

Five Minutes With...

Julie



What room are you teaching in? Babies

I grew up in... Howick

If you came to my house for dinner you would have... Noodles

My favourite place is... Home

In my car I listen to... Silence

Early bird or night owl... Neither

My friends would describe me as... Kind, gentle and positive

If I wasn't a teacher, I would be... Nutritionist

The colours that makes me happy are... Purple

My favourite game as a child was... Hide and Seek

Sweet or savoury... Sweet

The best day of the year is... The day I got married

My hidden talent is... Being a tidy cook

My dream holiday would be... On an Island with unlimited spa treatment

I love the smell of... Coffee

Teaching is... Rewarding and challenging

I love to... Travel and shop

My favourite season is... Spring



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Fantails Childcare
SILVERDALE
Newsletter February 2018



Kia Ora Parents and Whanau,

A warm welcome back to all our families that have returned from holiday, and a special welcome to the new families settling in at Fantails. We have had a wonderful start to 2018 and have been making the most of the amazing summer weather!

The sprinklers and water troughs have certainly been popular activities the past month.

The Flyers (preschool room) visited the local Vet Hospital in Millwater. This was such an informative and fun experience for all the children, who were privileged to go 'behind the scenes' and see first hand what happens at the vet. We are delighted that we will be able to continue visiting regularly throughout the year.



Upcoming events to note down on your calendar:

Monday 5th February—celebrating Waitangi Day

Friday 16th February—celebrating Chinese New Year. Parents and families are all invited to come along for a shared meal 3.00-4.30pm

Wednesday 21st February—Parent evening 6.30-8.30pm. Guest speaker Joy Sluiters from 'The Parenting Place' will be sharing her presentation on 'Raising happy, confident and resilient children'.



Kind regards, Nikki Summerville—Group Manager

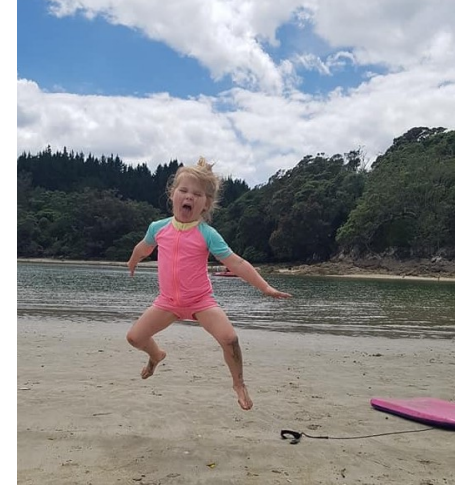
In the Babies Room...

Welcome back to Fantails we hope all our families had a relaxing break. All our children have settled back into their routines and are enjoying playing with their friends. Our Story telling focus is still current and we will continue to extend on this interest through implementing more frequent spontaneous mat times alongside the routine mat times we have before transitional times throughout the day. Please bring your favourite book from home so we can share this with your child's friends. This creates a sense of belonging for your child and supports their literacy skills. Merlin has been bringing in her puppets and this has been creating a lot of interest which is linked to our story telling focus. We use puppets as a learning technique such as using gentle hands, being kind to our friends and sharing toys. These social skills are re-enforced through our positive guidance procedures as well. To further support our children's sense of belonging, we would appreciate it if you could bring in or email some holiday photos. We are having a great hot summer so in the afternoons we put the sprinkler on for the children to explore. While keeping cool they are learning maths concept by standing on the tube making the water squirt up higher into the sky. Pouring water from one container to the next is another activity they are interested in doing. The look of wonder on their faces is amazing as they make these exciting discoveries.

Please remember to bring in togs for this water experience.



As the children came back from their holidays they shared their adventures, showing photos and describing with a lot of excitement the experiences they had from playing on the beach, catching fish to the special time they spent with family.



Instant Gardens

Children love to grow their own gardens but may get tired of waiting for the seeds to sprout and plants to mature.

Instant gardens are fun to make and last up to two or three days.



Provide a variety of natural resources from your garden

Flowers	Seed pods
Twigs	Leaves
Stones	Grasses

Fill a shallow dish with sand or soil (or use a lump of old play dough). Show your child how to 'plant' their garden and let them experiment with design and layout. A jam jar lid with a little water makes a good 'pond'. Plastic figurines could become characters in your child's very own garden adventure!

In the Juniors Room...

During December and January the children in the Junior's room have been exploring and enhancing their imaginative side through different types of role play; from family play and nurturing 'babies' to super heroes saving the day. As they navigate through the web of social interactions that they face as a group and as an individual they contribute to the collective learning which widens their knowledge of the wider world and enables them to continue to develop their sense of others and where they belong.

Through negotiation, the children have been participating in problem solving, sharing and questioning their peers as they develop their imaginative world.

Linking experiences from home to Fantails gives the children a feeling of belonging which in turn provides a safe environment to explore and challenge their creative minds.



In the Toddlers Room...

Welcome back to all our Toddlers, we hope everyone had a nice break. With the summer bringing us lots of sunshine the toddlers have had fun with water play. We have even brought the water play inside adding bubbles and sea animals to encourage social interactions and conversations about animals that live in the water. Our families have been telling us all about their wonderful holidays and time spent at the beach. To support our children's sense of belonging we would love for you to bring in or email photos of your holiday fun. We will be having a special place on our wall to display these so children can revisit them.

The children have been particularly interested in doing role play over the past month, especially playing mummies and daddies and looking after their babies. Through Dramatic play children learn about social skills, family dynamics and empathy. This interest follows on with our self-help skills focus where children take on responsibilities to become confident and capable individuals.

We have noticed that our children have been interested in looking at photos of themselves on the I pad so we will be exploring a new focus where children will take their own photos. This focus is an extension from all the photos we took last year and how they loved looking at themselves "through the eyes of a child".



In the Preschool Room...

December and January were busy months for the Preschool room. For the family Christmas party we performed a skit called 'Pukeko in a Ponga Tree, the twelve days of Christmas'. We got right down to work creating the costumes with the help of the teachers, each day we practiced our moves and learnt the cues for when to go on and come off the stage. Reading the book familiarised the children with the content of the story and the characters that they played.

The big night was very exciting as we performed for large audience, the skit went off without a hitch and everyone remembered their parts. Well done Flyers!

Through the performing arts the children are given the opportunities to experience a range of social skills, like listening, following direction, turn taking, working together and helping each other. The children develop confidence and self - worth as they start to learn to over-come the challenge of performing for a large group.



The past month we have been sharing about our summer holidays to our friends and the main interest of 'Fun in the Sun' has developed. The children have been interacting with different forms of water play and they have also been engaged with lots of outdoor play. They have enjoyed the big tyre, obstacle courses and building in the sandpit. We have also participated in some gardening activities while learning how to plant seeds and small plants.

The children are given the opportunity to continue to explore their creativity through these different mediums where they are encouraged to challenge themselves, extend their thought processes and continue to build up their social repertoire in preparation for school.



Te Reo Phrase:

Mōrena!

Good morning!

