

For Your Diary:



Term Three 2011

- ★ **Third Wednesday of the Month:** Kiwizone Theme Day (Watch for themes on greeting board, this will follow the children's current interest)
- ★ **Monday 24 October 2011:** Labour Day (centre closed)

Term Four 2011

- ★ **Sunday 25 December 2011:** Christmas Day (Observed on Tuesday 27 December 2011—centre closed)
- ★ **Monday 26 December 2011:** Boxing Day (centre closed)

School Holiday Programmes for Year:

- Monday 10 October 2011 to Friday 21 October 2011
- No later than Tuesday 20 December 2011 to between Monday 30 January 2012 and Tuesday 7 February 2012



Enthralled by the performance



Playing in the grounds at Waitangi



Learning the poi dance



Investigating the waka



TTS group at the marae

Our trip to Waitangi

As part of the children's interest in Matariki we took trips to the Waitangi Treaty grounds to learn more about our Māori culture. The three year olds went on 30th June and the four year olds went on 5th July.

We spent time looking at the different taonga on display then we headed down to the waka house. The children seemed to enjoy looking at the carvings and had questions about the waka, what the waka were used for and how many people each waka could hold. It was interesting to find that many of the children had seen the waka on the water on Waitangi Day earlier this year. During

the four-year-olds trip we also got an opportunity to visit the marae and learn about the kaupapa and respectful behaviour when visiting a marae.

At the end of our visit we went back up to the main building to watch the kapa haka performance. First we were welcomed with a pōwhiri and then we watched a haka and many waiata. We all were treated like royalty by the staff at the treaty grounds, and we have decided to go back to have a picnic lunch when the weather warms up.

Written by Samantha Harper and Adrienne Barrie



Heather Anderson

**CEO, Founder and Director of Kiwicare
Pre School**

Introducing the Blue Manifesto

The Paris UNESCO 2008 Forum was on *The Contribution of Early Childhood Education to a Sustainable Society*.

Kiwicare is well placed to link to this initiative. Education is humanity's best hope and most effective means to help the next generations understand the qualities and delicacy of our world.

The first years of education are where the foundation for lifelong learning and development is laid. If we can spark an interest in the Blue Manifesto concepts in our children it will help them enjoy what is ahead of them.

Look out for the Blue Manifesto in the Social Studies area in your centre.

In his book *Strategy For Sustainability*, Adam Werbach says "True sustainability has four co-equal components:

- Social (acting as though people matter)
- Economic (operating profitably)
- Environmental (protecting and restoring the ecosystem)
- Cultural (protecting and valuing cultural diversity)

To implement such a broad approach an analysis system such as STaR mapping might be useful.

This system creates strategies to understand that social change is constant, technological change is rapid and affects all forms of communication, and resources are not limitless.

Kiwicare's philosophies align with these concepts already as a leader in the early childhood profession.

Now with the implementation of our Virtues Project we can look at the possibility of each staff member thinking about their own personal sustainability project as a means of role modelling for our children and our centre.

If this is a topic you are interested in do let us know your ideas as we are in the thinking stage of this concept and would value all input .

My new personal assistant, Melissa Elamani, tel: 021321461 is the co-ordinator of this project so do call her or meet with her if you wish.

Event

We went exploring at the beach

On 12th July, the Kea children hopped into the Kiwicare van for a trip to the beach. We drove to Ti Bay then walked down to the beach.

Some of the children were very interested in collecting shells, others wanted to draw in the sand with sticks, and some even wanted to chase the seagulls.

The children enjoyed running up and down the beach, listening to the seagulls calling and the waves crashing and calling out to one another.

We picked up seaweed and driftwood and carried them back in buckets. After sleep time we cleaned and investigated what we had found.

What a fun adventure!

Written by Janet Jesen



Drazon writes in the sand with a stick



Kaitlin helps to collect shells and driftwood on our trip to Ti Bay

From The Manager

We hosted the Ministry of Education on Friday, 8th July to bring our licence from the 1998 regulations up to the 2008 regulations. A copy of the regulations are in a holder on the Kiwizone floor for your information; please feel free to look through them next time you are in. I am happy to say we passed muster and now are re-licensed under the Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008.

It has been a delight to welcome back some old friends; we have little Chloe Byrne with us in the nursery, Chloe's older brother Noah left us last year to start school. We also have Azy back in the Kiwizone and of course we welcomed Neveah Williams at the end of last month. Two new children are starting this month (August). On the other end we have had some very happy 5 year olds leave for school.

Nursery

Piwakawaka Zone

This month the children have had an increased interest in posting in our toy mailbox. They have been posting pieces of paper to each other and have enjoyed receiving letters from the teachers.

They have also been busy drawing pictures to post, too. We spent a week drawing with our marker pens and talking about posting the letters.

During our trip to the beach we took our letters in the van and stopped at the post box in Paihia where Olivia posted the letters.

The children were very excited to see their letters in the envelope and to watch as they were put into the post box. Watch this space for parent feedback!

Written by Janet Jesen



Olivia posts the letters

Toddlers and Pre School

Kea Zone



Cindy sorting out the shells

Continuing with our theme of posting, the Kea children have been posting various objects into different containers.

