

# Nelson Montessori

## Newsletter

### **Haere mai / Haere ra:**

Welcome to Oliver Hume with mum Tiffany and dad Andy as well as Walter Nicholls-Philp with his mum Marcia and dad Matt. It's the second time at Nelson Montessori for dad as he was part of the community with (now) 10 year old Katie. Kowhai class has welcomed Zico Pearson with parents Sam and Dave.

Kowhai will be saying farewell to Felicity Allen shortly as she will be off to school.

### **COMMUNITY MEETINGS:**

Following our plea in the last newsletter on solutions to build attendance at these meetings we received a suggestion that perhaps 9 am would be a better time. As a result we'll put a sheet up with the agenda and you can sign up alongside the time that works best for you and we'll go ahead with the time that has the most attendees.

### **QUESTIONNAIRE:**

Thanks to everyone who responded to our annual questionnaire. It was fantastic to receive 26 responses as this gives us a more authentic database of knowledge from which to do our long-term planning.

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

#### **MOTHERS' DAY:**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May

#### **MULTI-CULTURAL DAY:**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May

#### **BROOK TRIP:**

Tuesday - TBC

#### **QUEENS BIRTHDAY:**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June – no school

#### **MATARIKI:**

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June

#### **COMMUNITY MEETING:**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

#### **PARENT EDUCATION EVENING:**

Date to be confirmed

#### **PARENT OBSERVATION MONTH:**

13<sup>th</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> July

#### **MAORI LANGUAGE WEEK:**

4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July

#### **LAST DAY OF TERM 2:**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July

#### **START OF TERM 3:**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July

We have identified some common threads (both strengths and weaknesses) and we are currently working on how best to make use of the information ie.. marketing, planning for positive changes etc.

We'll get back to you shortly with more information on any changes we are implementing. It's really exciting to grow and evolve together!

### **PURPLE CAKE DAY FEEDBACK:**

We always take a huge, collective, breath when we take something tried and tested and do something different and this year's Purple Cake Day event showed us variety is indeed the 'spice of life'.

Moving the focus from selling cupcakes to riding bikes was a better fit both with Montessori philosophy of building confident, resilient individuals keen to explore and learn, as well as our Healthy Heart Award.

We had a fantastic level of contribution from the community, as well as raising a whopping \$700.00 for a truly inspiring charity. If you'd like to know more about the great work that Emily Sanson-Rejouis and her global team do check out [purplecakeday.org](http://purplecakeday.org). Although we get involved on their 'Global Day of Action' you are able to contribute at any time through the year.

### **CONGRATUATIONS SHIRANGA!**

Last week Shiranga heard that she had been granted her New Zealand residency. Although Shiranga was much to humble to make a big deal of this we thought it was well worth sharing!

### **MARVELOUS MUMS..... :**

This year our Montessori Mothers' Day Celebration is a trip to Gymnastics Nelson for mum and child/ren on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of May (RSVP Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of May). As always if you are unable to make it to the event another family member or friend is very come along in your place. The programme for the morning is as follows:

9:30am Assemble in your child's class for shared kai and a safety briefing

10:00am Bus leaves for gym

11:15am Return to Montessori and normal school programme for tamariki resumes.

**It should be lots of fun, hope you can join us!!**

### **SUSTAINABILITY:**

In term two Kirsa will be organising a waste audit for our centre. If you have any experience with waste audits or are keen to learn more, Kirsa would gratefully welcome a member of our community as a partner in this endeavour. Over the years many of our centre practices have shifted toward reduction, reuse and recycling; this commitment is reflected in our Strategic Plan. Our underlying kaupapa supports developing a vision of ourselves as kaitiaki, guardians of Papatuanukū, Mother Earth. We endeavour to use all of our resources thoughtfully and consider them as taonga, treasure. A waste audit will provide us with data about our current waste stream and hopefully point to how we can continue to reduce our waste footprint as a community and refine our other sustainable practices. Please see Kirsa at school or over Educa if you would like to be involved in any way or have ideas you can share. Kirsa sends you her thanks in anticipation.

P.S. We are also looking for anyone who has particular mohiotanga / knowledge around harvesting and curing olives. The fruit on our rakau / tree are ripe on one half so we want to ensure we don't waste anything.

### **MULTI-CULTURAL DAY:**

Food is such a huge part of any culture so our Multi-Cultural Day on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May, is of course a meal – a pot-luck lunch to be precise.

Last year's celebration was an ethnic delight with divine dishes from around the world. You are encouraged to make a dish from the country your whanau is connected to and bring it along to share for lunch. Please place a flag or label on it so we can be aware of its origins.

In the week (or two) proceeding we'll be exploring many things around the countries of the tamariki within our community. Music, flags, geography, language etc will all be open for exploration and we would value any input you would like to make to our studies. 😊 More information will be out shortly.

**FIRST-AID TRAINING:**

Staff from Nelson, Kauri and Stoke Montessori are coming together to do their first aid refresher on July 21<sup>st</sup>. If you have a certificate that needs to be kept current you are very welcome to enrol as well. The cost is \$115.00 per person for the full day course – 8.30am - 3.15pm.

**POLICIES UNDER REVIEW:**

We are currently reviewing the following policies:

- Transition to school
- Child protection
- Cleaning and Maintenance
- Self-Review

We would love your input so have forwarded you a copy to read. There is also a copy at school (on the deck) for you to add any comments or questions.

**STAFF HOLIDAYS:**

If you've talked to Kaylene recently she's sure to have shared excitement at the trip her whanau are taking in a couple of weeks. They're off to the U.S.A for three weeks of exciting adventures. During Kaylene's absence Karen will be moving indoors, assisting Michelle. Meanwhile our regular reliever Moira will be working outdoors on Karen's usual days.

Kaylene's not the only one off on holiday – shortly after she returns Kirsa will be heading away for a long awaited and very special visit with her whanau, also in the States. Kirsa will be absent 28 June through to August 22<sup>nd</sup>. It's wonderful that Karen will be able to absorb Kirsa's hours which enables wonderful continuity for your tamariki.

**BAMBINO CLASS:**

We are incredibly excited at the response we have had to the news of a Montessori under three year old space opening later in the year! If you are interested in enrolling your child (or know of anyone else who may be) please talk to Nissa as soon as possible.

## TSUNAMI EVACUATIONS

Many people may have read recently (on Stuff.co.nz) of the Tsunami Maps that detail what areas need to be evacuated, dependent on the expected height of a tsunami. You may like to check out the maps yourself and identify your evacuation plan. The link for the central city is:

<http://nelsontasmancivildefence.co.nz/assets/maps/tsunami-2016/maps/79.-Nelson-CBD.pdf>. Maps for the remainder of the region are available to view on the Nelson

City Council website. We have also revisited our own evacuation practices (up the walking track opposite school).



## CHANGE OF SEASON:

*Summer is now behind us and hats have been tucked away for next time. The saying goes that “there is no bad weather, only bad clothing” – so in that vein we ask that you ensure your child has a raincoat in their bags and slippers and gumboots here at school. Keeping them at school ensures your child’s urge to explore the outdoors will never be hindered by the lack of appropriate clothing.*

*P.S. If everyone could please label their children’s clothing, it would save us all a lot of grey hairs !*

## HOUSE SITTING:

*Susan is searching for some, or one, house sitting from early June through to mid December. If you know of anyone needing a house sitter please get in touch with her as soon as possible - [suzilou@xtra.co.nz](mailto:suzilou@xtra.co.nz) or 027 2977922.*

Well that’s all for now,

*Nga mihi mahana*

*The Montessori team ☺*