

Five Minutes With...

Elyssa!



What room are you in? Babies room

I grew up in... Mindanao, Philippines

If you came to my house for dinner you would have... Rice and pork (cooked in different ways)

My favourite place is... Wherever my family is

In my car I listen to... Worship songs

Early bird or night owl... Night owl

My friends would describe me as... Shy at first but can open up after a while

If I wasn't a teacher, I would be... A psychologist/counsellor

The colours that makes me happy are... Lavender, shy blue, light grey

My favourite game as a child was... Patintero

Sweet or savoury... Both

The best day of the year is... Summer time

My hidden talent is... Still to be kept hidden ha, ha

My dream holiday would be... Maldives

I love the smell of... Lavender and Eucalyptus

Being a teacher ... Is a privilege

I love to... Bond with my friends and family

My favourite season is... Summer



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Fantails Childcare

SILVERDALE

Newsletter

December 2019



Kia Ora Parents and Whānau,

Thank you to all the families that joined us at our Christmas party! We had over 800 people RSVP and the atmosphere was wonderful! We were so very proud of all the children and their beautiful performance. Santa was busy in his grotto along with the activity and food stations. The teachers have worked hard all year and enjoyed being a part of the children's learning journeys. From the team at Fantails, we wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and a wonderful New Year! We look forward to all the exciting adventures 2020 has in store for us at Fantails.



In the Babies room...

The past month the babies have been loving the outdoors, we have been utilising our wonderful space and doing lots of fun activities like slime, frozen balls of ice and exploring in the sandpit. The climbing is still popular so we have been utilising this as much as we can. We had an exciting moment when a bird flew into our room so we all got a special chance to look at it and say hello. We have also had a few birthdays this month so have farewelled some of our friends as well as welcoming some new ones.

We are looking forward to the weather getting warmer and since we will be having lots of water play during the summer time we would like to gently remind our parents to please bring in some togs or changes of clothes so that all our babies can cool off in the warmer weather.



We have also been busy to getting ready for Christmas by singing songs and doing lots of activities and stories, our babies have been expressing a big interest in reading the books and recognising the pictures in them, therefore we would like to invite our parents to share any of their children's favourite books with us and if you decide to bring any in please let us know so we can

utilise them for mat time and make sure they are kept safe afterwards.

We are counting down the days until our Christmas party and are looking forward to all of the exciting events and activities we have planned for December.



We also had our trip to 'Motat' on the 5 December so we have been talking about what we saw as the Flyers are showing a lot of interest in construction, vehicles and dramatic play. Through this the children increase the development in their imagination and creativity. They also extend their experiences in social development and play.



Te reo word:

Hakihea

December



In the Preschool Room...

This month in the preschool room we have shifted our focus from 'Marine Life' to 'Christmas'. As Christmas gets closer and Santa is just around the corner, we have started practicing our Christmas songs for our concert, making decoration and presents. It's like Santa's workshop with all our little 'Elves' busy creating amazing things.

We have also begun to write letters to Santa which is very exciting. This is great practice for the children. Some of the Flyers are learning to hold a pencil correctly, or learning to control it while some of the older Flyers were able to write the whole letter themselves!

We also had a special visit to Silverdale school on Tuesday 12 November when we visited the reception classroom and were able to meet the children and teachers and explore the rooms alongside the school children, it was great to see how some of our Fantails children who have already moved to school were going and what they were learning.



In the Toddlers room...

This will be our last newsletter for the year and it has seemed to fly by with the festive season already upon us. As the weather warms, we have been doing lots of water play outside including watering the newly planted garden the children and teachers have made. Belgin made some healthy fruit ice-blocks with the children which went down a treat. This activity explores science concepts while staying cool and hydrated. This was extended by Cody when he froze toys in water to make ice that children manipulated in the water trough outside.



Our toddlers have been enjoying the new books and mat time stories, I'm sure you might have heard some of these being talked about at home. We would love to know what your child's special story book and possibly bring it in so we can read it to the group.

We celebrated Diwali by making lanterns, painting with real flowers and colouring in the Rangoli patterns to introduce Indian culture to our children. In preparation for our Christmas concert we are practicing singing the songs. We all can't wait for the Christmas party as it is such a big part of creating a sense of belonging bringing all our families together.



In the Juniors room...

The focus of make believe has encouraged the Juniors to share their interests through their play.

We have had fun going on a pirate journey, singing songs and making props, playing games - all ending in a pirate adventure where we looked for and found treasure! This is great for stretching our children's imaginations using different mediums - i.e. art, song, movement, improvisation. Also a brilliant confidence builder watching the children's social interactions grow.

In their own spontaneous play, they have all been looking after each other, being doctors and nurses, mums and dads, police and fire fighters.

Boxes have been a fun addition to the room this month, with children turning them into beds, boats, shops etc....

We are starting to gear up for Christmas as we start practicing for our amazing annual Christmas concert. The Juniors are also very busy working on their present for their parents.



What an exciting month November has been as we went and visited 'Motat'! The Juniors always love the bus trip as much as the destination, this was no exception especially on the way to Motat where we saw all sorts of vehicles, bridges, road works and of course the Sky Tower.

Once we arrived we were able to explore all the different areas and of course the exciting 'Tram' ride. It was a great trip for all and is a fantastic way to involve parents.



Get active with whānau this summer

Being physically active is good for our mood, overall health and can provide hours of fun. Summer is a great time to be active together as whānau. Here are some fun physical activity ideas to fill in the summer holidays:

- Collect shells or driftwood at the beach.
- Play nature bingo – create a list of things to find and whoever finds them all first wins!
- Explore somewhere new.
- Have a concert or dance party in the backyard.
- Try a game of backyard cricket or touch rugby.
- Challenge some friends to a game of ultimate frisbee.
- Look out for free local activities which provide opportunities to be active.



For more information, visit: heartfoundation.org.nz