

Bethlehem Community Pre-School Inc.

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

Newsletter – July 2020



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Welcome To Term 3 everyone!

We are really pleased to welcome both Finn and Tane-Ahurangi to our Pre-School community. We hope you are settling in well and enjoying getting to know us.

Term 3 is usually our longest and coldest term so please remember to wrap your children up warm in layers and also to include a spare change of clothes in their bags.

Reminder on Gate Protocol



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

We constantly monitor the gate and the more eyes we have the safer our environment.

Katrina Friend Photography

Katrina will be in Pre-School on **Tuesday 11 August** to take your child/ren's photos. If you are not enrolled on this day and wish to have your child/ren's photo taken please mark your diary. The group photo is usually taken around 9.30/10am if you would like your child to be in it. If you would like a siblings' photo with older ones at school, then Katrina will take them from 8.15am before school starts.

New Chairperson

A very Big Thankyou to Victoria Fellows who has volunteered to become our new Committee chairperson. We all look forward to working with her ☺



Whanau Wall

If you haven't already bought 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 our sense of belonging and well-being for our children and families as they feel a part of the wider Pre-School community.

Sign In

Please remember to sign your child in and out of Pre-School each day. This is a requirement from the Ministry of Education and we also rely on them as part of our Emergency Evacuation Plan. This should be an important part of your morning / afternoon routine here at Pre-School.

Mat-Times

Thanks to everyone who replied to our email relating to our recent Internal evaluation around Mat times. These reviews serve to provide us with feedback and to make continuous improvements to our programme. The outcome of the review cements to us that parents, teachers and children all value our mat time routines.

Research also supports these times as being supportive to children's well-being/mana atua and belonging/ mana whenua within our setting. Children enjoy learning alongside their peers and making contributions to their own and others learning. Mat times also provide a time to explore activities that otherwise children may not choose to engage in.

Some comments children made when we asked them about mat times were, "I like to be with my friends, I like that I know it is nearly eating time, and I like hearing the teachers sing". Therefore, children are telling us they like to know what is coming next and having routines and they enjoy coming together with their peers and teachers.

We are responsive to the different developmental stages of our tamariki so mat times are kept within reasonable time frames with each group. Our older children are having more opportunity for small group work with our lower roll numbers presently.

Please Talk To Us!

Please, please, please talk to one of our team if you have any questions or queries regarding your children's learning experiences here at Pre-School. We are here to partner with parents during these important formative years, so welcome hearing your views and questions.



Management Committee Meeting

Our next Management Committee Meeting will be held at Bethlehem Primary School in the Carmichael Room at 9am **Friday 31st July**. Everyone is welcome. Please see Sarah if you would like more information.



Learning Stories

Please remember to check your Notice Pockets. When your child has a new Learning Story added to their portfolio a note is put in your pocket to let you know. Please then return the reminder to the Office. Thank You.

Invoices

Invoices have been e-mailed out last week. Please be aware that the invoice is for the whole term – but payments can be made weekly, fortnightly, monthly or whole term in advance. If you have not received one for any reason or if you have any queries, please see Jo in the office.

Lost Property

Please remember to check our Lost Property for any items you may have lost this term. Please remember to name all child's belongings as this helps promote a sense of independence.



Art box

Our art box is often overflowing. Please remember to check the Art box regularly. The children's creative work is precious and makes great wrapping paper or gifts for the family.



Please help yourself to our parent library situated in our Staff & Parent Room. It is also a great place to find information on children's learning and development and to find books on parenting and relationships. Please just make a note of the book and the date you take it home so we can keep track of them in the notebook provided on the shelf.

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 ☺



Entertainment Books Are Here!

The Entertainment Book is here – The Book is available only in a digital format on your phone this year. Great Deals and family discounts. Payment is to be made online via our [Facebook page](#). We earn \$14 from each book sale for the Pre-School. Please support us and save on your next outing or dining experience.

