

# PELORUS COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

NEWSLETTER—JUNE 2017



*Tena koutou, tena koutou,  
Tena koutou katoa*



Welcome to Winter and our June newsletter. *“Winter is the season in which people try to keep the house as warm as it was in the summer, when they complained about the heat”.*

We would like to welcome the following children and their families to our preschool; Greer Tyson and Carly Cummerfield who have joined the Paua room. We are sure you will enjoy your time at our preschool.

**h a p p y   b i r t h d a y !**



For June we would like to wish a very happy birthday to Harriet Leov (3) and Alice Kingi (4).

**We wish you both a very special day.**



# Thank You!

To Mel & Chris Cherry for clearing our gutters, which were in desperate need of some attention.

To Sharon at the Blue Café in Havelock for lending us her beautiful teapot and milk jug for our Mothers Day High Tea.

To Giesen Wines for the kind donation of a voucher for our Mothers Day draw.

To Zeth Kingi for coming in and giving the trees in the Pipi playground a well needed trim up.

*A Friendly Reminder* Preschool will be closed on  
Monday 5 June being Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.

# MATARIKI

## Matariki: The Māori New Year    Matariki: Te Tau Hou o te iwi Māori

We will be spending the next month learning about Matariki—the Māori New Year. We will be learning about the seven whetū (stars) of Matariki, and about how Matariki is a time to celebrate new life, family, and to prepare and collect crops. On **Friday 30th of June** we will be having a whānau Matariki celebration, and throughout June we will be making soup and buns to share with you all. We would love any donations of veges from your gardens, as well as going on lots of hikoi to our community garden plots to prepare them as well.



The fundraising account sits at \$13,230.74. In July 2016 the Board allocated \$5,500.00 from the fundraising account for 5 staff to attend the Natural Phenomena Conference. This month we have spent money booking flights for the teaching team to attend the conference.

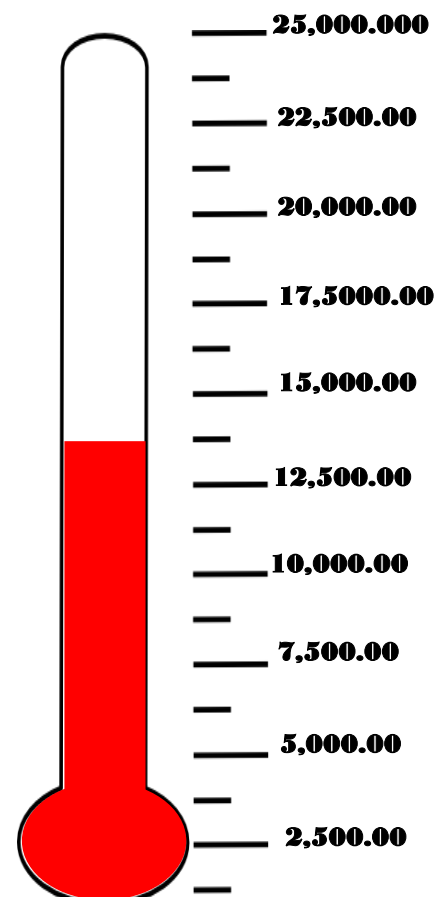
## LOOKING FOR AUCTION ITEMS

I'm on the look out for items for the annual Pelorus Community Preschool Auction.

Can you draw or paint? Do you have a spare load of firewood? Do you have a supplier that you spend a lot of money with that you could ask? Are you a great cook and could sponsor a morning tea? Perhaps you are a good carpenter and could make something?

There are so many very talented people in this community, and it's a great way to support the Preschool without spending a lot of money.

Please email [katrinahodel@gmail.com](mailto:katrinahodel@gmail.com) or call 021 505155





Kia ora Whānau

Wow the first month of winter and we have already had a couple of good frosts, so please remember to throw in any extra warm clothes in your child's bags. We always have it nice and warm in the class rooms, but we will also have outside opened from the start of the preschool day to the end, plus we will be out and about in our community from time to time for a hikoi.

We have a busy month this month celebrating Matariki, we have introduced gun play to teach the children about being safe and responsible during their play, we have our daily focus times, new children joining our PCP whanau and saying goodbye to some of our tamariki heading off to school.

*Miss Brown*

### **Paua Nui**

The paua nui tamariki ma are enjoying their new focus "our body" (tinana). We have been doing a lot of exercising and playing lots of fun games to keep active, which is so important as it helps us keep warm in these cold mornings, it keeps our heart and body healthy, and it helps the brain - especially in terms of the particular thinking skills that most affect academic performance. We are also learning about healthy foods that fuel our body...we are currently looking for yummy healthy recipes (lunch box kai) we can try...so let us know if you have any, thanks.

