

### For your diary:



#### Term 3 - 2011

- ★ **Third Wednesday of the month:** Kiwizone Theme Day (Watch for themes on greeting board, this will follow the children's current interest)
- ★ Grandparents' Day on a date to be announced. Watch notice board for more details.
- ★ **Monday 24 October 2011:** Labour Day (centre closed)

#### Term 4 - 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

- 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



Feeding the hens



The sheep were very tame



Tagen feeding the rams



Alexis investigates the chicken coop



Nathan and John fill the trough with bread

## Our trip to the farm!

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August, all of the Kiwizone children and teachers went on an outing to Bruce Gordon's farm across the road.

We knew this would be a great way to extend the children's current interest in animals. In particular we wanted to see where the chickens laid their eggs and whether the sheep would let us hand feed them some bread.

We were joined by Naomi and her son Jack Munro on our way down which was a wonderful surprise addition.

We were astonished that the sheep were so tame. The teachers handed

out bread and modelled to the children how to feed the sheep. We investigated where the hens lay their eggs. We discovered one egg in the nesting box and many golf balls. We discussed with the children why they thought the golf balls were put there. Many had some interesting ideas; we then explained that they were there to encourage the hens to lay more eggs. The chickens and ducks also enjoyed being fed bread.

Thank you Bruce for allowing us to spend time on your farm, I am sure we will be back again soon!

Written by Samantha Harper

## Around the centre...



Look at some of our exciting experiences this month...



Leah explores the possibilities of the promethean board



Chloe checks out the sandpit



Henry gets creative out in the garden

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A division of Kiwi Sport Pre School Ltd

## Event

### Keas explore the wonders of technology

Today the Keas—Hunter, Olivia, Samantha, Scarlett, Kaitlin, and Drazon—explored drawing using the Promethean board, computer, and printer. They learned how to push the interactive pen to make their marks. We looked at the bottom of the screen and chose the colours and thickness to draw. We looked on the computer too, watching their drawing develop. Then pushing print on the screen their drawings were printed instantly! Within minutes the children were holding their drawing in paper form. These were sent home soon after to share with their family. Scarlett exclaimed “OOOOh!” and Hunter making dots said, “OH!OH!”. All the children really enjoyed the experience. Next time we will view a slideshow of them from the camera on the big screen.

Written by Mary-Pat Ross



Samantha is very happy with her drawing!



Olivia is drawing using an electronic pen. She is choosing her colours

## From the manager

Kiwicare has begun collecting children from Russell via the foot ferry in Paihia each morning at 9:20am to start school at 9:30am and finish at 3:15pm to catch the 3:30pm ferry back to Russell. The children will need to enrol for at least 20 hours per week. Please ring Frances 09 402 7324 if you are interested in taking advantage of this free service.

Our long time supervisor Adrienne has moved on. Our teams are blessed with Adrienne's lessons and are excited by the challenge of emulating her many good skills. Rachel will continue supporting the transitioning and youngest children, Sammy and Donna will take care of the three year olds and Paula our four year olds. All this with the help of Adelle and Jae. With the recent introduction of the Virtues Project we continue to build children of good character, great self esteem and happy individuals.

# Nursery

## Piwakawaka Zone

This month we have welcomed Ella-Jane, Alana and Aaron to the Piwakawaka group. The weather is starting to warm up and we are making the most of the sunny days and heading to our garden to play. The children are eager to get outside where they find lots to explore. The youngest children explore using their touch, sight, taste and smell senses. The older Piwakawaka children are interested in using the cars and the sandpit as well as challenging themselves on the slides. We can continue our outdoor adventures next month as weather warms up. Some of our older Piwakawaka children have been following the Kea interest in ICT. They were very keen to use Janet's laptop to do some typing with the Kea children.

Written by Janet Jesen



Alana and Stella explore the car

## Important reminders

- ★ **Gumboots are great**—warm and easy to put on and off.
- ★ Please bring **warm hats** for cold winter days.
- ★ Do bring **spare clothes**, especially long pants for winter.
- ★ Please **talk to your child's teachers** if you have any queries or feedback.
- ★ Please leave **special toys** at home to avoid being lost or damaged at pre school.
- ★ Please remember to **check the lost property box** for any missing items.
- ★ Please kindly **name clothes, hats and shoes**.

# Toddlers and Pre School

## Kea Zone



Kaitlin running up the steps

Recently the Keas have been interested in challenging themselves in their physical skills. We have been practising running a circuit of going up the steps, through the gate, and down the ramp. As well as being enjoyable, they are improving their agility, coordination and endurance. "Go Kaitlin, Hunter, Scarlett, and Samantha!" shouts Mary-Pat. They are also learning the mathematical positional terms of up, down, through, and as well as counting the steps. After practising this on a number of occasions, Drazon had a new idea to extend this activity. Balls! His friends Kaitlin and Olivia joined in too. This proved to be not only challenging but also fun, which we have plenty of in the Kea group!

Written by Mary-Pat Ross



Drazon, Kaitlin and Olivia carry balls up the steps

## New resources

- ★ New room for teachers to complete written work
- ★ New laundry
- ★ Many new books for four year olds

## Kiwi Zone



Alexis and Lily are being big cats

The children have shown a strong interest in animals and pets for the last couple of months. They especially love pretending to be pets and imitating the things that pets do. While talking with a few of the children we decided that a great way to be pets would be to paint our faces. So we got on the internet and, using the promethean board, the children chose different face paint options that we could use. The children's favourite seemed to be dogs and bunnies but we also had cats, butterflies and even snakes. The children seemed to really enjoy this activity and it was extended

by conversation with the children about how to care for and maintain for our pets. We welcome Stella and Juliette and Jack to the Kiwizone. Written by Rachel Ashton



Brodie and Brooke are best rat friends!

## Feature of the month...



From Relinde Tap, Research & Development Manager, Kiwicare Pre School

### Words, words, words—expanding your child's vocabulary

Language skills are essential to educational success because language is used to communicate across all curriculum areas.

Priscilla Vail, in a book titled *"Words Fail Me: How language develops and what happens when it doesn't"*, explains the way children learn language through a developmental growth ladder. This ladder shows that children must have many multi-sensory experiences through play first to understand how the world works; these experiences include taste, hearing, vision and touch, all seen daily in Kiwicare programmes.

An environment rich in words helps the child to connect these experiences, the objects around them and their emotions and those of others with language. This will support children in developing an ever-increasing vocabulary which is key to future success in their social, emotional and academic life.

Parents can support children's learning by using the correct words to describe the world to their children. Use of words such as who, when, why, what, where, how, for example, are markers of time and space while other words such as joyful, kindness, respectful, angry, cooperation and turn-taking describe the words children need for emotional and social intelligence, an important part of educational success.

The development of a wide range of words in a child's vocabulary is something parents can support their child with in a fun way every day, for example through conversation, reading books, singing songs and by answering children's questions about the world around them.

Please ask your teacher about the Barbara Brann chart in your child's centre which shows the different developmental activities with which you can support your child and also ask them about the Priscilla Vail Growth of Language Ladder.

For more ideas please visit the Early Childhood Education government website which offers many different ideas to extend curriculum learning.

If you have any enquiries please email: [relindetap@kiwicarepreschool.co.nz](mailto:relindetap@kiwicarepreschool.co.nz)

# Transition to school and OSCAR

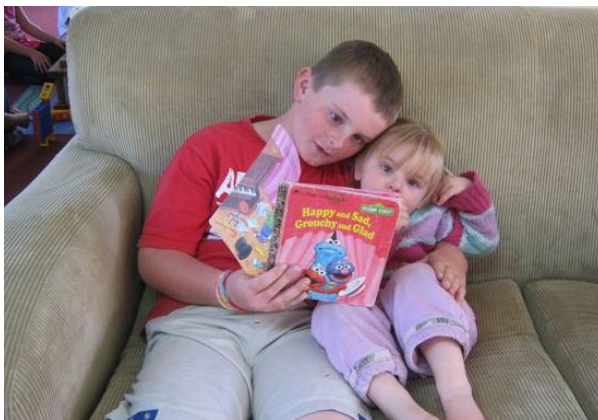
## Transition to school



The transition to school learners practise drawing shapes on blackboards

This month we welcome Nero, Julian, Hunter, Jack and Olivia to the TTS programme. The new children are focusing on holding a pencil correctly counting to 10 and they are learning to work alongside other children and to concentrate. They are really enjoying the Casey the Caterpillar method which involves drawing shapes from the story. Many of the shapes are similar to letters so this is great practice for them. I visited our sister centre in Mangere, Auckland, where they have a programme for four and a half and five year olds, and came back with a big box of literacy resources. A Mangere centre teacher, Sally Pugh, came up to assist me with developing a literacy and numeracy programme for our four and half year olds which will involve teaching them knowledge and skills at level one of the primary school curriculum. The children are showing a keen interest in the new activities and are ready to develop the process of learning to read and write which is very exciting.

## OSCAR



Big brother Jack reading to his little sister, AJ

We have had the Oscar children join us again for the holidays and it has been great fun having them. They have been very interested in the younger children's pets stories and they have had a lot of knowledge to share with the children about animals and how to care for them. The Oscar children have also been reading their homework stories to the children of the Kiwizone which they seem to thoroughly enjoy. Among many of the activities they enjoyed were

kicking around soccer balls, having their faces painted and sharing their skills with numbers and letters. The older girls also enjoyed visiting their younger siblings in the nursery.

Written by Frances Kelly

