

Five Minutes With...

Bianca



What position are you in? The Cook

I grew up in... Alberton—South Africa

If you came to my house for dinner you would have... A Braai or lasagne and a really good desert.

My favourite place is... in NZ—Taupo & in South Africa—Karoo or Bushveld

In my car I listen to... Magic FM

Early bird or night owl... Night Owl

My friends would describe me as... Funny

If I wasn't the cook, I would be... a Criminal Psychologist

The colours that makes me happy are... Blues and Pinks

My favourite game as a child was... Making Mud Cakes

Sweet or savoury... Sweet

The best day of the year is... Christmas

My hidden talent is... Restoring Furniture

My dream holiday would be... Tour of Europe

I love the smell of... Frangipani

Being a cook ... is a blessing & talent you get to share with others

I love to... Spend time with family and friends

My favourite season is... Summer



☎ 09 222 9000 ✉ silverdale@fantailschildcare.co.nz



Fantails Childcare
SILVERDALE
Newsletter March 2020



Kia Ora Parents and Whānau,

March spells the beginning of Autumn—with darker mornings and a chill in the air. Our summer this year has certainly been a hot one and we welcome the cooler weather and hopefully a bit more rain.

The past month has been busy with heaps of learning happening in all the rooms (as you will read about in the following pages). Thank you so much for your positive attitude and support, not only for your child, but also for our teachers who really give their very best to make every day special.

Upcoming events to note down on your calendar:

Tuesday 17th March—St Patricks Day. Green dress up day!

Tuesday 17th March— Development Session for our Pre-schoolers at Silverdale Primary School

Tuesday 24th March—Babies and Toddlers individual and group photos

Wednesday 25th March—Juniors and Preschool individual and group photos

Next week Photo Order Forms/Envelopes will be available from the class teachers. Please ensure that you place your completed order form plus the correct amount of money in the order envelope and drop it in the marked box at reception. Our photographers do an amazing job every year. Please see Elzanne or Gladys if you have any questions or special requests regarding sibling photos. Don't miss out on this offer.

Here at Fantails we like to involve our community in whichever way we possibly can. With the scarcity of rain at the moment I was wondering if any of our parents/grandparents are available and would like to volunteer a couple of hours a week to help water our gardens? If you would like to be involved in this way, please talk to Gladys.

Enjoy the magic of March! Kind regards.

Gladys and the Fantails Team

In the Babies room...

This month the babies room has been focusing on transitions with many of our older babies turning into toddlers and new babies settling in. The outside environment is our current interest as we love to explore the garden to extend our gross motor skills.

Water play is a big part of that exploration with babies wanting to look after our plants by watering them with the hose (and themselves of course to cool off.) Ice is still a great activity giving children the opportunity to explore science concepts. They are mesmerised as they watch it slowly melt in the sunshine.

Teachers extend on children's learning by adding different mediums such as paint and sand to the melting ice. Children learn through all their senses. If you have any natural resources such as shells and driftwood that we could place in our garden please feel free to bring them in.



This month, wrapping up our 'Summer Holiday' focus, the children used their creative skills to collage and decorate the most delicious cold ice creams - some chose to make single scoop ice cream and some chose to make double scoop. We have recently just changed our focus to follow the children's interests, 'Dramatic Play'.

The Flyers love role playing with their friends. This is such a great form of expression which also strengthens their communication skills. Linking to this focus at group time some children have been thinking about how animals move and re-creating the movements themselves.



In the Preschool room...

In beginning of February we celebrated Waitangi Day. We drew up our own Fantails Flyers Treaty with 6 principles which we plan to adhere to, with the underlying theme of having respect for the environment and each other. We also all signed/wrote our names in the treaty document, to signify that we intend upholding our 6 principles.

We also had a Teddy Bears picnic day with everybody bringing their favourite soft toy to Fantails. We took ours to Silverdale primary school as part of our school walk and had lots of fun with them at the playground and in the library reading them stories.

We have also started an exciting new writing program with each child having their own journal to work in. They work individually with a teacher to support developing pencil skills, story-telling, sequencing and letter formation.

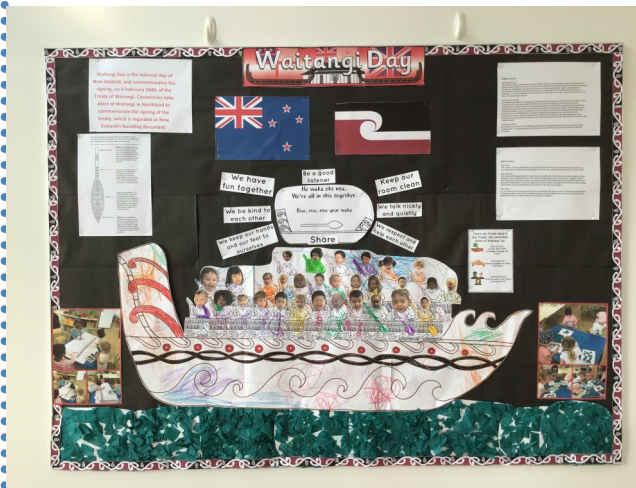


● In the Toddlers room...

Our new focus involves construction play due to the majority of our children showing an interest in building with different materials and resources. Our teachers have been setting up the Lego, mega blocks and utilising spontaneous moments in the sandpit to discuss building and construction.

At that time we are discussing and providing visual aids around the construction of the new development that is happening across the road. This supports the children's knowledge and understanding of the world around them, giving them the opportunity to make important connections with their community.

Our children are enjoying working alongside each—some taking turns driving Thomas the Tank Engine around the outside table while others make mud pies in the sandpit. With the hot weather we have been enjoying plenty of water play to stay nice and cool. We celebrated Waitangi Day by discussing respectful and kind choices we can make with our friends and family. The toddlers honoured this special day with the contribution of a wall display for our foyer depicting a waka with all the children in it. The symbolic behind this picture is that we all fit in and row/work together to achieve our goals together.



In the Juniors room...

At the beginning of the month we had a Teddy Bears' picnic. This was really enjoyed by the children who proudly brought their bears along to Fantails. What fun those bears had! There were many games that the bears join in including bouncing the teddies on the Lycra to see how high they could go. Our afternoon tea was a picnic with our teddies which carried on throughout this month. Each day the children would set up their picnic and invite their friends to join in, there was so much to do, with the children not only having food there but also games, books and toys to play with.

Extending on this interest, there has been a lot of talk about healthy food and the children have been learning about vegetables and fruit, making collage pictures, drawings and trying lots of different types of fruit and vegetables. Through these experiences the children are developing their social and emotional skills and also learning more about their own well-being.



Alongside that interest there has been a lot of transportation play. Children have been creating hot air balloons, fire trucks and boats. They have been building with blocks, construction sets, cardboard boxes and magnets and letting their imaginations go wild. This play supports their learning through trial and error as they work together to build, create and solve.

