

September  
2010



# Midcity Childcare Centre

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Too often we give children answers to remember rather than problems to solve (Roger Lewin)

## **Auction (A big fundraiser to purchase new equipment/toys for your children)**

Wow September is already upon us! We are now in count down mode to our annual auction which is on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm. This year will be a little different in that we would like to offer not only auctionable goods but experiences too. Jo and Graham Dwyer (Jackson & Lachlan's parents) have already offered a 'Porsche McDonalds Drive Thru Experience' and there are so many other possibilities e.g. an hour electrical labour, farm visit with pony rides, babysitting, a family hair cut package. We welcome all ideas and contributions and should you wish to come to our next Auction Planning Meeting it is on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.

We are planning to have a fun filled evening for all the family (bring a friend too) and will keep you updated with frequent newsletters!

## **Staff News**

### **Welcomes**

We warmly welcome Kim Gower to our teaching team; working within the Toddlers' Side. Kim has a Bachelor of Education (Primary teaching) and after over four years working in schools decided to follow her heart and work with younger children. We are so fortunate that Kim made this leap! Kim loves to bake and explore music with children and has lots of enthusiasm.



We also welcome Ange Creahan to the position as Administrator. Ange has a wealth of childcare experience and has owned and managed her own centre in the past. She has three school aged children. She is looking forward to being part of the Midcity Team.

### **Congratulations**

Well done Mary! We are so proud of Mary's recent achievement in gaining her degree. Mary now holds the Bachelor of Teaching (ECE) after many years of hard work, whilst also working full time and raising her twin girls; not an easy feat!



## **Photographer - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

You will receive more information about these soon. There will be the opportunity for family photos if you wish, just let Shirlene know if you would like to make an appointment time for these.

## Signing in Sheet

The signing in sheet for Kindy families will now be taken over to the Kindy at approximately 8.15am each day and will be taken back to the administration area at approximately 4.45pm when the children re-join the Toddlers' Side. We are implementing this to help ease the foot traffic through the Toddlers' Side, which can be quite disruptive on very young children. We also feel that it is unfair for parents to track in and out of the admin area then take the external route to Kindy, particularly in bad weather. We appreciate parents' patience and understanding whilst we have carefully deliberated over the impact on fire evacuation protocols.

## Late Fee

Please remember to stick to your booking times as if you go over these you will be charged a late/early fee. If you want to change your booking times please request a change of bookings form.

## Congratulations

Yay! Alexie and Blake have a new baby brother! Congratulations to Linda and Kerry on the safe arrival of Carter weighing in at 7.4lbs.



## Professional Development (Asthma)



Thank you to Val from Asthma Waikato for sharing her knowledge on asthma at a recent staff meeting. Val spent 1½ hours educating us on the signs, symptoms, triggers and treatment (relievers and preventers) of asthma. We have lots of information brochures should any parents like more information. Val is also available to support families with asthma related matters; she is more than happy to visit families within their home. If your child has been diagnosed with asthma please let us know so that together we can agree on an action plan.

## Christmas Holidays

The centre will be closed for the statutory holidays only, however we will be opening reduced hours (close 12.30 on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December) and 8am to 5pm between 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December. Booking forms will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

## School Holiday Programme

The school holidays (27<sup>th</sup> September-8<sup>th</sup> August) are just around the corner. Our School Holiday Programme will be up and running with lots of fun activities so make your booking soon!

## Great Place for Kids

*(If you have a favourite spot you would like shared in our newsletter please let us know)*

Do you fancy a day out or even a week-end away that the kids would really enjoy? Check out Ambury Regional Park at Mangere Bridge if your kids would love hands on experience with farm animals! It is a working farm and coastal park offering barbeque facilities and a campsite.

# News from the Infants' Side



Kia ora Katou

Isn't our new playhouse with its attached climbing frame and slide fantastic? We were able to purchase this with the added funds from the Oxford Pie fundraiser. Our large, block, creative play system has been put to good use recently. We've added to it, by purchasing an arched ladder. This can also be used as a bridge, a tunnel and a rocker. The children love it!

The children have also been discovering the properties of magnets, working and playing with our new magnetic, construction set.

Time and opportunity has been provided for the children and Natalie to get to know each other and to form relationships. The children have been very receptive towards Natalie and have responded well to her calm, gentle manner. Natalie is feeling very much at home and thanks you for welcoming her and making yourself known to her.

Some nasty viruses appear to be doing the rounds again. Thank you for adhering to our Health Policy when your child has been unwell. A handy tip regarding the treatment of conjunctivitis has been shared with us - in conjunction with prescribed medicine, bathe infected eyes with a solution of cold chamomile tea. A web search confirms this natural remedy.

A request has been made for us to run a mini workshop on sign language for babies. Please let us know if you would be interested in attending this, alternatively you may wish to borrow the book "Baby Sign Language for Hearing Babies" from our parent library.

Freya, Lewis and Mckenzie have recently celebrated their first birthday. Congratulations!

We say farewell to Paige and Fynn and wish them well as they join the Toddlers' Side. Finally, we extend a warm welcome to Ji Sun and Johan and their families who have joined our Midcity whanau.

Have a great month!  
Jo, Kim, Natalie and Sacha



# Toddler News



With the warm weather returning, we are enjoying our outside playground more and finding new ways to support our desires to climb and balance. Between the Toddlers and the Kindy Side we share exciting climbing equipment that enables children to continually extend their gross motor skills and confidence.

In September we also hope to go for a picnic lunch at one of our local parks. Keep an eye out for the flyer with details.

Many of our children have recently mastered 'toilet training' and are now in underwear. Well done children your teachers are so proud! We have many different stages to our toileting programme, so if you feel your child is showing any signs of wanting to start, feel free to speak to one of the teachers who can explain where to begin.

We recently had a cornflour 'snow storm' (which Mary would like to apologise for as this made a larger mess than first expected!) Overall, the children had a lot of fun making the 'snow' and exploring the powdery texture which was different from the water play and bubbles provided earlier in the day.



There are many other exciting activities that we do during the day, check out the daily reflection sheet hanging inside the doorway of the Toddlers.

In August we celebrated William's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

Thanks  
Toddler team

# Kindy News



Kia ora te Whānau

Wow! It is September already; best we start our Christmas preparation as it will be here before we know what has hit us!

The Excite exhibition at the Waikato museum was a very enjoyable finale to our science and technology topic. The children were given the opportunity to try rock climbing, car racing, the skipping machine, making spiro gram pictures and working the grain factory. Thank you to all the adults that came to help.

Our new focus will be construction and destruction. This has stemmed from the children showing lots of interest and enthusiasm when participating in construction activities. This topic has got off to a flying start with our new clever sticks construction set. We also deconstructed our giant pumpkin with hammers, so it was small enough for Louise to feed to her piggies.

Last month we welcomed Isobel, who has graduated from the toddlers. We look forward to getting to know her and her family. We welcome Emily our 2nd Year Waikato University student who has been with us for a few weeks now and will be with us for a few more weeks. If you get a chance please introduce yourself and say hello to her.

Thank you to everybody who has donated office and hairdressing props. The children have enjoyed the hairdressing so much we had a visit to the hair dressers that they all seemed to really enjoy. We currently have lots of keyboards but would warmly welcome anything else you may no longer need.



We now have an email address for Kindy so feel free to email any non administration related emails to this address. The address is [kindy@midcitychildcare.co.nz](mailto:kindy@midcitychildcare.co.nz) .

We have a very exciting trip planned for the middle of September so look out for information on that.

Have a sparkly pink day  
Louise, Jason and Erena