

## 5 minutes with Daphne



**What is your role at Fantails?** Teacher in the Pre-school room

**I grew up in...** Devonport

**If you came to my house for dinner you would have...** at least five courses with wines to match.

**My favourite place is...** Tuscany, Italy.

**My friends would describe me as...** funny, trustworthy, reliable, and helpful.

**If I wasn't a teacher, I would be...** a gardener.

**The colours that make me happy are...** blue and pink.

**My favourite activity as a child was...** riding my bicycle and being at the beach.

**My hidden talent is...** so well hidden that I haven't found it yet!

**My dream holiday would be...** to spend a year travelling around the world.

**My favourite thing about teaching is...** being part of a team and knowing that you can make a positive difference to a child's day and of those days, there are never two days that are the same!

**I love to...** sneak off to my room and read a book in the middle of the day.

**My favourite season is...** Summer.

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**Fantails Childcare**  
Country  
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### **Kia Ora Parents and Whanau,**

Throughout March we have continued to have a balance of indoor and outdoor activities and experiences on offer. A highlight of our month was our big gumboot throwing competition for 'Gumboot Friday'.

Moving into April, as a centre we are looking forward to focussing on deepening our knowledge of each others cultural backgrounds; learning about and celebrating the variety of cultures within our community and also in the wider world. If you have knowledge of any interesting recipes, songs or traditions you would like to recommend we look in to— to learn more about; we would love to hear any ideas or suggestions.

Kind regards,  
Hailey Nasmith  
Centre Manager



### **April Events**

**April 18th, 10:15am– Egg Hunt**

**April 30th– 'A celebration of Culture' dress up/fun day**

## In the Babies Room...

Over the past month we have had a strong focus on language development with an emphasis on learning the names of colours, shapes and animals. We have been encouraging speech through lots of songs, conversations and some new magnetic stories. We have found the Moreporks have particularly enjoyed colour recognition activities; even our younger room members have been participating, differentiating between a variety of colours and animals (pointing/ body language).

The Moreporks have also continued their sensory explorations, playing with gloop, paint and clay. Construction is also a popular interest, with our young architects being extremely creative with the materials they use for their towers!



## In the Preschool Room...

'Promoting a love of Literacy' was our goal for the Month of March. The Kiwi, Tui and Flyers groups each explored literacy in different ways.

The Kiwi and Tui groups primarily focussed their learning around strengthening the children's confidence in recognising their names, starting with the first alphabet letter of their name and gradually learning to recognise the other letters within their names. For this they used stickers, blocks, paint, pastels, pens, plants (an alphabet garden), stamps and collage; to name a few materials. Each experience (although focusing on the same learning outcomes) was presented in a different way. The purpose of this is to promote engagement from everyone in the group, keeping things exciting and fresh while adapting to suit different styles of learning. One of the more active experiences even involved 'Alphabet Yoga'.

The Flyers also started with a focus on their own names but quickly progressed to also recognising each others names and sounding out/ spelling many different words. They participated in a variety of group games and challenges which promoted a sense of 'competitive fun'.

