

### For your diary:



#### Term 3 - 2011

- ★ **Friday 26 August 2011, 9.30am—1.30pm:** Pacific Safety and Unintentional Injury Prevention Forum (To be held in dining room at Tennessee). To attend, register your interest at reception.
- ★ **Sunday 4 September 2011:** Father's Day
- ★ **Tuesday 13 September 2011:** Grandparents' Day
- ★ **Monday 26 and Friday 30 September 2011:** Photolife for class and individual photos
- ★ **Monday 24 October 2011:** Labour Day (centre closed)

#### Term 4 - 2011

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

#### School holiday programmes :

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



Mint House monsters



ROARRRRRR!!



Let the monster march begin...



Yellow House monsters

## Our big, scary monster march

It started in Orange House and it wasn't long before word had spread around the whole centre - monsters are the latest craze! Many of you will be familiar with the children's book *Where The Wild Things Are*, written by Maurice Sendak in 1963, and made into a film in 2009. This is a story about a boy called Max, who loved to dress up in his wolf costume and dance and roar around the house. To settle her noisy son, Max's mum sends him to his room to calm down. In his room, a mysterious, wild forest and sea grew out of his imagination, and Max sailed to the land of the Wild Things where he danced with the monsters he met and was crowned as their king. Let's have a rumpus ourselves, we

decided. Costumes and masks were made and everyone practised their roars and scary faces.

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July, big and little monsters and their teachers gathered in the car park for a parade. Joshua sang for us and we all stomped around, laughing and roaring. Tennessee meets at 10.15 on Fridays for a special get-together where we enjoy sharing what we have been doing during the week. The theme for our Friday assembly is advertised on our blackboard. Everyone is welcome to join the fun. To view this story on line, Google *Where The Wild Things Are*- YouTube or visit the Mangere East Public Library and borrow a copy.

Written by Annie

## What's happening around our centre...



Look at our exciting experiences this month...



Master chefs at work



Bass drum play



Building an oven

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A division of Kiwi Sport Pre School Ltd

## Event

### Playgroup



Meet the lovely babies who came to visit us during playgroup

We have been delighted with the positive response we have had since our free playgroup began on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August. The playgroup is designed to offer a safe, friendly, social beginning for new parents to the centre. Our visitors are given a warm welcome and the children are invited to join in with the morning programme. At each session, parents are given the opportunity to play too! So far we have made dress up masks with Glenda, origami boxes, miniature pianos with Akemi and play dough fridge magnets with Lilani. If you have any special skills you would like to share with us and would be interested in taking a workshop during these sessions, we would love to hear from you.

Written by Glenda

## From the manager

We've been led to believe that fast is best and instant is better. When the alarm goes in the morning, we have camera, lights, action. That's how it is for us grownups.

Good news! There is a gift you can give your child at the end of each day. It doesn't take extra time. You are already driving or walking home. This gift is simple, free and fun and will give you an insight into the part of your child's day that you have not been able to share. Start with a simple conversation opener such as "I hear you have been learning about monsters. Do tell me about it." You will learn so much about what has made an impact on their day. Written by Annie

## Yellow House Nursery



Little drummer keeping the beat

Making music together is a precious gift you can give your children. Yellow House children are offered music experiences daily during mat times and we often have music playing in the background and love to communicate to our little ones using song. Molly has been very busy lately creating instruments to shake, rattle and bang using old tins, sticks and bottle tops. The cut out guitar shapes have been put to good use by older children who like to pretend to strum and to move to the beat. It is easy to make your own instruments at home. [www.kinderart.com/teachers/9instruments.shtml](http://www.kinderart.com/teachers/9instruments.shtml) has some great and easy ideas to try. Written by Tessy

## Green House Toddlers



Making music out of kitchen utensils

Our toddlers are always on the go and love to explore, especially outside. We have been having some delightful mat times lately and Kina Kina and the Jack In The Box songs are top of the charts. We also have lovely new musical instruments which our tamariki are enjoying using. One day the teachers tried something different and hung some pots, pans, pot lids and kitchen utensils out on the line and waited to see what the response would be. A couple of wooden spoons were added and before long our little ones had become percussionists. Open your pot cupboard at home one day and see what happens!

