

Bethlehem Community Pre-School Inc.

"Your caring community Pre-School in the heart of Bethlehem"

Newsletter – February 2026



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Welcome Back Everyone and Welcome to all our new families. We look forward to getting to know you and seeing you become part of our Pre-School whanau.

Please remember to **apply sunscreen** to your child before coming to Pre-School each day. Teachers will reapply at Lunchtime for those children staying all day. Hats are a necessity, and we have a "no hat, no outside play" policy during Term 1 and 4.

If you can pack some togs and a towel, we will be enjoying lots of water play to make the most of the beautiful weather we are having. Also remember changes of clothes and a "wet clothes" bag is also required to have in your child's bag.

Term 1 Term Dates

2nd Feb – 2nd April

Closed:

3rd April – Good Friday

6th April – Easter Monday

27th April – Anzac Day

Our term break is from Friday the 3rd April to the Friday 17th April.

Invoices e-mailed out:

Fees invoices have been issued and emailed out to you. Check your inboxes/junk mail. Please be advised that these may be paid weekly, fortnightly, or monthly but need to be paid before the end of term. We are providing a service to you 😊

Any concerns please see Toni or Jacqui in the office.

Management Committee Meeting

Our next Management Committee Meeting will be held by zoom on the **24th February @ 7.30pm**. Everyone is welcome. Please see Toni if you would like more information.

Whanau Wall

If you haven't already brought in a family photo, we would love to have one for our Whanau wall. Having our family photos displayed in the Pre-School helps to promote a sense of belonging and well-being for our children and families as they feel a part of the wider Pre-School community. Shortly this wall will be reinstated we are just waiting for our new acoustic panels to be installed.

Upcoming Events: more information will follow closer to events

28th April - Te Puna Quarry Trip

1st July – Matariki Night at Preschool

2nd Sept – Very Important Male Night

20th Oct – Grandparents Morning

9th Dec – Christmas BBQ Party

We currently have some tadpoles at preschool that we are caring for and watching grow. We are hoping as they develop and turn into frogs, we will be able to travel to the Te Puna Quarry and release the frogs back into the water there. This will be our annual trip, and we are hoping that all our Tamariki and parents can join in this with us. More information will come soon with travel and costs. To make trips possible we do need parents to attend and if you have younger siblings they can attend too. It is a nice family occasion.



Please can you help us! If you have any family or friends with little ones, we would love it if you could encourage them to pop into preschool to see us. Please like us on Facebook and share us with people you know with children, we would love some more enrolments. Thank you!





Best Practice Healthy Eating Ideas – From the Ministry of Health - Healthy eating ideas from the Ministry of Health which is well worth reading for all our families.

[Developing chewing and swallowing skills | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

[Food-related choking in young children | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

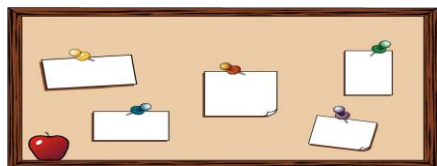
[Foods that pose a higher choking risk for children under five years | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

[Preventing choking in young children | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

It remains our view that you know best when deciding what food your children eat at Pre-School based on their age and stage of development. However, as always, we are very happy to discuss any concerns you might have, and all our teachers are very familiar with safety aspects of children's food and eating at Pre-School. We will also continue to provide the appropriate care to ensure your children's utmost safety whilst eating here. This includes the benefits of our structured approach with designated eating times; children all sitting down to eat their own food with teachers always supervising; and all our permanent teachers hold current first aid certificates which includes being trained to respond to choking. We do ask that children **do not** have lollies, chocolate or juice at Pre-School. Thanks for reading these important safety messages.

Information around Pre-School

Please take a regular look at your child's portfolio and check out our programme planning board to see the rich environment of learning activities happening in the centre each day.



Please check Facebook for regular photo updates and please feel free to talk to staff if you have any questions or queries about your child's learning.



New Décor

Over the Christmas period the indoors and outdoors of preschool was repainted. We are sure many of you have noticed the place is looking fresher and tidier. We have also purchased some new furniture to help keep it looking fresh and new. The children are already enjoying the new furniture. Shortly we will have some acoustic panels installed too, this will help with keeping our walls new and tidy as well as assisting with the noise level indoors.



ECE Curriculum – The Early Childhood Education curriculum fosters children's love of learning through play. Social skills, Literacy, Numeracy, Science, Arts and Creativity are all woven through our programme here at Pre-School and the teaching staff work with children encouraging and extending their learning according to their individual development and ability. Opportunities to learn writing skills occur within many of our activities. Research tells us that New Entrant teachers value children's confidence, self-help skills, independence, and willingness to learn. Oral communication skills and the ability to be curious about the world we live in are also highly valued. We are developing confident, capable life-long learners. Please see teaching staff if you would like to talk about any aspect of your child's experience here at Pre-School ☺

Absences

Please also let us know if your child is absent. You can call us and leave us a message, email us or private message us on Facebook. Once again this is a Health and Safety matter.

Child Accidents - When your child has an accident that staff treat, we write up an accident form that the staff sign, and we require you to sign. If you see a note next to your child's name on the signing in roll you will need to see a teacher to sign our hard copy as we are legally required to keep a record of all accidents on site.



Reminder on Gate Protocol



We would like to remind all Pre-School parent/families and visitors to carefully check the gates as they enter and leave our Pre-School grounds – ensuring that each gate closes properly behind you – and that you have not inadvertently allowed any other children through with you. We constantly monitor the gates and the more eyes we have the safer our environment.

If you have any questions or concerns, then please feel free to talk to any one of us ☺
Toni, Carol, Tracy, Wendy and Jacqui.