

DECEMBER 2020

Raffle Winners:

Thank you for your support of this raffle. We raised \$1848.70. The winners are: 1st = Amar Singh, 2nd = Taane Lucas, 3rd = Maddi Scobie, 4 = Ivy Hildebrand, 5 = Blair Strachan, 6 = Olivia Stronach.



(03)217 7063

REMINDERS

1. PLEASE CHECK THE LOST PROPERTY
2. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HELP US REWARD THE TEACHERS BY PAYING YOUR ACCOUNT IN FULL BY DECEMBER 18
3. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE RETURNED THE FORM WITH YOUR ENDING DATE AND YOUR START DATE FOR 2021.
4. WE OPEN ON MONDAY 18 JANUARY AT 7.30AM.

News from the Office: It is so very difficult to believe that this very unique year is drawing to a close. First of all COVID- 19 and our first ever Lockdown! Now we are just returning to a bit of normality after we turned the centre upside down for the removal of the asbestos, and to round off 2020, this week we have just had 2 days of auditing on our Ministry funding. I think all of us will be looking forward to a relaxing holiday.

I do want to thank all families for their continued support of the centre during this challenging year. We really value the relationships that are built with our families. We as a staff feel privileged to be able to get to know you and your children. For all those with children moving on to school we wish you well for this transition. We have enjoyed being part of their first educational journey watching them develop into independent young children.

I also wish to thank the staff for their outstanding efforts to provide great learning opportunities for the children despite all the obstacles they have had to overcome this year. Not only have the staff coped with the above-mentioned events, they have also continued to give their heart and soul to their work despite being left out of any parity talks. Our teachers receive almost 45% less than kindergarten teachers with the same training and doing the same work. Let us hope the Government address this inequity early in 2021.

Sincere thanks to those parents who gave up their time to be part of our Governance committee. As an Incorporated Society we have a requirement to have meetings and I know just what a commitment this is after a busy day, to come out at night for a monthly meeting. One bonus from COVID-19 is we now have technology like ZOOM so parents can attend the meeting from home. A special thanks to Kate and Andrew Marshall for being part of our Governance Committee over the past 4 years while Harry and Zoe were here with us. We wish you all the very best in your move north- we will miss you all greatly.

We must have a committee to operate and we are about to lose 3 members. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping us in this role.

Kind Regards from Avril

STAFFING: We will have a few staffing changes in 2021. Sadly, we are saying farewell to Alice at the end of this year. Alice has been with us since 2009. We will miss her superb organisational skills- and her willingness to take on a wide variety of tasks. Thanks, Alice, for all you have done for Surrey Park- we will miss you. Penny and Abbey will be on maternity leave, so we wish them all the very best for this new stage of their lives

Kia tau te maungarongo ki runga i te whenua – he whakairo pai ki ngā tangata katoa - Let there be peace and tranquility on earth and goodwill to all people.

Have a relaxing holiday and we look forward to seeing you in 2021- from the Admin Team-Karen, Helen, Andy, Tatsuya, Sandra and Avril

Koru Update

We are so happy to be back in our Koru room and a big thank you to the families for supporting us through this time. We have been busy in Koru celebrating this festive time of year, we have made excursions to Penny's Mum - Jenny's house to see her amazing Christmas lights and decorations. Next week, we will be attending a Christmas concert at the stadium. Michelle has been playing lots of Christmas waiata and we also put up our beautiful Christmas lights. We have been providing many small group experiences for the tamariki - from making chocolates, decorating our Christmas tree and also making our own sustainable decorations. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing you in 2021.

Waihopai Update

Kia ora whānau, 2020 has certainly tested us all in one way or another, our tamariki have showed courage, patience and immense resilience during this period. Our main curriculum focus has been our journey of Kaitiakitanga for the living breathing space we all share outside. Through being hands on the tamariki have been given the opportunity to really understand and make sense of their learning in this space. We are fortunate in Waihopai to have such nurturing and loving Kaiako and tamariki. Each day is different, full of laughs, wonder and robust learning experiences. We hope you all take the break to recharge and enjoy time with your precious tamariki. We look forward to reconnecting with you all in the New Year!

Te Rito Update

Kia ora, this month the tamariki of te whare Te Rito enjoyed a visit to the Christmas tree display at the stadium. We have made our own decorations that are heading home this week for whanau to enjoy and hopefully retain, it's always nice to look back at them in the years to come. We've enjoyed Christmas stories and songs and will be continuing our preparations for Christmas by going to the Merry Little Christmas show.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season, we look forward to catching up in the new year.

Kawakawa Update

Kia ora whanau, the Kawakawa tamariki are enjoying being back in our centre, particularly in our ability to be outside all day, that was what we missed most at the stadium. We were lucky to have a visit from Bryce and Eddie's dad Chris with his fire crew and this was a wonderful opportunity to meet some of our community heroes and learn about what their role is. The tamariki all had a go at squirting the fire hose, an absolute highlight. We are currently preparing for the end of year with a few special Christmas events and many birthday celebrations with quite a few tamariki transitioning to school in February.

Nga mihi o te kirihimete me te tau hou

Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Totara Update

Well, we are very glad to be back in our own environment after spending the five weeks at the stadium. We thank the stadium staff for all their support and enthusiasm for hosting us. Tamariki are getting excited for Christmas and there are lots of Christmas decorations being made. We look forward to our Kiwiana Christmas celebrations with tamariki and their whanau.

Wishing you all and your whanau best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a magnificent New Year. Stay safe and take care.