
- Grant received for Playground – YAY!!
- Upcoming events in June

Gayle



Nicola



Maggie



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TENA KOTOU WHANAU

It is now the official beginning of winter which coincides with our new teachers starting Nicola in the Kiwi room covering Kathryn's maternity leave, Gayle in the Kiwi room as our permanent third teacher and Maggie who is in both the Pukeko and Kiwi room in a permanent position. We are fortunate to be able to have three passionate and motivated teachers to join our team in one go. A huge thankyou to our teaching team and Hayley for all the extra work they have put in over the past two weeks while I was away with the flu. You are all amazing.

With Educa you can invite people to be able to view your children's learning journey. With our families sometimes living away from us this is a great way to keep them informed. They also will have the option to put comments on the stories as well. Educa has an app that can be downloaded to smart phones. This is free and will then bring up notifications when new stories and messages come through. If you need help with Educa please ask one of the team.

Just a reminder that we have staff based on children's booked times, if you are held up, have something on or are a little short on time please call and we can extend hours on a casual or permanent basis. From firsthand experience, there are some nasty flu bugs around if your child is unwell please keep them at home. This minimises the number of bugs for all our families.

Keep an eye out on Educa and texts for our Matariki lunches happening again from Monday 19 – Friday 23 June.

Nāku nā, **Anna Hatton - Centre Manager**

FROM THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Some **fabulous** news from the governance committee this month. We have recently received another grant from the Lion Foundation for a massive **\$10,000!** This grant is to cover the next stage of the playground re-development. This involves relocation of the swings in the over 2's area and a transformation of the under 2's area with grass mound and sandpit to be installed. We have not yet had a chance to put any plans in place as to when this work can happen (no doubt winter will make this challenging), but we will keep you posted.

Over the past few weeks three new teachers have joined the Phoenix team. If you haven't already please introduce yourselves to Maggie, Nicola and Gayle. Welcome to Phoenix ladies! As you probably know, Kathryn ended up starting her maternity leave a little earlier than planned and the committee wishes her all the best as she starts her own journey of becoming a mum. With the changes to the centre's leadership team earlier this year we have missed confirming to the Phoenix whanau that Ange has been appointed as assistant head teacher. Congratulations Ange! Diana has opted to step back from leadership and instead has a new focus co-ordinating the transition to school program.

Recently the committee approved a new education support provider for Phoenix. Previously this provider was Kids First, but we are delighted to confirm that Lynley Hands will be providing this support from now on. Lynley will be a familiar face to many of you as a relieving teacher at Phoenix. Unfortunately, as her support role gets momentum, you will see less of Lynley relieving in the centre. However, rest assured her experience and passion for Phoenix will be making a difference behind the scenes, helping the teachers and committee get better and better!

And last but not least, welcome to Kate Parkin who has joined the governance committee and thank you to Nicky McDonnell has kindly agreed to take on the role of secretary of the governance committee.

Dale Neill

COMINGS, GOINGS & BIRTHDAYS

WELCOME

Reuben Hall

Eva Kirwan

Matilda (Tilly) Smith-Busch

Millie Hubbard

BIRTHDAYS

Jameson Harrison (4)

Henry Bennett (2)

William Chapman (3)

Heath Hormann (4)

Lachlan Hurst (1)

HAPPY SCHOOL DAYS

PUKEKO ROOM

Kia ora Whānau, Wow, where has the year gone – halfway already!!! A timely reminder – please ensure to pack your tamariki a very warm jacket and a woolly hat each day. We are outside almost every day and your child is welcome to come outside if they choose. We have a very limited supply of jackets which are primarily spares if their own gets wet. Gumboots are a great addition for outdoor play – we encourage the tamariki to respect tikanga and please leave these at the door for outdoor use only.

This month we have continued to develop and extend our curriculum focus of "Representation". We have had fire fighters and police complete with their costumes and equipment, and they have initiated play in the fort which represents their station. We hope to develop this play further with a visit from a local police officer. Our amazing Kaiako Sharon has been working hard with lots of "meanies" as they splish splash splosh all about the preschool – Mrs Wishy Washy has certainly had her work cut out for her as she cleans up after them. We have had puppets, board stories, plays, and even representation of working theories around birds and flying. The tamariki continue to be interested in developing and representing their understanding of symbols, letters and numbers and working hard to write their names. We have a wall display of children's representations of their mums, themselves, and of their family units. To support this theme, we would love to have a family photo to add to our whānau tree, the tamariki take such pride in showing off these photos to their friends.

Over the last few weeks you may have noticed a new addition to our table top activities – magnetic tiles. A big thank you to Carole and to the Hulme Family for gifting us this resource, it has been hugely popular among all the children.