Little ping pong balls have been posted into tins with holes in the lid.

Drazon and Hunter then discovered what happened when they posted the balls down the tube. They watched them roll across the floor and repeated this activity with interest. Others have been putting shells into tins.

One day we had to put away our pegs, lids, and balls. A small group of Keas worked together sorting them into their containers. Well done tidying up our toys Keas!

Then, with a loud noise they all got dumped out again! And we were back to the beginning of filling up and posting the lids, balls, and pegs into containers. Finally it was done and we could have some afternoon tea. Hurray! Written by Mary-Pat Ross

Kiwi Zone



Riley filling in his pet ownership forms

July has been a month full of pet activities. The children behaved as different pets during pretend play or as pet owners. In every corner of the centre we now have kennels, pet shops or cats sleeping. Most of our days revolve around looking after and caring for pets. One day we opened a pet shop and all the children brought their favourite stuffed pet. At the pet shop every new pet owner got a certificate and care instructions. The children made sure all pets were properly cared for and also had a sleep during rest time. Karen and

Libby made an amazing dog cake that we all enjoyed for dessert on the day. During art we have made pet turtles, and face painting, and for our literacy we have read the Hairy Maclary books and learned all about Hairy and his friends. One afternoon Jack showed us his little puppy, and Alexis made her very own book about her cat. The interest is still going strong, and we will surely learn more about pets for the next coming days.

Written by Adrienne Barrie

Important Reminders

- ★ **Gumboots are great**—warm and easy to put on and off.
- ★ To bring **warm hats** for the winter.
- ★ To bring **spare clothes, especially long pants for winter**.
- ★ Please **talk to your child's teachers** if you have any queries or feedback.
- ★ **Our Primary School class starts this year** with Paula who will look after the four year olds—Adrienne will now look after the three year olds.
- ★ Please remember to **check the lost property box** for those missing items.
- ★ Please kindly bring **named clothes, hats and shoes**.
- ★ Please remember to **return your child's portfolio book on Mondays**.



Rory and Anya showing their pets

New Resources

- ★ New cot for our nursery babies
- ★ Lovely warm heat pump for the Kiwizone
- ★ Front porch for the Kiwizone



Jack learning the ukulele

Feature of the Month...



From Donna Wrack, Kiwicare Pre School's Deputy CEO

If you have any enquiries please email: donnawrack@kiwicarepreschool.co.nz

Science for Children

Preschool children are like little scientists – they are curious about the world around them. Every day is a new exploration for knowledge and growth. They want to know why clouds move and how spiders make webs and how a tiny seed can make a giant sunflower or why it rains. These ideas are all science and nature-related themes that are appropriate for the early childhood education curriculum.

In active science programmes at Kiwicare Pre School, children make choices, voice opinions and perform various investigations. Children demonstrate their interests, understandings, and emerging skills through their conversations; their questions; their actions; and the work they produce, such as constructions, drawings or writings. Through exploration and discussion, preschool children learn that science is part of their lives – and that it's a lot of fun!

Teachers ask open ended questions, such as:

- "What do you think might happen ...?"
- "Why do you think that happened ...?"
- "What do you see happening ...?"

Teachers invite children to observe something and describe what they see, encourage children to explore with all their senses: taste, touch, hearing, sight, and smell; and encourage children to think about possible explanations for themselves rather than just giving the answers. Preschool children find science in trips to the park and the playground, water and sand play, making fruit salad, rolling toys down a ramp, and building with blocks. Science is based on curiosity, and teachers reinforce children's inherent curiosity through plenty of discussion.

Young children may not be able to process the information completely and are satisfied with very simple and basic answers but exposing them to these concepts will build the foundation for a deeper understanding of science in the world as they grow and mature. Being aware of insects and plants and weather and animals is the first building block of knowledge upon which more building blocks will be stacked. Knowledge comes in baby steps as children mature and their cognitive abilities grow.

Transition to School and OSCAR

Transition to School



Checking the numbers

This month we welcome Brooke, Flynn, Hunter and Anyah to the TTS group. We have been extending the children's interest in pets by exploring books about cats and dogs. The children are able to predict what is going to happen in the story by looking closely at the illustrations. Then we read the story to find out if the predictions were correct.

We wrote our own story about a cat named Lulu. The children were able to use their knowledge about cats to create an interesting story with a beginning, middle and end. Then we decided to illustrate our story and we had fun experimenting with crayon and dye.

This month we have been learning some Te Reo Māori. We have been learning the Māori names for the colours and numbers 1-10. We have also started to learn how to introduce ourselves in Māori. We are developing number knowledge by playing math's games, matching numbers to sets of objects and doing dot-to-dot activities. Written by Paula Knightly

OSCAR



Look at our scary faces!

During July the Oscar children have been engaged with the other children in most activities.

Sometimes they have been just the little group and played different card games either with a teacher or on their own. One day the Oscar children were inspired by the other children's face painting and wanted to get their faces painted as well.

However, their interest was not pets; instead they went for more scary faces.

Some of the children show an interest in photos and over the next few weeks we will learn more about using the camera and how to download photos and put them into different documents.

Written by Adrienne Barrie

