



Cambridge Early Learning Centre

January/ February 2018

Kia Ora & Welcome!

What's happening this month and beyond:

Welcome back to all our Centre families. We trust you had a fabulous Christmas, New Year and summer break. Welcome to 2018 and an exciting time ahead.

Monday 29th January—Auckland Anniversary Day, the Centre is closed.

Friday 2nd February - Kiwiana Day, come dressed in your 'Kiwi' sportswear / beachwear

Tuesday 6th February—Waitangi Day, the Centre is closed

Wednesday 14th February—Valentines Day

Inside this issue:

Staff news	2
Happenings	
More	3
Happenings ...	
Nursery	4
News...	
Toddlers	5
News...	
Pagoda News	6
Feature	7
Article	
Finally...	8



Staff News:

- Welcome back to Nicole, it is great to have you settling back into Centre life.
- Congratulations to Caro and Michael on the arrival of their beautiful baby girl, Freya.
- Welcome to Lisa Kowalewski who has commenced as a teacher at The Pagoda—it's fantastic to have you as part of our team.

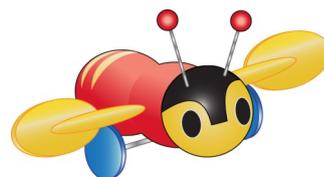
Thank You:

Thank you to all the families who joined us for our annual Centre Christmas party. This was a lovely evening and one that the teachers look forward to spending with the Centre families.

A HUGE THANK YOU to Vege Fresh Cambridge for donating the bread and onions, and Chef Ready Meats for discounting the sausages for our BBQ dinner—we appreciate so much the support from our fruit & vege and meat suppliers.

Waitangi Day:

We will be celebrating Waitangi Day with a 'Kiwiana Day' on Friday 2nd February. Dress like a 'Kiwi' in your sports wear and/or beach wear and we will adapt the menu for the day and enjoy some 'Kiwi' foods—Kiwifruit, Pavlova, Vegemite ...



Policy review:

This Month we are asking for your feedback on the Centre's - **Procedure for Dealing with Staff, Child and Visitor Accidents.**

Thanks to all who read and signed our **Transition from Nursery to Nursery Toddlers** policy which we had out for review in December 2017.



Children's Day:



We are working towards a celebration for Children's Day which is celebrated nationally on the first Sunday in March—this year will be Sunday 4th March. Children's Day in the Centre will be celebrated on Monday 5th March with details to follow.

Chicken Pox (Varicella) Vaccination:



Very few people avoid chickenpox in countries where the disease is common. This is because more than 8 out of 10 people susceptible to chickenpox will become infected after exposure to the virus. It is very rare for a person to get chickenpox more than once.

From 1st July 2017 the Chicken Pox (Varicella) vaccination has been included as one of the vaccinations received when a child turns 15 months old, however we have several children whose status regarding the vaccination is either not documented or unknown.

For these children, we have forwarded an email to parents requesting confirmation as to whether your child/children has or has not received this vaccination. Thank you for assisting us with updating our records.

Work & Income Childcare Subsidy:

Work and Income may be able to assist towards childcare costs if:

- You're the main caregiver of the child(ren), and
- Your family is on a low or middle income, and
- You're a NZ citizen or permanent resident, and
- Your child(ren) has at least three hours of care a week.

You could get help with up to nine hours of childcare a week if you're not working, studying or training, and up to 50 hours a week if you are. Please see the office for a brochure to check eligibility or alternatively you could view details on www.workandincome.govt.nz



The Nursery

0-18 months



Summer

Welcome back from the Nursery teaching team, we hope that everyone enjoyed a fun-filled Christmas and New Year break.

Nursery Teaching Team for the start of 2018: Mel (Team Leader), Jan, Emily, Sue, Bridgette, Mandy and Anna. Caro is away on maternity leave.

Welcome to our new friends Ryleigh, Kylo, Mila and Lily who will be joining us during January & February.

We have recently said farewell to Ed & Lucy as they have transitioned to the Toddlers room, Hope & Brody will join them in February.

We welcome your family's contribution to your child's portfolio folder, please feel free to add stories or photos of anything exciting that happened over the summer holidays. The portfolio is going to stay with you to look back on in the years to come, so recording any memorable event is really worthwhile.

If you would like to take the portfolio home to share with family & friends please ask a teacher who will be happy to pass it to you. Please look out for parent comment spaces to fill in too!

With the warmer weather we will be playing with water so please send in togs or swimming nappies if possible, plus extra named clothing, including a light layer for warmth if required.



