

May 2019 – Haratua

ISSUE # 44

### THANK YOU

A **HUGE** thank you to:

- **Macrocraft** for their bag of off cuts for the carpentry table and a bag of wood shavings for our sensory play
- **Greg McNeil** (Hunter's Grandad) for the Fontera longlife milk and ice blocks
- **Jack McDonnell** for his generous gift of two carpentry toolsets for our carpentry area
- **Pottinger Family** for their generous gift of two mocka balance bikes
- **Marloes Morrison** (Lachlan's mum) & the team at Rural co for the pencils, hats & drink bottles
- **Jane Fowles** (Amelia's mum) for the trike
- **Kylie Grieve** (Freddy & Sadie's mum) for the kitchen set
- **Ryan & Kate Parkin** (Max & Freya's mum & Dad) for putting up the new garden sheds
- **Hayley Harrison** (Poppy & Willow's mum) for sharing knowledge of her time as a NZ Navy Medic with the tamariki for ANZAC Day. Hayley also bought along a poppy making activity that the tamariki enjoyed
- **MENZ Shed** for repairing our pram and digger
- **Chace Kamate** for his farewell gift of 5 floor puzzles



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# FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Kia Ora Whanau,

Last Board meeting we welcomed Rachel Thomas (Leo's Mum) onto the Board of Governance. It is great to have a new Kiwi Room parent on the Board and we know Rachel will bring a wide range of knowledge and experience to the Board. Thank you Rachel!

The Board are thrilled to announce that we are beginning the process to appoint a new position at Phoenix. We will be advertising for a teachers aide position. The idea of this new position is to have someone who is able to help with domestic jobs around the centre. This could include heating lunches, doing the laundry, sweeping the floor etc. The idea is it will free up teachers from having to do these roles, which will mean the tamariki have the extra time and expertise from our lovely teachers instead of time being spent on domestic tasks. We will be advertising very soon and encourage you to share the advertisement with family or friends who may be interested. We look forward to sharing the newly appointed person with you in due course.

You may have noticed two new garden sheds pop up in the Pukeko and Kiwi outdoor areas. These are to add extra space to pop resources in and to make resources easier to access. A huge thank you to Kate Parkin from the Board who organised the whole project. They look great!

The Board was thrilled to find that Phoenix Preschool has been invited to the MyECE awards in Auckland at the end of this month. We have been told that we have a chance of winning the Highly Parent Rated Award. This is so exciting and very fitting for all the hard work that our teachers put into the tamariki at Phoenix. It is really outstanding to be acknowledged by a national organisation who specialises in quality care in the early childhood sector. To get the invite is amazing in itself and I don't doubt that Ange and Hayley will enjoy representing Phoenix at the awards. We will be waiting with great anticipation on the day of the event. However, regardless of results we are so proud of our wonderful staff for getting this far along in the awards. It is a huge accomplishment and we would love to acknowledge and thank all the hard work and dedication our staff put into the teaching and learning, and love and care that goes with it for our tamariki at Phoenix. I'm sure everyone will agree the staff are a cut above the rest! So thank you!

If you have any questions, concerns or queries please email me on  
[boardchair@phoenixpreschool.co.nz](mailto:boardchair@phoenixpreschool.co.nz)

Kind Regards,

**Cathy Reid**

**On behalf of the Governance Board**

**(Kylie Grieve, Kate Templeton, Tom Kearney, Kate Parkin, Shelly Robson, Greg Hubbard, Hayley Harrison, Rachel Thomas & Sue Johnstone)**

## [FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

"Don't forget to check out our new Facebook page – Phoenix Preschool INC Ashburton and leave a recommendation"

## FROM THE PRESCHOOL MANAGER

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome to winter with a real blast! Please remember that we go outdoors in all seasons at Phoenix – this respects the needs of the individual child in that with everyone indoors it can become a noisy space, but also for the tamariki who choose to spend much of their time outdoors then this space is available for them. Ultimately, as parents and caregivers, this means please send your child with appropriate clothing AND an appropriate change of clothing (at least one!) in the event your child gets wet. Please ensure that your child's jacket is warm and preferably rain proof. We do have a limited supply of rain jackets and pants. We also have a very limited supply of plastic bags so preference is for a reusable wetbag to be kept in your child's bag at all times, or at least a spare plastic bag. We really appreciate your support to keep your child warm, dry and happy.

