

Five Minutes With...

Mel



What room are you teaching in? Juniors

I grew up in... England

If you came to my house for dinner you would have... Steak and salad

My favourite place is... Our lovely beaches

In my car I listen to... The radio

Early bird or night owl... Early bird

My friends would describe me as... Bubbly, kind and fun

If I wasn't a teacher, I would be... Working with people

The colours that makes me happy are... Pink and Purple

My favourite game as a child was... Snakes and ladders

Sweet or savoury... Both

The best day of the year is... Everyday

My hidden talent is... I can write with both hands

My dream holiday would be... Cruise around the world

I love the smell of... Fresh washing

Teaching is... Fun with super rewards and it great to be with children

I love to... Cycle, swim and walk.

My favourite season is... Summer



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Fantails Childcare
SILVERDALE
Newsletter April 2018



Kia Ora Parents and Whanau,

The beginning of another month, and a special time of celebrations over the Easter period. The past month has been full of fun learning experiences for the children, with dramatic play and creative art activities being especially popular with the groups of children in each room. Enjoy reading through the next few pages to see what our tamariki have been engaged in.

The Flyers were treated to a special 'development session' at Silverdale Primary School, where they were invited into the new entrant classrooms for the morning, and were able to fully participate in the curriculum activities. We are privileged to have such a strong connection with our local school as part of our 'Fantails Flyers School Readiness Programme'. These development sessions are available for our 4 years olds each term, along with the weekly Tuesday morning visit, and give them valuable insight into what school life will be like. This in turn, assists in making the transition when children turn 5 much smoother and less daunting.

Our wonderful new Chef Katarina is making some tasty, healthy, cooked lunches each day. The menus have been updated with a wider variety of meals for the children that are in line with the Healthy Heart recommendations. Take a look at the weekly menu displayed next to the sign in sheets.

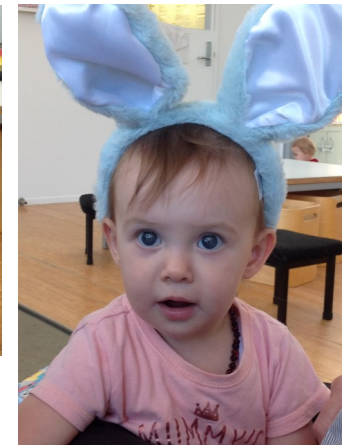
Kind regards,
Nikki Summerville
Group Manager

In the Toddlers Room...

Wow our dramatic play focus is in full swing especially now that we have opened up the back room and made that into another area for the children to practice their role playing and social skills. This area is often set up for reading so children can sit on the cushions and relax in a quiet space. Amanda made a boat out of a big box and the children took turns of hopping in and pretending to catch fish. She had magnet fish and rods to catch them with. This activity is extending their social development and supporting our children's interest in dramatic play.



The children have been busy working on creating Easter baskets and decorating eggs. By celebrating this holiday the children are expressing themselves creatively while making connections to the wider world.



As story time is ongoing we decided to celebrate teacher Kate's wedding with a special dramatic play which involved the children dressing up. We role played her getting married - this was a total surprise for Kate! This is our first Fantails wedding and the toddlers came over to join in with this festive occasion.



In the Babies Room...

March has been a busy month with plenty of art work and sensory play going on. Daniel a teacher from the Preschool room has made us an activity/sensory board that can stand up on the floor. On one side there are lights that the children love to turn on, switches, door handles, hooks and tunnels to roll balls down. On other side and through the middle is textured wall paper to stimulate their senses.

Children learn through all their senses. Every day we provide art activities but this seems to becoming a strong interest with many of our children at the moment. Creative art will be our next focus due to this observation. Through art children can discover different ways to be creative and expressive, gaining skills with media and tools such as paint, crayons, pencils and educational technologies that they can use for expressing moods and feelings. Easter gives us another opportunity to explore art with lots of creations linked to this special time of year.



In the Juniors Room...

This month the Juniors' have been exploring role play, being superhero's and playing with the new toy babies with various props. They have also investigated construction as they have used different materials to create unique designs and implementing their role play interest by being builders. We have also role played feelings in the room which has assisted the children to have more of an awareness of their own feelings and their peers. The Juniors' have also engaged with sensory activities this month including slime, gloop and using water with different colours. This has assisted to develop their curiosity and inquiry, thinking about their senses.



It has been an exciting month as we celebrated St Patrick's Day with green playdough, lots of painting with the colour green, drinking green milk and even having some fun with face paint!



In the Preschool Room...

This month the Flyers' have been exploring the interest "The Arts". We have investigated different types of dance, musical instruments and adapting stories and props for role play. There has been a significant interest with visual art as they have developed and experienced different techniques and used a variety of tools to create their own unique pieces of artwork. The Flyers' have also enjoyed design which has developed from the visual art area as they have created masks, telescopes, robots, and sail boats. Some of the Flyers have also enjoyed painting on the outside of the play house and using crayons to draw different pictures on the inside to decorate the walls. We are currently working on a collaborative piece where each child has the opportunity to contribute their designs and creativity.



We also had a fantastic time celebrating St Patrick's Day as the children came dressed in green. We learned some new facts about the day and played various games that included green balloons and some of us had face paint. We even had the opportunity of drinking green milk and created sparkly green clovers.



Egg Table Toppers – Painting with Q-tips

TO MAKE YOUR EASTER EGG TABLE TOPPERS, YOU WILL NEED:

- paint in various colours
- glitter various colours
- Q-tips
- cardboard (cereal box weight)
- cardboard roll (kitchen roll, wrapping paper roll etc.)
- paintbrushes
- scissors



PAINTING OUR EASTER EGGS:

Cut some egg shapes out of a piece of lightweight cardboard. Use the paintbrushes and Q-tips to paint the eggs then sprinkle glitter onto the wet paint.

MAKING A STAND FOR YOUR TABLE TOPPERS:

To make the stand for your Easter eggs, paint a cardboard roll, and cut it into 1.5 inch segments. Snip two notches, opposite each other, in each segment and insert your cardboard egg!