The Pukeko Kaiako have been pleased to welcome Maggie to the team. If you haven't had the chance to meet her yet please take the time to introduce yourself. Maggie has lots of enthusiasm and is settling in well - the tamariki are very excited to see her each day.

Mother's Night was a great success with mums gaining some valuable knowledge around foods that we use in our lunchboxes each day. There were some mighty fine culinary skills demonstrated by the tamariki as the Kaiako worked closely together with them to create some tasters to finish of the evening with. The recipes will follow on educa.

Our Letterland Letter from Tues 6 – 20 June is **Walter Walrus Ww**



UPCOMING EVENTS IN JUNE:

LIBRARY WALK – (older children) Wednesday 28 June 2017

ROSEBANK VISIT – date to be confirmed, we hope to also welcome them to our centre

MATARIKI – Monday 19 – Friday 23 June, event to be confirmed

The Pukeko Kaiako really appreciate your assistance on any visits into our community as it makes it possible. If there is a particular day and time of the week that you are free to help out it would be great to know so that we can make visits such as Rosebank more frequent.

Arohanui, **The Pukeko Kaiako – Diana, Ange, Sarah, Sharon & Maggie**

KIWI ROOM



We have been so lucky to get some more floor space from the Pukeko room and the children, staff and the parents are loving it!

We warmly WELCOME Nicola, Gayle and Maggie to the team and we are all having fun getting to know each other and looking forward to working together. Please make yourself known to them if you haven't already.

New resources have arrived for the Kiwis. Four beautiful colour boxes with colour coordinated objects that the children can post inside them, they have been very popular already! Also, a lovely floor mat depicting the beach with images of shells, stones etc. A BIG thank you also to Diana who has donated a large carpet square for our increased space. Another thank you goes to Carole who donated a tee pee to the Kiwis when she recently left.

Henry is transitioning through to the Pukeko room and we have had Rueben and Hudson visiting and Eva and Tilly will be starting their visits soon.

Please send your child with a good warm jacket, hat and appropriate footwear on these wintery mornings. "There is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing."

Any questions? Please feel free to ask any of the team!

KEEP WARM & KEEP WELL

The Kiwi Kaiako - Jo, Nicola, Gayle and Maggie

THANK YOU

A **HUGE** thank you to:

- Carole and the Hulme family for gifting us some wonderful magnetic tiles
- Willow & Poppy (Diana's granddaughters) some sensory blocks and books for the Kiwi room

SUNSMART FACT



Leave wrinkles to the elephants

Your skin is like an elephant – it remembers all the UV exposure you have received throughout your life. All the sunburns, tans and time spent outdoors without sun protection adds up and increases your long-term risk of skin cancer. So it's a good idea to slip, slop, slap and wrap in summer.



HEALTHY HEART



Just cook



Understanding food basics and learning to cook are great life skills.

June is 'Just Cook' month, so it's the perfect time to get in the kitchen with your tamariki, learn new skills and have fun together.

Grated carrot salad

4 carrots, grated
1/2 cup raisins
1 apple, grated
2T parsley, chopped
1/2T olive oil
1T lemon juice
Pinch of cumin (optional)



Combine all ingredients, mix & serve.

Learn and practice skills such as:

- stirring
- mixing/folding
- chopping
- grating

Choose an in-season ingredient and decide as a whānau what you would like to make with it e.g.

- Pumpkin soup
- Roasted root vegetable medley
- Leek & potato soup
- Rhubarb crumble

As the weather cools down, eating well is a great way to keep us in tip-top health. Some ingredients that can help with this are onion, garlic, ginger and citrus fruit.

For recipes & tips visit fuelled4life.org.nz & search 'winter' or www.heartfoundation.org.nz/freecookbooks



Ways to celebrate Matariki



Matariki is the Māori name for the group of stars that rise into the sky in mid-winter. This signals the Māori New Year. It is a celebration of people, culture, language, spirituality and history.

Matariki is due to begin on 25 June 2017. Here are some ideas to celebrate.



Photo: Nasa (via Wiki Commons)

Have a shared lunch or hāngī.

Cook with traditional Māori vegetables, e.g. kūmara, taewa (Māori potatoes), kamo kamo, taro, puha (similar to cabbage) and uwhi (yam).

Explore the outdoors

Matariki was a time to learn about the natural world. Embrace this tradition by enjoying time outside, helping at an edible garden or planting seedlings.

Spend time with kids in the kitchen

During Matariki, tribal traditions and teachings were passed down from one generation to the next. Now is a great time to teach children how to cook.

Be creative with arts, crafts, music and dance

Read stories or legends, make a poi and perform a dance, sing twinkle twinkle in Te Reo.

Get involved

Look out for activities and events in your community as part of the Matariki Festival 2017.

For whānau-friendly recipes, visit fuelled4life.org.nz