Last month we advertised to increase our relieving pool – these are the people we call on in the event that a teacher is on holiday, in training, sick or injured. We have added to our pool Tiffany Paulsen-Burst who has returned to us – the tamariki are so excited to have her back! Some other unfamiliar faces you may have seen in the centre at pick up or drop off are Carla Chamberlain, Judith Cullimore, and Kate Williams. We also have Alyshia Stevens and Santosh Clark. Our other relievers include Robyn Chapman, Karen Cudmore and Carole Gielingh – unfortunately Caroline Andrews is away on injury leave at the moment but we hope to have her back with us before the end of the year. We follow through a robust risk assessment check which includes a police check on every staff member that we appoint (permanent teachers, relief teachers, support staff and regular volunteers). Please feel reassured that I take a great deal of care in who I appoint into this very important role at Phoenix – when one of our teachers is away, I only want the best in their place.

We are also really excited to start advertising for the role of Teacher Aide this month!! This will take a huge pressure off the Kaiako as they will be able to devote all of their time to what they do best. It is envisaged that this role will support both rooms over the lunch kai time including preparation and clear up afterwards, and in maintaining hygiene across the centre including ensuring all our hygiene products are well stocked. The teaching team are really enthusiastic about the prospect of this new role. Watch this space!!

Lastly, on a high note - through all the amazing feedback from our whānau - myself and Hayley have been invited to attend a myece manager's summit in Auckland at the end of the May. We have been given indication that we are in the running for an award!! We are so excited about this recognition of the dedication of all the Phoenix team and what our centre stands for.

Heoi anō tāku mō nāianeī, that's all for now

**Arohanui, Ange**

## WELCOME, BIRTHDAYS & HAPPY SCHOOL DAYS

### WELCOME

### BIRTHDAYS

Sadie Grieve (2)

Hugo Hurst (2)

Hudson Black (3)

Jack Reid (2)

Olivia Rodriguez-Jimenez  
(4)

Archie Argyle (3)

Eva Kirwan (3)

Imogen Wood (5)

## HAPPY SCHOOL DAYS

Imogen Wood

# GETTING TO KNOW THE STAFF AND BOARD

## Jess Smith (Kiwi Teacher)



**Tell us about your family** – My family consists of three beautiful, crazy and very unique children, Jay is 14 and at Ashburton College, Leah is 8 and at Allenton School, and Hugo is 2 and cruises here at Phoenix Preschool with me. My fiancé Iain rounds out co-chair of the household and is a digger driving Scotsman from Glasgow. I am the other co-chair otherwise known as “the boss” and originally come from the deep South near Riverton. As a family we love camping, some more than others, and getting to spend time together.

**What's your favourite food?** at the moment it's dumplings (pork and cabbage), but I also am quite partial to the odd cheese and cracker

**Describe your life in a movie title** – Groundhog Day

**What's your favourite book?** Cliche but my favourite book is Jessica by Bryce Courtenay

**If you could be any animal what would it be and why?** I would be a Sloth, they look super happy and friendly and I could move as slow as my children getting ready for school!

**What's your favourite board game?** Monopoly is my favourite game, I enjoy the chaos

**If you won 20 million dollars, what's the first thing you would buy with it?** If I won 20 million I would pay off my Mums mortgage and take the family around the world

**Name one thing you take with you wherever you go?** I never leave the house without my wallet

**What's your favourite song?** A thousand years by Christina Perri

**What is your most favourite thing about Phoenix Preschool?** Without a doubt my favourite thing about Phoenix Preschool is the people. The teachers, children, the parents and whanau make the preschool amazing and an enjoyable place to work. I feel privileged to be apart of the Phoenix family. The real grass is a pretty big bonus too!