### **Paua Iti Tahi**

As some of you may have heard your little ones have been learning lots of new songs over the past month and I have no doubt they will be singing these at home as well as at preschool. The three main new waiata we have been learning over the last month are 'Lollipops', 'Currant buns' and 'Tōhora nui'. The first two songs include props – cut out laminated pictures that the tamariki use while singing. This has been a great way for fostering social skills such as sharing/turn taking, encouraging children to take responsibility in looking after these props as well as building confidence as children take turns at being the 'leader'. The last waiata 'Tōhora nui' is an action song about a whale, where we move our bodies to make different actions that correspond with the words. This has helped children to develop confidence and gain control over their bodies. We have been learning this waiata both in Māori and in English. As the tamariki have responded so well to these new waiata we will be adding two new songs to the list – 'Cheeky monkeys' and 'Five little ducks'. Please if you would like any of the words to our songs come and see me and I can give you copies. The more we practice the easier it is to learn the songs! Megan

### **Paua Iti Rua**

Paua Iti Rua have recently finished up their focus in gardening and are now following their shared interest in Nga Toi/the arts. We have been investigating the different primary colours to see what colours we can form using red, blue and yellow. We are also exploring the different textures and forms of art we can create using an array of resources. We will support our interest and creativity by looking at books, our local art gallery and through the sharing of knowledge within our focus group. Amber

### **Pipi**

Tēnā koutou whānau! Haratua (May) has been full of very busy and fun learning in the Pipi room. We've been continuing to find lots of new ways to challenge and extend the current interests of ngā tamariki, so we've been having lots of different types of physical play, and as many different sensory and messy play experiences as we can think of! We've had two new friends join our wee Pipi whānau, so we've been having a great time getting to know them and seeing how they slot into our space here at PCP. We've been lucky enough to celebrate a few birthdays, and these have been great opportunities for us to really acknowledge and celebrate each other...and to make some pretty awesome birthday crowns! We've been noticing some new interests beginning to emerge, especially in the areas of shapes, stacking and building, and reading and sharing pukapuka (books), so we're excited to do some planning around these areas, to provide some further provocations and challenges. The colder weather is definitely upon us, so please remember to pack shoes or boots and enough warm layers for your wee one, so we can keep exploring, adventuring, and learning! Pipiri (June) is shaping up to be a very exciting month, with some cool extra activities happening as well, so watch this space! Hei konā – Ange & Jessie

# introducing the Board

Kia ora whanau.

Every year at the end of March we have an AGM where the board is elected (or re-elected) for the coming year. This year the board consists of 6 members. If you are interested in joining board now or in the future, please get in touch with Amanda. We are always keen to get input from parents or other members of the community who have an interest in the preschool and the welfare of our tamariki. Please meet our 2017 Board members.

**Amanda Smith (Chairperson).** I live in Havelock with my partner and 2 children. Isla goes to Havelock School and Rosie is at preschool. We moved to Havelock 4 years ago as we have a business here, the Pelorus Mail Boat. I also work at Wairau Hospital in Blenheim. I have been a board member for about 3 years now and took over the chair person role just over a year ago. I joined the board to meet people in the community and because I am interested in how we best look after and nurture our tamariki.

**Tim Foote.** My family own a farm just 5 kms south of Havelock which my wife and I operate with our 4 kids Ollie, Alfie, Lauree and Tessa—who have all been at PCP. I was born and raised on the farm. I worked as a farm machinery sales manager for 16 year in Blenheim. Our latest venture is New Zealand Ginkgo Farm Ltd where we export the ginkgo leaves from the top of the south island

**Louise Kingi.** I have one daughter attending Pelorus Community Preschool - Alice, I am originally from the UK and have been in NZ for seven years now. My husband is the local Policeman and he is from Blenheim. We have another daughter Amelia-Rose who is now at school.

**Kahlia Hutchison.** I completed my diploma in Early Childhood in 2012. I worked at Little Footsteps John Street in Blenheim for 5 years then moved to Canvastown. I am now a stay at home mother of two children aged 4 and 3 who attend the preschool 2 mornings a week. I have joined the board to learn more about the everyday running of the centre and to gain a better understanding of how everything works with the ministry.

**Jeanette Nicholls.** Aaron and I have two tamariki, Emma who attended preschool over 4 years ago and Summer who attends preschool now. We've been living in Havelock for over 5 years but prior to moving here we were living in the outer Pelorus Sounds. I believe the preschool is an asset for our tamariki and community and I have joined the board recently because I want to give back in some small way.

**Steffi Powell.** I have 4 kids: Azzazel 6, Aleera 4, Indika and Sapphira 3. We live on a dairy farm 15 minutes out of Havelock. I am looking forward to gaining more insight into how the preschool works and how I can be more involved in my kids education.

## REPORT ON COMMUNICATION SURVEY 2016

Thanks to all those who completed the communication survey a few months ago. We had 11 respondents including 3 teachers.

The questionnaire covered these areas:

**How PCP communicates news and events:** respondents said that they were OK, happy or very happy with current communication with the comments saying that communication had improved. There was also a comment saying that the text messages were very helpful.

**Board communication:** Again, people said they were OK, happy or very happy, although there was 1 response where a parent was not very happy saying that they did not know what the board does.

**Communication about changes to the programme:** everyone rated themselves as OK, happy or very happy but there were 2 comments, one saying that they did not know about changes until they turned up on the day and the other saying that changes had been explained in a way that they did not fully understand.

**Communication about your child's learning:** one parent was not happy with this communication and commented that they had not had learning stories for a couple of months. The rest of the respondents were OK, happy or very happy.

**Storypark:** Everyone thought that Storypark was working well with a positive comment about enjoying the learning stories.

**Improvements:** there were a few comments here with the suggestion of reporting learning milestones to the parent, more learning stories and talking more about ideas for the future.

We are continuing to work on our communication and will be repeating the survey in a few months so we can see if we have improved. Please take the time to participate as we can only work from the feedback that you give us. We take your comments seriously and the staff and board have worked hard to find more strategies that will be helpful for everyone. If you have any questions about the survey or any other board issues, please contact myself. If you have any concerns about communication, please speak to your whanau teacher or the Senior Teacher if you feel this is more appropriate.

Regards - Amanda Smith