Written by Faaliliu

## Red House (2.5 to 4.5 years)

The Red House children have been engaged in a variety of musical experiences recently, such as making and playing a bottle xylophone and making a drum kit from old baked bean tins and their lids. This is great fun and definitely an outdoor activity! It was evident that dance was becoming a major factor amongst our children and so on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August after our singing assembly we held a disco in the dining room. Blue and Mint Houses were invited to attend and we all danced and sang to the hip hop rap songs Joshua has been teaching us from his new CD. Alvin recorded a DVD and we are looking forward to watching ourselves on the screen.

Written by Mohammed



See our cool disco moves!

## Blue House (2.5 to 3.5 years)



Building the oven - is this the middle?

Real cooking experiences are always popular especially when there is an opportunity to sample the results. The family play area has been busy with children making good use of our new kitchen equipment. We have been talking about cooking appliances and after making some delicious pikelets in the electric frying pan, a group of children joined Alvin to build a wooden oven. The children took their task seriously and spent lots of time carefully measuring, hammering and sanding. When the oven was finished it was carried to the sandpit for a master chef cooking contest.

Copies of *Everyday Meal and Snack Ideas* distributed by the National Heart Foundation are available free. Ask for a copy at reception.  
By Elaine Zhang

## Important reminders

- ★ We often make dvds of our Friday singing assemblies. If you would like to purchase a copy, these are available for \$5. Put your order in at reception or ask your child's teacher.
- ★ To ensure the safety of your children, **please remember to shut the security gates and always accompany your children** when walking through the car park.
- ★ An **information pack and DVD is available for anyone interested in enrolling their child in our 5 year old house** when they reach their fifth birthday. Please feel free to speak to any of our Orange House teachers, or enquire at reception.
- ★ Remember to name all your children's clothing, including socks. This is such a help when we are trying to find your child's clothes or shoes.



The Red House tin can band

## New resources

- ★ Furniture for the upstairs classrooms
- ★ Lots of wonderful, new literacy resources
- ★ Musical instruments for Green House
- ★ Laminator for Mint House



Stirring the pikelet mixture

## 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)

## Mint House (3.5 to 4.5 years)



Our wedding ceremony

The wedding day for Prince William and Kate Middleton on April 29<sup>th</sup> coincided with a cultural dress up day we shared with Orange House. Throughout the morning we noticed the children acting out wedding ceremonies and pretending to hold a wedding feast. A few days later the children watched video clips of the royal wedding and looked at photos in magazines. Our new interest in weddings was launched with lots of pretend cooking, hair and makeup classes and learning how to make paper flowers. Visit our planning wall and you will also see photos of some of our staff members' weddings. We would love to add any wedding photos you would like to share to our photo wall. Written by Veena

## Orange House (4.5 to 6 years)

During the school holidays, Orange House children and teachers took a break from their usual routines and focussed on monsters! This started with monster games and dramas and we read stories and poems about monsters and created life-size monster cardboard cut-outs. One day I arrived with a shopping bag full of delicious ingredients and when I opened the bag we were all very excited to find out that



A monster cracker - yum!

we were going to make monster crackers for morning tea. There were crackers for the face, cottage cheese for skin and a choice of pumpkin seeds or sultanas for eyes, grated zucchini, carrot and beetroot from our garden for hair and crispy, crunchy celery for a smile. How delicious! Written by Sally

## OSCAR (Up to 13 years)



Look who we met when we were out!

Time flew by over the holidays and now we are back at school. Those of us who were part of the holiday programme had a fantastic time with special events every day. One day we made crowns and creative head gear and the next day we piled into the vans and drove to Western Springs to the Tapac performing arts centre to see a lively and very funny performance of *King Arthur and the Knights Of The Round Table*. Everyone lined up to have their photo taken with a knight in full armour. We wondered how he walked around all day as it looked very heavy! On the last day, we joined the monster march and shared a delicious pizza lunch.

Written by Annie