## Greg Hubbard (Board Member)



**Tell us about your family** - Married to Kate, children Reuben, Millie & Archer

**What's your favourite food?** Chicken Nibbles

**Describe your life in a movie title** – Crazy

**What's your favourite book?** Cross Crocodile

**If you could be any animal what would it be and why?** Honey Badger

**What's your favourite board game?** Risk

**If you won 20 million dollars, what's the first thing you would buy with it?** Buy a Holiday Home somewhere hot

**Name one thing you take with you wherever you go** - Phone

**What's your favourite song?** Bruce Springsteen Fire Live Version

**What is your most favourite thing about Phoenix Preschool?** The friendly and helpful staff



## WORKING BEE

Sunday 19th May

9.00am

We would love to see everyone there

# PUKEKO ROOM

Kia ora koutou Phoenix whanau,

The Pukeko Room has welcomed five tamariki from the Kiwi room, Hugo Smith, George Copland, Matilda (Tilly) Hurst, Toby Green and Hugo Hurst. We also have Jack Read and Sadie Grieve transitioning. The Pukeko team have said farewell to Loki Robson and Chace Kamate, as they both begin their next learning adventure at primary school. We wish them good luck and happy school days.

April has seen the Pukeko Room on many adventures. With the school holidays the tamariki were able to burn off some of their energy with a run to the big oak tree in the college field and then explore the treasures that autumn brings as they found acorns and colourful leaves. This led the children to further discover the trees in our environment and out in the carpark where they got to collect leaves in their baskets.

We were also able to get out into the community for an excursion to Rosebank. The children put on their bunny ears and set off to Rosebank Rest home to see the residents and wish them happy Easter. The group of tamariki, Kaiako and parents made and decorated cardboard Easter eggs to give to the residents. Where we got to meet Lottie and Hugo's Great Granny and also Jack George 's Great Granny too.



A big thank you to all our parent helpers that helped with our excursions.

We also had the pleasure of having Willow and Poppy's Mamma, Hayley, come to Phoenix to share her knowledge about ANZAC day. Hayley was a medic in the NZ Navy, before she was a Mum. The children learnt about the different military armed forces and Hayley shared photos and what work she did while she was in the navy. Then some tamariki got to make some ANZAC day poppies to make with red glittery cardboard and pipe cleaners.

## Events coming up

8<sup>th</sup> May - Last day for winter beanie orders

19<sup>th</sup> May - Working Bee

23<sup>rd</sup> May - Mothers Night

**Arohanui, The Pukeko Team – Nikki, Sharon, Nicole, Ange, Diana and Rhonda**

## KIWI ROOM

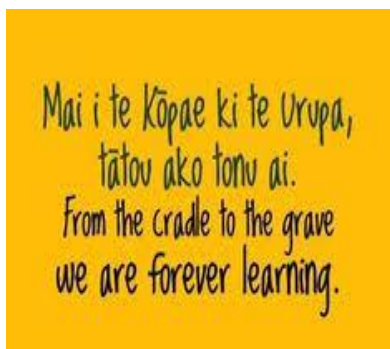
It has been a very busy month in the kiwi room. We have a group of children that are at various stages of their transition to the Pukeko room. It is great to see the way that these Tamariki are settling into the Pukeko room and their daily programme and forming strong relationships with the Kaiako in the Pukeko room. We wish them all the best as they enter this new chapter of their learning journey. George Dythan- Swift, Hugo Smith and Toby Green has started full time in the Pukeko room. Tilly Hurst and George Copland start full time in the Pukeko room next week. Hugo Hurst, Jack Reid and Sadie Grieve are in the last few weeks of transition and will start in the Pukeko room full time soon.

