

Sunshine

We welcomed day light saving over the weekend and now we are planning for our sunsmart summer. Please encourage your children to start wearing their sunhats and in a couple of weeks these will become mandatory for outside play.

We will be putting up our sunshades to provide some more shelter for outside play. We ask that parents sunscreen their child prior to arrival. We provide sunscreen to reapply during the day as needed. If your child has sensitive skin, please provide a named bottle of sunscreen that they can leave at York Place.

New resources

To further support summer waterplay and sensory experiences, we have purchased some giant stainless steel bowls and trays. These are already becoming favourites with the children and teachers. Also on order are a large freestanding trough and a Pikler triangle.

Facebook

Please share our new facebook page with your friends and family. We are currently taking enrolments for next year in the nursery, and have spaces available now in the preschool.

Healthy eating

We have begun the Healthy Heart programme recently. Our first steps have been reviewing the food we provide at York Place alongside chatting to the children about healthy options and guiding them to eat their fresh and healthy options such as sandwiches, fruit and veges first and leaving their packaged items until last as these can be saved for another day if uneaten

and are usually treat items or 'sometimes foods' such as chips, muslie bars and biscuits.

We are already noticing a difference in lunchboxes and eating habits so thank you parents. We are hoping to have the nutritionist that we are working with put on a parent evening in the future.

Learning focus

In the nursery/Tui room we have been continuing our group learning focus on Whanaungatanga/Relationships. The tamariki have been engaging in play alongside each other in small groups in many different experiences such as collaborative painting, messy play, water play, music and movement and physical exploration. In these experiences we are gaining awareness of space and those around us while we share resources. We have noticed many of the children are beginning to interact and involve each other in their play as well as exploring alongside each other e.g. pretending to fall asleep, fun rough and tumble and hide and seek. Over the past few months we have been introducing sign language and have noticed many children gaining confidence to communicate in this way. We are so excited to hear that many of our tamariki have been using these at home too, ka pai tō mahi! The signs we are using regularly are for "hungry," "eat," and "finished," if you are interested in using sign language at home please feel free to chat with the teachers for any ideas or support. This is an ongoing learning venture for the teachers as well as we continue to learn new signs. We are noticing such a positive impact for our children.





Jensen signing "finished" as he leaves the table



In the preschool/Pukeko room we have extended on our exploration of Aroha and have started focusing on Manaakitanga, "the process of displaying respect, kindness, generosity and care for others". It has been lovely to see Manaakitanga in action as the tamariki display spontaneous and beautiful moments of care and thought towards their peers. Part of this exploration has been growing our understanding of kaitiakitanga and our responsibility for being kaitiaki, respecting and caring for our environment. The tamariki have been working respectfully together planting new plants as well as taking responsibility for caring for them.



The tamariki are particularly enjoying being active in the outdoor environment, finding ways to challenge themselves physically, while learning how to keep their bodies safe. There has been lots of amazing jumping happening as the tamariki discover different ways they can move their body while mid-air, keen to show off their skills to those around them. Balance, coordination and body control have also been displayed as the tamariki explore our different obstacle courses, slides and see-saw.



The preschool tamariki and kaiako are extra excited to be back at Level 1 as it means we can start to actively explore our community again. These walks and outings are a great way for our tamariki to experience new things and to further their understanding of the world around them. Level 1 also means we can begin group baking experiences again, so we invite families to share any simple and healthy recipes we can create together.

Staff news

Our two student teachers Abby and Marissa have finished their Friday sessions. After a short break they will then have a 5 week full time block course so you will see a bit more of them over the coming weeks.

A warm welcome to Grace, who has relocated back to her home town of Dunedin. She is a fabulous qualified and registered early childhood teacher and will be covering Shauna's maternity leave. Shauna's last day will be 21st October and we wish her all the best on her parenthood journey.





Our tamariki

Happy school days to: Louie and Jay

Farewell to: Amie

Welcome to our new children: Addison and Oskar

Reminders

Please use the 10 minute park instead of the staff driveway. At times teachers are waiting significant times to park their cars.

Now we are having warmer weather (I started writing this before it snowed!), we will be having more water and messy play. Please ensure that you have at least one full change of clothing but ideally 2-3 if your child loves the water.

Our spare clothing drawer is getting low. If your child has borrowed clothing, can you please return this. Also if you have any spare boys clothing in larger sizes such as 3-4, these donations would be appreciated to support those that struggle to provide spare clothing.

Absence and Holidays

Thank you for keeping your children home when they are unwell. This supports us to prevent the spread of germs.

If your child is absent, or going to be half an hour late or more please call to let us know so we can plan ahead for the day.

Christmas closure dates: Our last day is Wednesday 23rd December. We will have a party at midday and close at 4pm. Our first day

back open is Tuesday 4th January. There is no charge for these dates that we are closed.

Please stick to your booked times as this is what we base our staff roster on. If you need to drop off early or pick up late, please arrange this in advance so we can adjust our roster or if it is going to be regular then please request a change of booked times.

If you wish to have further holidays, please email Sarah on admin@yorkplace.co.nz. If you provide 2 weeks or more notice then these are charged at half price.



