

Happy birthday to Taylah, Freya, Serenity and Nikki who celebrated their birthdays this month.

Celebrating our love of books! Storybook character dress up day on Tuesday the 2nd of September. Come dressed as your favourite character from a book!

Highlights:

- **Polyfest**- The tamariki have been busy practicing their polyfest songs and are sounding fantastic. We are looking forward to performing at the Edgar Centre. We are in the first group that is at **9.30am**. It is important to note that you must arrive super early to watch the performance. We have been informed that when children are on stage, the doors are shut so please arrive before 9.30am. We also ask that children wear all black ☺
- This month we were lucky to have Amanda from Sport Otago join us for an hour long Active Movement session. Amanda provided some really interesting 'eye tracking' activities and experiences. The tamariki had a lot of fun playing with the parachute and different equipment she brought along. We look forward to using the ideas and suggestions from sport Otago in our movement sessions.

Just a reminder to pay your accounts weekly, we accept; cash, cheque, eftpos or direct debit. Our account details are: 06 0901 0361284 000.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your account, please feel free to talk to Lizzy ☺

Please note:

A big thank you to all the parents that are sticking to their booked hours and who are phoning in if they need the hours to be adapted. Ka pai whānau. This is greatly appreciated by the staff!

Early Learning at Flippers

C/O Moana Pool, Littlebourne Road, Dunedin
Phone. 471 97 82 Fax. 477 35 41

Some of what we're learning:

Tuakana:

Our new focus is storytelling which has been very exciting so far. We have started to wrap up our popular Maori myth and legends component and are moving on to traditional stories and storytelling. The children really enjoy the magnetic stories and performing as characters in plays. We have spent some time talking about what an important part the audience plays and have been practicing our listening skills by being an active audience member! The Tuakana have enjoyed having a mini stage to perform on and using different props and materials to get into different characters. As well as performing as characters, they also have enjoyed singing and dancing on the stage for their peers.

Teina:

The teina children have been looking at storytelling through puppets. The five little ducks has been a particular favourite with the Teina tamariki. We are going on a teddy bear picnic next week and look forward to meeting the Teina's teddy bears! Jackson is our youngest at the moment and he is on the move so we have been setting up different experiences for him in the teina area to challenge and support his crawling and strength of pulling himself up on things.

Red day for Cure Kids!

The children recently enjoyed RED DAY at Flippers and it was awesome to see everyone in red to support the cure kid's charity. We made red play dough, had an array of red art activities and enjoyed red water for morning tea! We raised \$70.00!

Please remember our friendly staff are always here to talk to if you have any concerns or advice☺

Lizzy, Lisa, Janelle, Chelsey, Nikki and Jess.

Winter weather:

It's common at this time of year to have a final bout of bad weather before we get our lovely sunny Dunedin days! If that is the case, centre may need to start late or even close. If you are at all unsure then please check the following for further information - see our Facebook page, listen to 89.4FM or check our website at www.flippers.childcaredunedin.co.nz.

The teachers are always doing readings to improve their teaching. Here are some interesting articles and websites that have arisen lately or might be of interest to you.

The ministry of health website always has informative articles about children's health, growth and development. You can find articles about children's hearing, vision, vaccination information, etc:

<https://www.healthed.govt.nz>

The Healthy Heart website has a really interesting recipe modification article that provides creative ways to make more healthy and nutritious meals at home. You can find this at:

<http://www.heartfoundation.org.nz/programmes-resources/schools-and-eces/schools-and-ecce-food-services/recipe-modification-and-examples>

Link to the Spring edition of **Healthy Hints for Tots**.

http://www.southerndhb.govt.nz/files/14598_2014082792613-1409088373.pdf

Healthy snack suggestions (Heart Foundation)

- Vegetable sticks+ hummus
- Cold cooked vegetables – cook a few extra potatoes, kūmara and taro at mealtimes and add to lunch boxes!
- Fresh or frozen fruit
- Sandwiches with healthy fillings
- Yoghurt, slices of cheese
- Crackers
- Low sugar cereals and muesli

Please remember to:

- Put fruit in the bowl in the morning
- Food to be heated goes in the fridge
- Check the lost property for your child's missing clothes
- Look in the pockets on the back door for any notes or accounts we have put in there

Rā Ngahere is still going well. The children have been very stuck in their ways recently enjoying spending all their time either at camp/surrounding area or at the mud where Desna made us a swing to play on. During their time in the bush the children enjoy participating in some kind of dramatic play, collecting and using their imagination with sticks, and running games.

Lately we have refound the geocashe and have talked about a possible outing to go and find more that are hidden around Dunedin so stay tuned we may be wanting some parent help for this.

Lisa ☺

