



Gisborne Montessori Pre-school Newsletter Term 1 2017

"There is a great sense of community within the Montessori classroom, where children of differing ages work together in an atmosphere of cooperation rather than competitiveness. There is respect for the environment and for the individuals within it, which comes through experience of freedom within the community."
Dr Maria Montessori

Dear Parents / Whanau,

Tēnā koutou

Welcome to Term 1 of 2017. The children and new teaching teams are settling into their learning environments after the holiday break. We welcome all our new children and their families to the pre-school. We also welcome Heather to our teaching team and congratulate Quannah on her appointment as head teacher of the Beehive 3 classroom; Juliana in the 2IC role within the pre-school and as head teacher of the Beehive 2 classroom; and Kylie in her teaching role also in Beehive 2.

Our teaching teams for 2017 are
Beehive 1 – Jo, Sandy, Anna
Beehive 2 – Juliana, Meryl, Kylie
Beehive 3 – Quannah, Keryn
Morning tea release – Tarsha, Gillian, Heather
Extended day – Barbara, Anna

Afternoon programme - Gillian, Heather, Meryl, Tarsha, Juliana

Please remember to sign your child in and out each day and notify your head teacher or Linda in the office if you are either changing your pick up times or if a different person is picking your child up. Our Licenced hours are 7.45 to 5.15.

Parents are reminded to ensure children have their sunhat at pre-school each day and to name all children's belongings including shoes, clothing, lunch boxes and drink bottles. Please be aware we have a nut free and healthy food policy at the pre-school. Also please be aware of our Emergency and Evacuation plan, these can be found in each Foyer.

Parents are welcome to make an appointment to meet head teachers to discuss their children's learning and development. Assessment Portfolios are available to view at any time.

School photos will be taken on Wed 22 February and will be ready later in the term for collection.

Our pre-school will be participating in the Children's Day on Sunday 5 March held in the Warehouse carpark 10 to 1pm. We would love to see you there and to join in the fun. More information will follow.

We send a special thank you to the Ormond whanau for their generous donation of several ukuleles for our

tamariki to enjoy playing; to Anne-Marie Vigeant for giving her time and organising her Yoga fundraising event; to Juliana for making the wax fabric kits and the families who purchased these. Any further Fundraising ideas to support the pre-school are appreciated.

If you can supply us with small, unanalysed wood off-cuts for the children's carpentry, please let us know.

Our first parent council meeting was on February 15. If you are interested in becoming member of the governance council to support the pre-school, please see Linda in the office. The date of the AGM is 10 May, further information will follow.

Beehive 1 Jo, Anna,
Sandy

Our role is at 21 at the moment and with possible another one starting in a few weeks. We are settling our new children Flynn, Oliver and George. We continue to operate our Fun Whanau Fridays weekly and families are enjoying this opportunity to talk to me about their child's learning and just enjoying being in the classroom with their child working with activities they know how to do. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet other parents from the class and really see how the classroom operates.

Beehive 2 Juliana, Meryl,
Kylie
Kia Ora koutou Whanau! We would like to welcome Breana Barclay and Arla

Rutherford to Beehive 2 this term. The children have settled well into their Montessori routines and this term we have started practicing Grace and Courtesy, which includes saying 'please and thank you', moving carefully through the classroom, offering help to others etc. The children are also exploring new activities in Practical Life and Sensorial Areas through the food preparation that is happening in the classroom. Social Interactions and Language are also a great focus, as children are practicing to work alongside others, to share resources and to take turns. For News Days we encourage the children to bring News items from nature, newspapers, photos and items related to their intense interests. If you would like to discuss your child's learning progress, please let Juliana know and an appointment can be made.

Beehive 3 Quannah,
Keryn

Kia ora te whānau. We have 15 tamariki in Beehive 3 with Georgia's cousin Oliver joining us from Taranaki. Our initial focus in the classroom has been on social graces and settling back into our preschool routines, now we move onto manaakitanga - looking after our classroom and friends. We have continued with our 'fun Friday' which was such a hit last year. The kaiako are in the process of asking tamariki what their goals and interests are along with collecting new whānau aspirations for their child. This will inform our program planning and activities. Ngā mihi.

Extended Day Barbara, Anna
We have 13 children attending daily from the three morning Beehives. We have moved to the Beehive 3 classroom to provide us with further scope to introduce activities on the veranda and in the garden. Our focus in the class will be transition from the playground after the lunch break; routines of the class; settling into a new learning environment and getting to know new classmates and teachers; recognising and practicing writing names and numbers; and phonetic sounds. We will also be including cooking, art, science and physical education in our programme. We have planned our group learning to focus this term on Waitangi day, Sea Week and Keeping ourselves safe. We welcome families and whanau to join us during these topics and to let us know if there is any specific learning they would like for their child before they leave Montessori to attend primary school.

Afternoon Programme
Gillian, Meryl, Heather, Tarsha, Juliana
We are pleased to welcome Heather to our afternoon teaching team this year. Our first focus is on art processes and following the Montessori cycle of activity, along with a mat time focus on animals (children's interest) and te reo Māori and learning some new waiata. We continue to support parents/whanau with their children's toileting and sleeping routines, and are always keen to respond to parents' aspirations for

their child's learning. Feel welcome to chat to us about your child's interests, strengths or what you would like us to focus on with their learning.

You may like to visit our pre-school website: www.gisbornemontessori.org.nz
facebook: www.facebook.com/GisborneMontessoriPreschool/, the parenting section of the MANZ www.montessori.org.nz and the Ministry of Education websites www.parents.education.govt.nz

"Tairawhiti Active MokoPuna 2017" invite whanau to join their Facebook page to view useful tips and ideas to get the whole family moving and making healthier choices. You can find out about upcoming events and workshops, discover what is happening in and around our early childhood community, pick up some healthy lunchbox ideas, take part in whanau challenges and much more. We look forward to hearing from you!

Easter falls at the end of term 1 this year with the pre-school being closed on Good Friday 14 April.

Term 1 ends Thursday 13 April
Holiday Programme 24 – 28 April
Term 2 starts Monday 1 May

Enjoy the rest of the term!



TREASURE OUR CHILDREN

**COME CELEBRATE
CHILDREN'S DAY 2017**

**ON SUNDAY MARCH 5TH, 10AM – 1PM
AT THE WAREHOUSE CARPARK**

**FREE FUN ACTIVITIES AND ENTERTAINMENT
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

Including: Story Telling, Sports Gisborne active play, arts and crafts, sensory play, colouring competitions & spot prizes
Bring a decorated bike to be judged at 12.30 grand parade
Bring your teddy or doll to be weighed by a Plunket nurse

TE RA O TE TAMARIKI
CHILDREN'S DAY