

Five Minutes With...

Alan!



What room are you in? Juniors room

I grew up in... China

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

Vegetables, Beef, Muscles and Salad

My favourite place is... Devonport and Mission Bay

In my car I listen to... Chinese traditional music

Early bird or night owl... Early bird

My friends would describe me as... Friendly and open minded

If I wasn't a teacher, I would be... Tour guide

The colours that makes me happy are... White, blue and green

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

Sweet or savoury... Sweet

The best day of the year is... My Birthday

My hidden talent is... Swimming

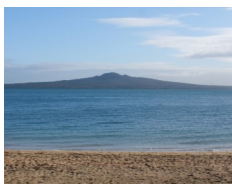
My dream holiday would be... Switzerland

I love the smell of... Baking

Being a teacher ... Makes me happy and creates a learning adventure

I love to... Explore small towns in New Zealand

My favourite season is... Summer



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Fantails Childcare
SILVERDALE
Newsletter February 2019



Kia Ora Parents and Whanau,

Happy New Year! 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 2019 and have been making the most of the amazing summer weather. The sprinklers and water troughs have certainly been popular activities the past few weeks with this heat wave!

Last month we had the Education Review Office visit us over several days. We received very positive feedback and are looking forward to sharing our ERO report with you when it is released in a few months time. We have a fantastic team of dedicated teachers that make Fantails a wonderful place to be!

Upcoming events to note down on your calendar:

Tuesday 5th February—Chinese New Year celebrations! Parents are invited to join us for afternoon tea 3.00-4.00pm

Thursday 7th February—Waitangi Day celebrations. (after the public holiday on the 6th)

Tuesday 19th February—Teddy Bears Picnic. All children are invited to bring along their favourite teddy for the day.

Wednesday 27th February—Parent evening. Joy Sluiters from The Parenting Place returns with another wonderful workshop. All parents are encouraged to attend. (Free babysitting service will be provided).



Kind regards,

Nikki Summerville and the Fantails team

In the Preschool room...

This month we have been welcoming our Flyers back from their Christmas break. Some of them have been on big holidays to the United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway and trips around New Zealand. It has been great listening to their adventures. We have been having loads of fun doing our workouts in the mornings and have also been focusing on our 'Kiwi' and 'Busy bee' Inquiry group activities which include volcanos, writing our names, phonics, science experiments and drama.



Through small drama workshops the children have been learning about emotions and practicing how to pull different faces to depict these. This has helped them to be able to have a better understanding of when a friend is happy or sad and extend their social competency.

In the Juniors room the children's interest in babies has grown as they regularly wash the babies and engage in family role play. One of the Junior teachers has just had a baby and we were fortunate to have a visit from her and her beautiful baby girl. We are all eagerly waiting for her next visit.



With all this warm weather the children have been looking at the natural world through planting plants to eat as well as flowers. Together they are learning how to care for the plants by watering them and treating them carefully so not to damage them.



The Jolly Phonics story about 'Inky the mouse, Snake and Bee' has inspired the children to re-enact with the puppets the story and make up their own stories.

The children have talked a lot about how their friends make them feel and what it is to be a good friend.

In the Juniors Room...

The annual Christmas concert and party was so much fun with all the different activities to try and the children impressed their parents with amazing voices as they sung loud and proud.

During the holidays the children have been arriving all excited to share their experiences they have had with their families. The children have brought in pictures of their adventures over the summer and we have made a book out of these treasured memories and also a photo book of the children as babies and how they look now. Both of these have been very popular as the children flick through the pictures, laughing and talking about what they see and their experiences they had. This has become a great tool for settling children in the morning. The Juniors have been adding to the summer wall display in the room as the children show their skills in art through cutting, pasting, drawings and collage.



The children went on a 'bug hunt' and observed praying mantis, bumble bees, dragonfly, butterfly and spiders. They were then shown a microscope and how to use it as they looked at bugs and plant cells.

The children also enjoyed the 'vision arts' as they explored their imagination to create and build various buildings using different materials.

Throughout this month there has been a lot of music and dance, as the children explored the Maori, Chinese and English cultures through this medium.



Te Reo Word:

Raumati

Summer

In the Babies Room...

We hope everyone had a wonderful relaxing Christmas and New Year. Over the Christmas period we had the Toddlers join the babies room so this was a nice experience for the toddlers to revisit their old environment and the babies enjoyed learning alongside their older peers.

What beautiful hot weather we have been having and we made the most of it by playing outside with plenty of water and messy play while keeping cool.

As our children experience all these exciting learning opportunities we have decided to make our next room focus all about exploration. The children love the way we have decorated the garden with pretty scarves and objects that move about when the wind blows them around.



To start off the New Year we will be celebrating Chinese New Year and it's all about the pig. Another important focus will be on Waitangi Day where the babies will again discuss what is important to them to keep our room calm and respectful.



In the Toddlers Room...

Welcome back to Fantails Toddlers after a great Christmas break. Summer is in full swing so we have been enjoying plenty of water play even the sprinkler has been out. The trough is also popular with lots of splashing, tipping and measuring supporting learning maths concepts and social skills as they negotiate and communicate with each other, while working alongside their friends. Please remember to pack togs and spare clothes for water play.



We have noticed that our children are still interested in the Transport focus, driving their cars around the floor and some children have been telling us about their Christmas holidays and when they went on planes and trains. We would love to receive photos about what you did so we can talk about it at mat times and display them on our Summer Splash wall.

The Toddlers have also been showing an interest in creativity by participating in the fun collage activities.