We have had Bella Fridd start in the kiwi room. Bella has settled in well and she loves her time here at Preschool. James Watherson has started with us recently and is settling in well.

The children in the kiwi room are very focused on their gross motor and social learning. They are doing lots of experimenting with their bodies and have a strong interest in group play. Some of the children are also experimenting with their verbal communication skills.

Arohanui

**Kate, Gayle, Jess and Te Awhina**





# TRANSITION TO SCHOOL

We have farewelled Loki and Chace off to school and wish them both all the best for the next part of their learning journey.

On the last day of term, a group of 10 Phoenix tamariki and 4 adults, walked to Allenton School to visit Mrs Smiths class Room 15. This was an important trip to form connections with our local school and teachers, and familiarise the transitioning Allenton school children with the new surroundings. It was also an opportunity to catch up with some former Phoenix Preschool children.

Our Pukeko Explorers Group have been extending their knowledge of ANZAC Day with a visit from Willow & Poppys Mum, Hayley, to share her experiences as a Medic in the NZ Navy. Tamariki learned about the rescue and support efforts of the Navy, Army and Airforce in Tonga after a tsunami, and with the help of photos and props, the group learned lots of interesting and important things that the armed forces undertake. After our talk, Hayley then made ANZAC poppys with the children. Thanks for coming in and sharing your knowledge and skills Hayley.

Mark this date in your calender ... Wednesday 12 June 2019. Wendy Perera, from Moving Smart, will present a workshop on Pathways to School. The workshop is designed for Parents and Teachers of 3 - 7 year olds and will give practical ideas for strategies and best practice for promoting the 6 areas of School Readiness. It will be held at the Domain Pavilion from 6.30 - 8.30pm. details on how to register, out soon.

Diana & Nicole

## **SCHOOL READINESS TIP THIS MONTH:**

Spoiler alert ...the 6 important areas of School Readiness are Physical, Language, Social, Visual, Auditory and Memory. I would encourage as many parents as possible, to come and hear Wendy and her strategies to support our children to be ready to "hit the ground running" when they enter the formal learning environment at school. Nicole and I are working towards these areas of school readiness with our older Phoenix tamariki, during our Pukeko Explorers group. It would be great to have whanau support this with knowledge as well.





# HEALTHY HEART



## FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK 12-18 MAY



**Fact: Food allergy affects 1 in 10 children under five\***

**But did you know it is rare for a child to develop an allergy to a food they have previously eaten without problems?**

**What's the difference between a food allergy and a food intolerance?**

- ♥ **A food allergy** is an exaggerated response by the immune system to a food protein. **Reactions** usually happen **within minutes** of eating a food that contains the allergen. **Symptoms** can include hives, itching, swelling, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea and nausea, and in some cases anaphylaxis (life-threatening).
- ♥ **A food intolerance** is an adverse reaction to certain foods, not involving the immune system. **Reactions** can be immediate or happen up to **20 hours** after a food is eaten. **Symptoms** can include (but are not limited to) bloating, wind, diarrhoea, nausea and indigestion.

**If you think your child has a food allergy or intolerance see a doctor.**



For more information on food allergies, visit [\\*Allergy New Zealand](http://www.allergy.org.nz)



## MOTHER'S DAY TO MUM WITH LOVE (OR SOMEONE WHO IS LIKE A MUM TO YOU)



### GIFTS FROM YOUR HEART

- ♥ Make her a card.
- ♥ Draw her a picture.
- ♥ Write her a song and perform it for her, get some friends and family to be the band.
- ♥ Write her a short story about how special she is.



### GIFTS FOR HER HEART

- ♥ Take her for a walk around the neighbourhood to look at the autumn trees.
- ♥ Take her for a walk to the park.
- ♥ Go on a family bike ride.
- ♥ Play a game in the backyard and invite the family or neighbours to join in.



For more information, visit [www.heartfoundation.org.nz](http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz).