

February 2017

**A big happy birthday to
Carson (2), Leon (3) and
Zariah (2) who all
celebrated birthdays this
month.**



- Last newsletter we mentioned about how we have stripped the walls to show more learning. We now have up our new boards, have you seen them? Let us know what you think.
- Chris and Linsey are back for the first half of the year and also Jessie is here every Tuesday for the year.
- You may have noticed that we have received our lightbox that Hannes made for us. It was made using the entertainment book fundraiser money and also some donations from Mitre 10.
- We are going to be selling entertainment books again this year so please stay tuned for more information.
- We are planning a trip to the farm for some of the teina in the upcoming weeks so listen out for if it is your child going.
- The fees have increased slightly this month to replace old resources and purchase more new resources and so your children will benefit from this increase.
- Thanks to all those families that are posting positive comments and promoting Flippers on the mums and bubs page and other social media sites.
- Don't forget Otago anniversary day is coming up on the 20th March so Flippers will be closed that day.
- Kim and Lisa have organised a Lilliput Library which will feature some of the children's drawings on it. When it is finished being painted it will be posted outside the Flippers gate where you can give and take away different books. To find out more go to this site ... <https://lilliputlibraries.wordpress.com/>

As we have limited spaces and a lot of people wanting to change hours, we just want to remind you that it is two weeks' notice if you are wanting to change your child's hours which gives Lizzy time to fit them in and roster teachers appropriately.

The children are really interesting in CD books at the moment often asking for their favourites. Please feel free to share with us what your child's favourite is so we can search out or play it for them.

What have the children been learning??

Tuakana:

Most of the children have been showing an interest in literacy and numeracy at the moment, so morning meetings have been focussing on this. We have been playing the number hunt game where the teacher reads out a clue and the children go to that area to find the number.

We have also been having a lot of conversations about how to include other children into already established play. We have been using puppets to model how this can play out and the behaviour teachers desire to see.

Teina:

The teina at the moment have been really enjoying being outside in the sandpit or riding the bikes. When we gather for a wee group time they are interested in repeating the favourite songs. And lately they have started asking for songs they like. Some of the favourites at the moment are ...

- Jack in the box
- Playing the blanket game/bug in a rug
- Monkey jumping on the bed – using puppets
- Hokey tokey – CD book
- Ring-a-ring-a-rosy
- E te rakiraki

If you would like to know the words or tune to any of these songs please ask any of the teachers.

Ra Ngahere:

Bush day has been a little bit different lately. The tamariki have been more interested in taking their time to smell the roses – literally! The walk to our bush is filled with looking out for bugs and treasures, investigating the different flowers and trees along the way, and noticing numbers and letters on signs and letterboxes. When we are in the bush they are investigating rotten trees for bugs, supporting each other through challenges and working together.

Reminder:

- Always pack extra clothing layers
- A full change of clothing for when we return, should your child need to change (they keep this back at centre)
- Please pack fruit or vegie for morning tea (we eat this out there for morning tea) and no hot food (we can't heat this)
- As little packaging as possible in lunch boxes (we encourage litter less lunch boxes as part of our philosophy)
- PLEASE PACK A DRINK BOTTLE WITH WATER ONLY

Just a reminder that your child's bill is to be paid weekly. The accounts are put in the pockets for you on a Monday morning. If you cannot pay or have any questions please contact Lizzy to discuss further.

Don't forget to check up on your child's learning by checking out their profile book. They are in the book corner in a separate book shelf. If you cannot find it there their profile teacher might have it to stick in new stories.

Please remember that these books are your child's and you are welcome to add in any comments, stories or pictures at any time. And also take them home to show other family members.

Please make sure you remember to sign your child in and out on the sign in sheet and write in the time you have left and arrive back. Also don't forget if you are running late please ring or text to let us know or you will be charged a late fee.

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

Kim, Lizzy, Lisa, Nikki, Chelsey, Victoria and Jenny.

We would like to say a big thank you to all our families that have been sticking to our 'litter - less lunchboxes philosophy'.

Just a thought: We clean and recycle yoghurt pottles but the 'squeezie' style yoghurts cannot be recycled.