



# Minnies Preschool Parent Newsletter



June/Hune 2017

## **Our Vision:**

We will provide a curriculum that lays the foundations for a love of learning as we inspire children to be curious and independent learners whilst supporting all ākongā to build positive connections between home and the Centre.

## **Kia Ora, konnichiwa, privet families**

It was lovely to see lots of visitors in the Centre for our 'Special Person Day' last Thursday. The teachers enjoyed having some beautiful conversations with 'the significant people' in our children's lives. The children were very excited having the opportunity to share their special place, Minnies, with you all. They had fun performing the Kapa Haka and sharing delicious kai with their friends and special guests.

We are very grateful that we have so many wonderful families and friends in our Minnies community who are keen to be involved in the Centre and support our amazing children. ☺

Haere mai and welcome to Thomas and Felix. We have had lots of fun getting to know you both, and watching you building wonderful friendships and gaining a sense of belonging at Minnies.

We have said ka kite to Beau and his baby brother, Luke, and Angelique. We have loved getting to know you all and wish you all the best in your new homes and preschools across town.

Harper is currently transitioning from the Nursery to the Preschool and is having lots of fun exploring the preschool, and building relationships with the Preschool teachers and children.

We have also had some of our amazing older children turn 5 and head off to Primary School. We wish Aleigha, Simon and Lucas every success and lots of fun at school. Simon's younger sister, Zoe, has also finished at Minnies.

Due to several children turning 5 recently and heading off to Primary School and other children moving house we have some spaces available on our role. If you are considering booking an extra day or hours for your child we recommend it would be a good time to do this while spaces are more readily available.



**Family Tree**  
HOMEBASED CARE

If you know of any friends or families that are interested in their child receiving homebased care and education, please have a look at our Family Tree Homebased Care Facebook page and web site.

**Face Book page:** <https://www.facebook.com/Family-Tree-Home-based-191289074557966/>

**Website:** <http://www.familytreehomebased.co.nz/>

### **Minnies Facebook**

Thank you to everyone who has liked our Facebook page. We'd love you to share the page with your family and friends, as we want them to discover what wonderful fun learning experiences and care we provide for our Minnies babies and children.



<https://www.facebook.com/Minnies-Preschool-343181609124332/>

### **Reminder for Parents**

- It is extremely important to sign your child in and out of Minnies on the day sheet in our entrance hall when your child attends. The day sheet is used in the case of an emergency as a role call to ensure all children are accounted for. It is also used for billing purposes.
- We appreciate your support in preventing your child from drawing on the day sheet, as it is a document that needs to be easily read for billing and audits, as well as by the Minnies staff.
- Your children love to have a house on our Whanaungatanga Wall which they often enjoy sharing with their friends or teachers. These houses give the children a sense of belonging which has connections to their homes. If your child has not got a house please provide us with some photos of their family, pets, or other significant people in their lives, and their profile teacher will create a house for them. We can photocopy original photos or you can email them to [minniespreschool@xtra.co.nz](mailto:minniespreschool@xtra.co.nz)
- If your child has recently been enrolled at Minnies, we would appreciate an 'All about me' form being completed which supports us to provide for your child's individual needs and interests. If you have misplaced the 'All about me' form, please ask one of the teaching team to provide you with one.

- We are now experiencing the darker longer and colder days of winter, so please remember to bring a warm hat and jacket for your child to preschool, so they can still enjoy being part of the play and learning experiences in the outdoors.
- Please label your child's belongings including their lunchbox and containers, as well as their hats and clothing. This is very important as it supports children's independence to identify their name and prevents any confusion over food and drink. It also helps the teaching team to return misplaced clothing back to the correct family.
- If your child is in the preschool please support them to collect their photo from the entrance hall gate and place it above the bag hook they intend to use for the day. This supports them, as well as the teaching team, to place items and belongings in the correct bag. If your child's photo is missing, please request a new one from Cathy.
- Please check our lost property box in the entrance hall for any of your child's belongings as it is getting very full. We will give any unclaimed items to charity at the end of term.
- The last day of term for most primary schools is this Friday 7th July. Please complete a Holiday Form if you are intending on having your child away from Minnies Preschool during this holiday period. This supports us to provide the correct staffing for the children during this time.

### **Learning Stories**

The teachers write amazing stories for each child in the Centre that relate to their learning, development and dispositions. We would really appreciate your feedback about your child's learning stories. If you would like to share your thoughts and ideas about your child's learning stories please write these in their profile book. You are more than welcome to add photos or information about their home or community interests in their profile book also. Or if you prefer please have a chat with your child's profile teacher to share your ideas, thoughts and information about your child with them. The teachers will then use this information to plan for your child's individual future learning.

### **Minnies Preschool Policy**

We are currently looking at our Evacuation and Emergency Procedure Policy. If you would like to read this policy and share your thoughts about it on the parent comment sheet, they are on the wall in our entrance hall.

### **Thank You**

Thank you to the children's wonderful family members and friends who gave up their time to join us at our Special Person Day. We also really appreciated the afternoon tea that you brought along to share. ☺

A big thank you to all the families who have supported our Entertainment Book fundraiser. We really appreciate your support with our Minnies fundraisers and the money raised is put toward providing additional learning experiences and resources for your children. If you would still like to purchase an Entertainment Book from us you can order online by entering the web site [www.entbook.co.nz/9x30363](http://www.entbook.co.nz/9x30363)

Thank you to Maddison's Mum for kindly donating some lovely new school text books for the children to use. We will certainly make good use of them.

Thank you to Joseph's Mum for bringing in lots of fabric for collage, which we will use in many creations with the children. We love upcycling ☺

Thank you to the Creamer family for the beautiful cakes and piñata that everyone enjoyed on Simon and Zoe's last day at Minnies. We will miss your wonderful family at Minnies and wish you all well for the future.

Our pet rabbits, Steve and Lloyd, appreciate all the vegetables that many of our families bring in for them. The children love feeding and taking care of our rabbits, so a big thank you to everyone for helping us provide for them.

### Teacher Education

Due to having a child who has Type 1 diabetes attending Minnies our teaching team have recently been trained on how to use an insulin pump, which supports the child's health and well-being.

### Play ball

Due to many of our children turning 5 years old and heading off to Primary School we will not be continuing Play ball on Friday afternoons in Term 3. Our fabulous transition to school teacher, Karla, will plan and facilitate a transition to school activity for Friday afternoons in place of Playball. We are currently considering some other physical opportunities to challenge our children, so watch this space☺.

***He aha te mea nui o te ao***

***What is the most important thing in the world?***

***He tangata***

***He tangata***

***He tangata***

***It is the people***

***It is the people***

***It is the people***

Take care of  
our children.  
Take care of  
what they  
hear, take care  
of what they  
see, take care  
of what they  
feel. For how  
the children  
grow, so will be  
the shape of  
Aotearoa.

*Dame Whina Cooper  
Photographer: Michael  
Tubberty*



From Cathy, Adele, Kate, Jo, Diana, Alexe and Karla