



Newsletter July 2017

Tirohia atu nei ka wheturangitia Mariki, te whetu o te tau Behold Matariki the star of the year has made its appearance

We are half way through the year. During this season of winter, a variety of activities have taken place at the Centre. The highlight for the month of June was Matariki, and our tamariki have had a variety of activities to celebrate Maori New Year. Our Centre celebration was on Thursday 6 July, and the tamariki performed a haka, singing waiata. We also had a shared morning kai.

The tamariki have been reading stories around myths and legends. We have been reading stories such as the Seven Kites of Matariki and the Maui series.



The tamariki decorate the whale, and make their own stars.

Important Reminders

With winter weather upon us we have been experiencing some very cold and wet days, we would kindly remind parents to provide your child with woolly hats, jackets, and suitable footwear (gumboots), so that the children can enjoy time outside.

Please continue naming your child's clothing, and other precious items to ensure they go back home.

All parents/caregivers dropping and picking up tamariki must sign the register. This is a Ministry of Education requirement, and also a record of who is present daily, and a safety measure in the case of an emergency

We have a box for tamariki to put their toys they bring from home to the centre each day. We have decided on having this in order to avoid loss of these precious items. Please remember to pick them at the end of the day.

The Centre dynamics are changing with the over twos consisting of a large group of toddlers. While our older tamariki are accepting of the younger ones, and help and support them in their learning environments, both the toddlers and young children as they learn, and grow alongside each other face challenges as they seek independence and form relationships.

We are reviewing the policy on 'Guiding and supporting tamariki to develop social competence' and would appreciate your comments and feed back. We have attached a survey on what you deem important for your child to be socially competent, and your aspirations for your child in this regard, please take a few minutes to fill out the survey, and return to the centre

Our under two programme is planned on physical exploration supporting children's interests and enabling them the opportunity to challenge their physical ability, and learn new skills as they are taking risks and solving problems. At times on their own, and at others with adult support. These interests lead them to be competent and confident in their exploration in play. This month we are looking forward to support children to be socially competent in their learning, and communication as they make their own choices.





Keeping Healthy

In the months of May and June the children learnt about their bodies, and taking care of themselves, and explored health and hygiene. The activities that the children engaged in were around nutrition, physical activity and keeping themselves safe.

We encourage children to eat healthily, and try eating vegetables and fruit. We requested children to bring a vegetable from home and had a soup day. The children were so enthusiastic about this that we had to have a repeat soup day. We set up a table so children could help cut vegetables to make the soup for lunch. The children had the opportunity to taste the vegetables. Most of the children loved the soup, and sharing and caring for each other in the process like a family would. It was a valuable and great opportunity for them to try something new at the centre. We thank the parents who completed the survey on healthy eating. The information we gather from these surveys enable to provide better services and enhance the quality of care we give your children.



Hello & Goodbye

Goodbye and good luck to you as you go to school David and Isaac. We know you will have lots of fun and continue your learning journey.

A special thank you to Janina (David's Mum) for being a huge resource to the Centre. Your story times were popular and you have been an inspiration to the teachers. We are all the better from listening to your wonderful stories and the enchanting journeys you took our children and us through your stories and music.



A warm welcome to Stella who has recently joined us, we hope you and your family have a fruitful time with us.

We also wish Ffion who will be leaving us soon to go to Kindy all the best.

We extend a warm welcome to Kumiko Nakama who has joined the over two teaching team. We also welcome Kaili her little one who has joined the under twos.

Our visit to the marae

The tamariki and kaiako visited the Avondale College Marae on Thursday 29 June. We had a warm welcome from kaiako Shianne, and her students at the entrance of the marae.

Shianne spoke to our tamariki about the significance of matariki, introduced a new waiata and told them the story of matariki.



Survey : Social competence

We want to enable our tamariki to be socially competent, and would like to gather information on what you deem as social competence, and what your aspirations for your child in this regard are.

Mana atua (wellbeing)

How do you ensure their emotional well being is nurtured ?

Mana whenua (Belonging)

How do you assist them to understand the limits and boundaries of acceptable behavior ?

Mana tangata (contribution)

How are they affirmed as individuals ?

Mana Reo (communication)

How do you help your child to develop communication skills ?

Mana aoturoa (Exploration)

How do you enable your child to actively explore, think and reason ?
