



Newsletter **Autumn** **2016**

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/LittleCitizens

littlecitizens.co.nz

Kia ora and welcome to our Autumn newsletter.

It was so nice to see so many parents and children at our Science and Technology Open Day which was held on the 2nd April. We all loved the science show which was put on by our friends from the Otago museum.

We have our up-coming Matariki dinner so please check your childs' pocket for your invitation.

Sign-in sheets - Please can you sign the sign-in sheet weekly even if your child has been away for the week as this is a Ministry of Education requirement.

Jackie Wallis - Family/Whanau Co-ordinator



Raymond is away on holiday this week so I am helping out with this month's competition. Check out the back page for more details!

New Staff

Little Citizens Receptionist

We would like to welcome Miriama Toia as our new receptionist; she will be on reception on Monday 8.30am to 12pm, Wednesday 8.30am to 12pm, and Friday 8.30am to 4.00pm.

Client Support Worker

We would like to also welcome our new Client Support Worker, Anna-Kristy. Anna-Kristy works Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm.

Jenny Olsen, our previous Client Support Worker, has moved to a new role within the Mission.

She is still running the Incredible Years parenting course at the Hub, and is also now working at Arahina Family Support Centre in Mosgiel.



Miriama

Hi, I'm Miriama the new Receptionist. I am a mum to three amazing children Toby, Mya and Piper. I have worked in administration for many years and am looking forward to meeting and catching up with you all.

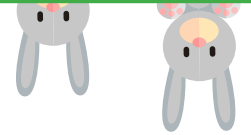
Anna-Kristy

Hi, my name is Anna-Kristy and I am the new Client Support Worker at Little Citizens.

I have a background in both Social Work, and Early Childhood Education. I enjoy spending time with my family, and am really enjoying my time at Little Citizens



Milestones



Milestones

At Little Citizens we have a checklist for developmental milestones. This is so we can make sure that every child at Little Citizens has the skills they need to thrive at school.

So how does it work?

At various stages in each child's life, the teachers see where each child is in relation to the developmental milestones at that age. There are four key developmental areas that the milestones are built on – Language skills, intellectual skills, social-emotional skills, and motor skills.

The teachers look at each of these areas at different age stages for each child. The ages are: 1½ months, 3½ months, 5½ months, 8 months, 14 months, 2 years, 3 years and 4½ years.

An example of the milestones:

- At 8 months one of the socio-emotional milestones is, 'enjoys playing simple games such as peek-a-boo'.
- At 2 years one of the motor skill milestones is, 'being able to walk backwards'.
- At 3 years one of the language skills milestones is, 'using 4 word sentences'.
- At 4½ years one of the intellectual skill milestones is, 'counting from 1 to 10'.

The teacher meets up with the parents and caregivers and they talk about where the child is at each milestone stage. There is a great opportunity to share what the child is doing at centre and what they are doing at home.

What if my child has not reached the milestones?

All children develop at differing stages and the most important thing is for the teacher and the parents to talk and share what the child is doing, as often parents notice many things at home that can be different to the centre. If there is a worry, then the parents and teacher get to talk about what the next step might be and put in place a plan. The focus is always on what each child can do and building on that.

If you would like to have a copy of the milestones to have a look at or take away for yourselves, then please just catch up with Jackie and she can give you a copy.

The milestones are recorded in each child's profile book so you are able to see the progress over time. Feel free to pop in and catch up with your child's teacher to see the profile book. You are very welcome to take the profile books home to share with other family members and to also write in your feedback.

Science and Technology Centre



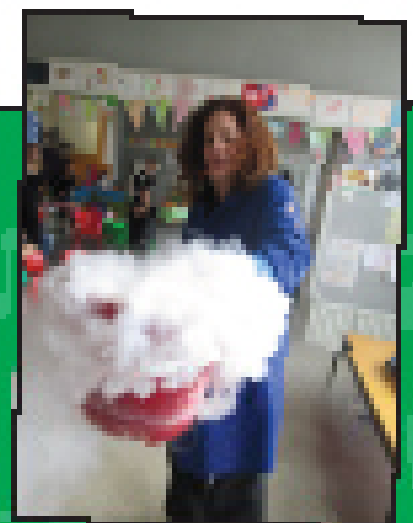
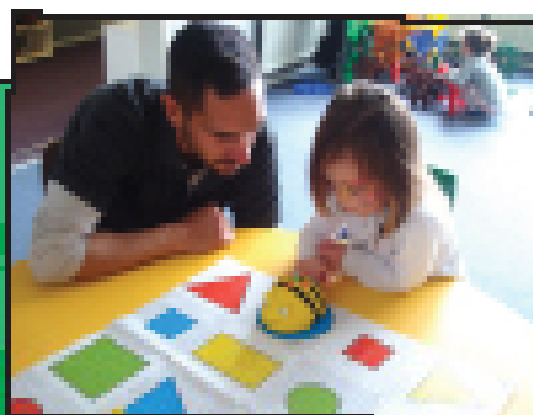
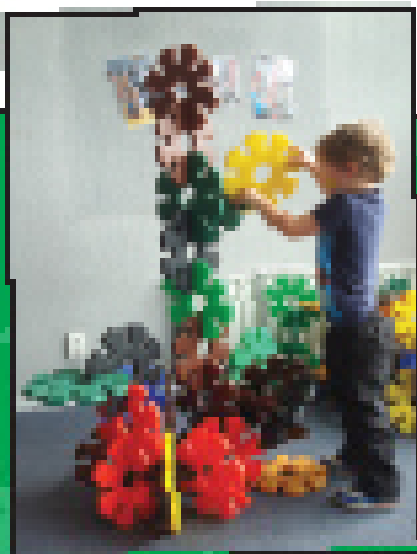
Little Citizens Science & Technology Centre