Information Updates:

If there have been changes to your child's routine or dietary requirements over the holidays please let us know.

The Toddlers

18 months–3 years



Welcome back from the Teachers, we hope you enjoyed a relaxing holiday and festive season.

Teaching team for the start of 2018

Nursery Toddlers (18–24 months) : Elaine and Bridget

Toddlers (2-3 yrs) : Carla, Kristi, Lauren, Stacey, Sam ,Brooke and Nicole who has recently started back after her maternity leave. Its great to have her back.

We have lots of children toilet training and interested in dressing themselves at the moment. Can you please make sure you pack spare, named clothes that are easy for your child to remove for toilet training and fill us in with how it's going at home. We are happy to support what you do at home. Please read our policy for more information about this process.



Please pack plenty of changes of named clothing in your child's bag as we will be having lots of water and messy play over the next few months. Naming your child's clothing is essential so we can keep track of stray items.

Our planning for January / February is on Summer . We have a form going home so you can tell us all about what you and your whanau have been up to over the summer break. We would love to hear all about your summer fun. The planning wall is located by the apple tree so keep an eye as we update it over the next few months.

We really appreciate all the family feedback we get as it helps us personalise the planning and work alongside you and your family; planning from the children's interests both here and at home. So thank you for taking the time to chat or fill out our planning pages.



The Pagoda

3-5 years



Welcome back, we hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year, it has been lovely to listen to all the exciting things that the children have been doing over the break, remember if you have any special holiday photos that you would like to add to our “Summer Fun” wall, please email them through to: thechildren@thepagoda.org.nz. We look forward to the year ahead with you all.

Also welcome to our new friends from the Castle - Bloem, Ruby P, Jack and Annabelle. We look forward to getting to know you and your families during your time with us.

What's Been Happening at The Pagoda

- **Re-settling back in to the Pagoda for the New Year**
- **Saying farewell to a big group of friends who have left for school**
 - **Lots of water play—trying to keep ourselves cool**
 - **Baking**
 - **Lots of creativity in the block area**
 - **Role play and imaginative play**
 - **Arts and crafts**

Reminders:

- **Please ensure your child has several changes of clothes each day, or their togs**
- **We are celebrating Waitangi Day with a Kiwiana Day this Friday 2nd**
- **Please do not let children wear clothing that has spaghetti straps or singlets and please ensure that sunblock is applied prior to children arriving at the Pagoda, as per Centre policy**
- **If your child's dietary requirements have changed, please speak with us or the office to see how best we can work together to support these changes**

WHY EARLY LEARNING IS A GREAT START

Early learning is the learning that happens from birth.

Your child learns everywhere and all the time through everyday activities such as cooking, shopping, going to the park and sharing stories and songs. You play a big role in your child's early learning, even by simply talking with them.

What your child learns in the early years makes a big difference to how they learn for the rest of their lives. This period is when children grow and develop their understanding of themselves as capable, competent learners and communicators.

BENEFITS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Early childhood education (ECE) builds on your child's early learning.

ECE provides children with the chance to learn, socialise and interact with other children and adults. It helps your child to develop into a positive, confident and capable person with a love of learning that will help them at school and throughout their life.

Your child will learn how to:

- make friends
- play and explore
- listen to others, talk about their own ideas, be creative, and become independent
- get on better with other children and adults outside of their immediate family
- take turns, negotiate and share
- think, problem-solve and reason
- understand their own feelings and those of others
- develop language, reading, thinking and maths skills ready for school
- begin to understand and make sense of the world around them.

These are important skills that help children to be more confident and curious about the world.

Extract from Ministry of Education 'Choices' booklet

This booklet can be viewed using :

<http://parents.education.govt.nz/assets/Parents/Documents/Early-Learning/ECE-Choices-Booklet.pdf>



Finally...

We hope you are all enjoying your time with us.

We are certainly enjoying having your children at the Centre and getting to know you all.

Ten Attributes of Good Learners:

- ◆ **Attentive** - notice and listen
- ◆ **Curious** - ask questions, wonder, investigate
- ◆ **Resilient** - able to bounce back, cope with difficulties
- ◆ **Playful** - play around with materials, explore
- ◆ **Imaginative** - pretend, role play
- ◆ **Practical** - use common sense, make use of what they have
- ◆ **Sociable** - get on well with others
- ◆ **Empathetic** - can feel with others, see another view point
- ◆ **Self Regulating** - use internal controls
- ◆ **Thoughtful** - apply their mind to their world

