

This month we warmly welcome Haylee and her family to the Flippers Whānau.

We wish every one of our wonderful families a safe and happy Christmas! Stay safe on the roads and we will see you all in 2015 ☺

# Early Learning at Flippers

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

## Highlights:

- We thoroughly enjoyed seeing many of you at the Christmas party! Thank you for attending and making it a special event for the tamariki.
- We went for a hot walk up to Yvette Williams's rest home this week and sung Christmas carols for the residents. The children looked festive in Santa hats and tinsel. The tamariki did such a good job we were even asked to sing a few more songs! We were kindly offered chocolate fish, mandarins and orange juice as a treat when we had finished this. A big thank you for the parent help we received on this trip, much appreciated by the Flippers whānau.
- This week we will be visiting Santa Claus at the Otago museum in small groups.

**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 ☺**

## Some of what we're learning:

### Tuakana:

The tuakana children have been very busy lately getting involved in a variety of Christmas experiences including baking Christmas treats, making Christmas spiced play dough, singing carols and songs and creating Christmas art. We have enjoyed listening to LOTS of Christmas stories in the library corner as well as on the laptop. We were lucky enough to be donated Christmas dress ups from Chelsey, which you might have noticed has proved rather popular with the tamariki. Summer seems to have finally arrived this week as well so there has been water play and a few mat times under the shade of the tree outside.

### Teina:

The teina tamariki have been very busy lately also getting involved in a variety of experiences across the programme as well as many Christmas related arts, crafts and baking. The Teina tamariki have enjoyed many fun outdoor exploration activities and outdoor play. We have been washing the baby dolls, washing and drying dishes, painting the fence with water and we even had a car wash! The children have also enjoyed quite a bit of messy play in the sandpit making volcanoes.



### ***Just a wee reminder about when dropping off and picking up your children:***

We would appreciate it if you did not let your child play outside unattended, as we have early childhood regulations that we have to follow to ensure the safety of your children. The teachers are always here to support you in the settling process of your child, so if you need some assistance in settling your child and there is no teacher outside yet, just let us know. ☺

#### Booked hours:

We would appreciate if everyone can stick to booked hours. We roster teachers on dependent on the hour's parents book their children in; therefore, if children arrive early we may not have the required teaching team on or we may not have set up for the day. This also applies when picking children up, if you pick up later than your child is booked in, this can also affect the ratio. If you do require alternative hours, we will do our best to accommodate this but we require this in advance so we can roster teachers on when needed. Please do not hesitate to discuss this with a staff member if you want to change hours or have any queries!



From time to time we have students on placements at our centre, as well as other Early Childhood teachers visiting for a fresh perspective. We will most likely have new students joining us in 2015; we keep the student information close by the whiteboard so keep an eye out for this so you can be made aware of who is around!



Rā Ngahere has had a successful and eventful year. Thank you to the parents that have made sure that they provide a decent amount of lunch, water bottle and bush friendly clothing for the tamariki every Wednesday. It has been a lot of fun and we look forward to starting again in 2015.

**Rā Ngahere will now be on holiday for a couple of weeks** as quite a few of our tamariki are on holiday when we start back, this will give us all some time to have a break. We will let parents know when we plan to start back up again. Thank you whānau for your support.

POP BANG CRACK goes the Christmas cracker!

One of the Christmas songs we just LOVED this year was "Pop bang crack". If you would like a copy of the words so you join in and sing along at home, please feel free to ask and we can provide them for you.

#### Santa letters

The Tamariki have been busy writing letters to Santa and telling him how good they have been this year. Some children have been saying how kind they are to their friends and how they have been helping at home, etc.

#### Summer is here!

Summer appears to have finally arrived and we are enjoying it as much as we can. We ask parents to please sunscreen before you come to Flippers. The teachers will then reapply when needed. We also have a hat on policy so you will notice the tamariki wearing sun hats when we are outside.

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

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