

Five Minutes With...

Cody!



What room are you teaching in? Toddlers

I grew up in... West Auckland New Zealand

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

Italian or pasta of some sort.

My favourite place is... Muriwai

In my car I listen to... Hip hop

Early bird or night owl... Night owl

My friends would describe me as... Caring and a bit of nana

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

The colours that makes me happy are... Orange and blue

My favourite game as a child was... Going on a bear hunt

Sweet or savoury... Savoury

The best day of the year is... Christmas

My hidden talent is... Skate boarding

My dream holiday would be... Japan, Tokyo

I love the smell of... My nana's baking

Teaching is... Hanging out with my Toddler friends

I love to... Play Xbox with my cat

My favourite season is... Winter, I like to wrap up warm.



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Fantails Childcare
SILVERDALE
Newsletter July 2018



Kia Ora Parents and Whanau,

Our Wacky Wednesday dress up day was lots of fun last week, with the children and teachers coming in with some very creative, weird and wonderful outfits! The fun continued throughout the day with unusual wacky activities and plenty of laughter and smiles! The crazy dance party in the Juniors room was a highlight for many along with the award ceremony outside for the wackiest outfit and room! Thank you to all the parents that helped with the fashion designs and crazy hair styles. Go onto our Fantails Silverdale Facebook page to see some of the photos from this exciting day.

Kind regards, Nikki Summerville, Group Manager



REDUCING SCREEN TIME

Sitting and watching screens for long periods contribute to poorer health outcomes for children. We encourage active play including eye-tracking activities.



Here are some tips to limit screen time:

- ★ Discourage screen time for under-2s and limit screen time to less than one hour every day for children aged two years or older – less is best!
- ★ Provide regular activity breaks to limit the amount of time a child spends sitting
- ★ Be a role model by reducing your own screen use
- ★ Replace TV time with reading time, story time or doing jigsaw puzzles together
- ★ Eye-tracking activities e.g. bubbles or ball play
- ★ Do not have screens in any bedrooms
- ★ Store DVDs, consoles, tablets and electronic games out of sight
- ★ Include plenty of opportunities for active play – both inside and outside
- ★ Alternative activities to the screen should be fun, engaging and challenging.

For more information, visit heartfoundation.org.nz

In the Babies Room...

June has certainly been a cold one with limited play outside, although we still rug up warm with lots of clothes when the rain stops and the wind dies down to explore the garden and get some fresh air. Please remember to bring plenty of spare warm clothes and a beanie.



Yay we have new carpet throughout the centre and in the babies room we have a no shoes policy in place. Parents are welcome to sit down on the couch inside to take off their shoes. This helps keep the environment clean and hygienic for our babies as they lie on the floor and learn to crawl.

Thanks to all our parents who came and celebrated Matariki with us on the 15th June. We all enjoyed the yummy bread and vegetable soup that was shared. Matariki is unique to our heritage which revolves around Maori New Year and prosperity. Puppets are still an ongoing interest, and every time Pam gets her special puppet books out all our tamariki listen with great concentration on their faces. We have lots of young babies at the moment who are enjoying the many songs that we sing to them everyday. Children are naturally receptive to music which can positively affect moods and well-being.



We had an exciting week as we celebrated Matariki with an afternoon event, in which parents and family joined us for vegetable soup and a special mat time. During the day the children participated by peeling vegetables. It was special to be able to sing a Matariki song. The children all learned Te reo words for 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' and while singing, they held up stars they had made. We also learnt about the arts and legends that underpin the Maori festival and celebration of Matariki. In this celebration children are developing more understanding about the wider world, community and cultures.



As part of our social competency focus we have been looking at 'Kindness' and 'Honesty', what this might look like, feel like and how to share this with our friends.

Te Reo Phrase:

Kei te pēhea koe?

How are you (singular)?

In the Preschool room...

Another busy month in the Preschool room with the continued interest of Creepy Crawlies still being our focus. Many of the children have been working on making paper mache spiders, gluing layers of newspaper and tissue on the bodies they made from balls of tissue paper. Some of them are up to painting their spider and a few are ready to add the legs and eyes. Through this art experience children are developing early mathematical and science concepts. Some children also made clay imprints of different bugs by pressing them into the clay and washing them with diluted paint when they were dry.



In the Toddlers Room...

June was an important month as we celebrate Matariki.

During this week the children learned to weave strips of paper into their mats making beautiful patterns. We also did some fern screen printing which symbolises new beginnings for Maori and the start of the New Year. Our children had been busy all



week preparing for this by practicing action songs that they performed at mat time, helped with the preparation of vegetables for the hungi and baked star shapes shortbread biscuits to share with their whanua on the Friday. Thanks for all our parents for coming into the centre for this celebration to share this yummy feast.

Our children are still exploring a variety of schemas so we are still focusing on this interest. Our children are enjoying baking and through providing our baking experiences children can further develop the particular type of schema they are learning about such as transporting which is where children move objects from one container to the other. This is often seen in their sandpit play as well.

Remember to bring in spare warm clothing as winter has definitely set in. Please make sure that everything is clearly named so items don't get lost.



In the Juniors Room...

Role Play has come back as a strong interest in the Juniors room this month, with the new family/dramatic corner becoming very popular. It has been transformed into a shop as the children negotiated, exchanged and bartered for the goods. This play has extended into all of the different items you may need to go shopping and how to get there. This is where our next interest developed as the children needed a way of getting to the shop. Through inquiry based learning we explored different means of getting to the shop. The children came up with making a car. Through this process the children learnt how to find out information and then design, create and then play with their finished product. This extends their learning in processes and gives ownership and belonging to them.

Alongside this we were preparing and learning about the Maori New Year – Matariki, through art, story telling and song. We also prepared food to share with our families as we performed through waiata and korero all that we had learnt about this most special time.



Social Development encompasses all parts of learning and as we walk alongside our children and help them navigate this part of their learning journey, we are looking at different feelings and what this could look like and how we can deal with this feeling towards others and ourselves. This month we have looked at 'Sad' and 'Happy'.



Let's Celebrate Matariki

Matariki is the Māori name for the group of stars that rise into the sky in mid-winter and signals the start of the New Year. It is a celebration of people, culture, language, spirituality and history.

Here are some ideas to celebrate:

- ★ Hold a harvest day, plant new seedlings or fruit trees
- ★ Have a shared feast or Hāngī with food from the garden or make a friendship soup - everyone brings a vegetable
- ★ What's in your kete? pull out vegetables, fruits and name them in Te Reo
- ★ Explore the outdoors and learn about the natural world and native trees
- ★ Be creative with arts, crafts, music and dance read stories or legends, make poi and perform a dance, learn a haka or traditional Māori games
- ★ Paint pictures of stars or make stars from twigs
- ★ Make and fly kites Manu Tukutuku.
- ★ Have a Matariki disco with glow in the dark stars.



For whānau-friendly recipes, visit fuelled4life.org.nz