We would like to say a massive thank you to everybody who helped us create our **Science & Technology Centre**!

Our Open Day was a huge success and it was great to see our Little Citizens families coming along to support the event.

All the great new equipment has arrived, including these fun Bee-Bot robots that develop programming, sequencing, estimation and problem-solving skills!

So next time you are at the centre, ask your child to show you the new equipment and join in the fun!



Developing a sense of Whanaungatanga

In the **Kiwi Room** we have been focussing on developing a sense of Whānaungatanga through shared experiences and working together.

Whānaungatanga is all of the acts that constitute our belonging together: happy, sad, generous, fragile, sharing and needing. It is relationship, kinship, and a sense of family connection - a relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging.

We have been developing this sense of belonging through small group activities. These include shared music and action songs, listening to stories, and art and craft experiences, such as our wonderful autumn collage.

The children painted the background together using brushes, and also their hands and fingers. Then we added fabric leaf skeletons, and later we glued on real autumn leaves. Finally, the children coloured some leaves, and we added those. Our wonderful group artwork is now on display just outside the **Kiwi Room door**.



Different ways of learning

There have been a number of children transitioning through from the **Kiwi room** to the **Tui room**. This has been a great opportunity to increase the tuakana-teina relationships and gain a greater understanding of each other's different ways of learning. This is where the older children in the Tui room help and support the new children to the room in settling in and finding out how the routines work, where things are kept and helping them feel comfortable and welcome in the new environment.

They are growing in their independence
turn it is, what activity to be involved in
helping them, asking questions and
allowing all children to have a

voice negotiating to sort out any hiccups such as whose
ing up. The teachers work alongside the children
ement in the discussion around negotiation,

The children are sharing
they proudly announce

with little to no teacher intervention, where



Using your senses

The children use their senses to explore
understandings. Rich learning occurs whe
experiences, and helping them discover a wo

p their own meanings and
, describing and sharing their
ive language.



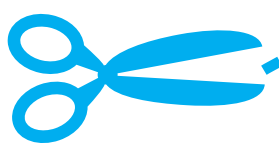
Kotuku Room 3½ - 5 Years

Scissor Time

Children are provided with many opportunities to practice and perfect their ability to cut with scissors.

Teachers work alongside the children to role model, guide and encourage them to keep trying even if they get frustrated.

This enables the children not only to master new skills, but also to foster and develop their persistence, patience and determination as they repeat the process.



Motor development & turn taking

Children build on their gross motor development and turn taking skills as they work together to climb, balance, and practice catching, throwing and rolling a ball with directional accuracy.

Teachers support children within these learning experiences to enable their participation no matter what their level of skill or confidence.



Maree's Yummy Recipes

Fish Fritters

Ingredients

- 1 egg
- ¼ cup milk
- ½ cup of self-raising flour
- 1 x 425gm can of tuna

Instructions

Mix the egg, milk, yoghurt and flour together (don't over mix). Then drain the fish and add it to the batter. Fry small spoonfuls in a little oil in a non-stick frying pan until cooked.



Vegetable Frittata

Ingredients

- 6 eggs
- ½ cup of self-raising flour
- 2 teaspoons of dried herbs (mixed herbs, sage, thyme, parsley). You can use any herbs you like.
- 2 large potatoes cooked and diced
- 1 cup of cooked diced pumpkin
- 4 grated courgettes
- 1 cup of grated cheese.

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 180c. Lightly butter/oil a 30cm x 20cm ovenproof dish. Then gently mix the eggs, milk and flour until just combined. Add the remaining ingredients and gently mix until combined. Pour into an ovenproof dish and bake for 30-40 minutes.



Extras maybe added to the mixture before cooking - diced ham, shredded cooked chicken etc....

Raymond's Pepper's Corner

Did you know that rabbits are born with their eyes closed and without fur!

Competition Time

I have lost my little toy rabbit! Look in the newsletter to find out how many of my toy rabbits you can find and then go and tell your teacher. You will then be in the draw to **WIN** an awesome activity book!

