

# PELORUS COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

NEWSLETTER—MAY 2017



*Tena koutou, tena koutou,  
Tena koutou katoa*



Welcome to our May newsletter and the onset of some chilly weather! As most of you will know, Heather welcomed a baby girl into the world on Monday 24 April—Isabella Rosie Mele. Congratulations Heather, we look forward to meeting Isabella.



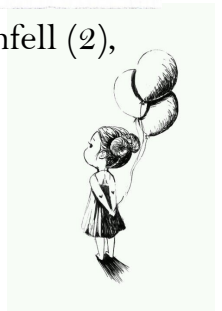
..(If only it were this easy!)..  
..Congratulations on the arrival of your baby girl..  
..and bloomin' well done!..  
..

**h a p p y   b i r t h d a y !**

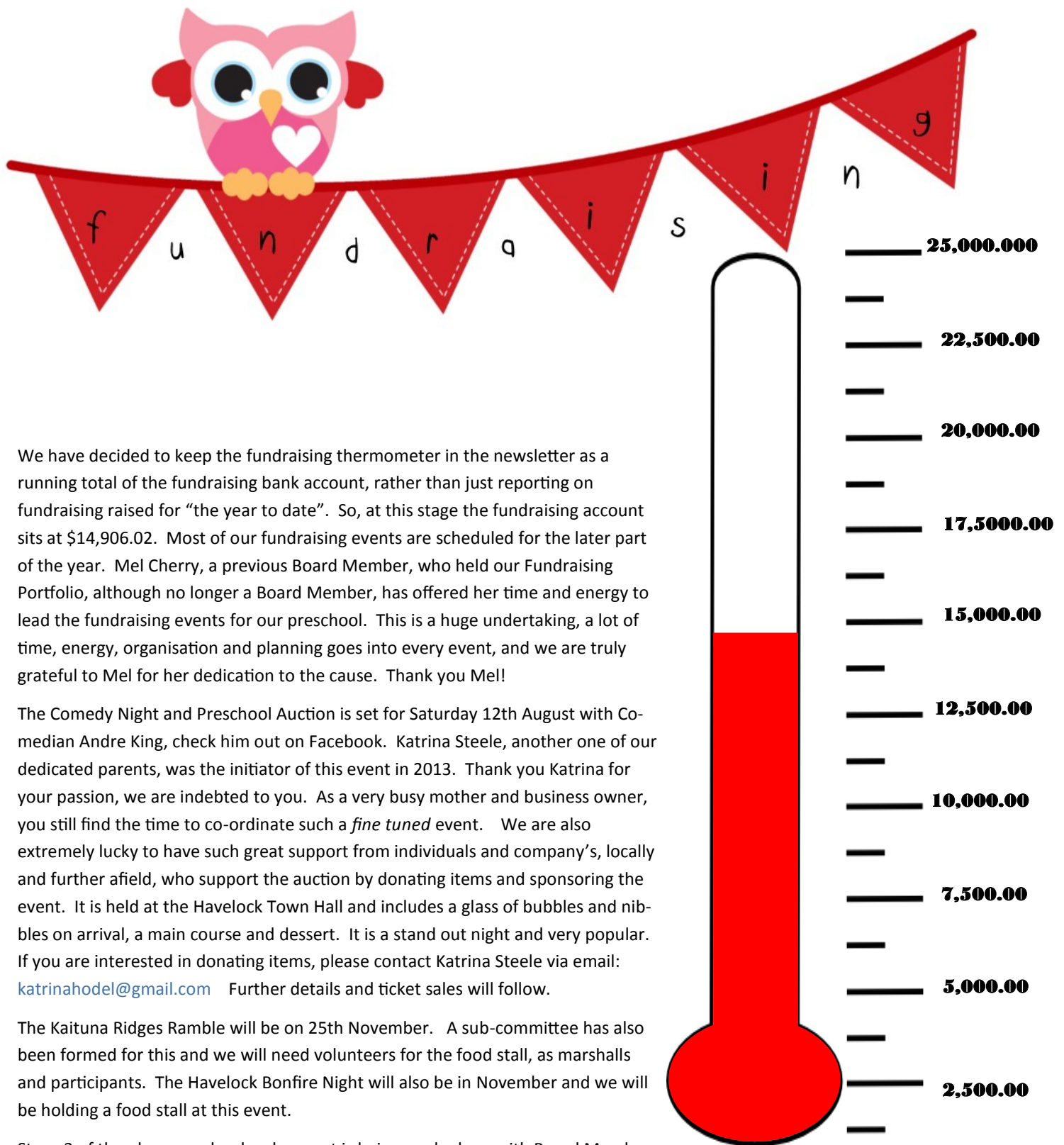


For May we would like to wish a very happy birthday to Elsie Cherry (2), Dani Grenfell (2), Charlie Hiller (3) and Honey-Mae Piripi (5).

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



In honour of Mother's Day, we are holding an afternoon tea on Monday 15 May at 2.30pm. Please come along and join us to celebrate this special occasion.



We have decided to keep the fundraising thermometer in the newsletter as a running total of the fundraising bank account, rather than just reporting on fundraising raised for “the year to date”. So, at this stage the fundraising account sits at \$14,906.02. Most of our fundraising events are scheduled for the later part of the year. Mel Cherry, a previous Board Member, who held our Fundraising Portfolio, although no longer a Board Member, has offered her time and energy to lead the fundraising events for our preschool. This is a huge undertaking, a lot of time, energy, organisation and planning goes into every event, and we are truly grateful to Mel for her dedication to the cause. Thank you Mel!

The Comedy Night and Preschool Auction is set for Saturday 12th August with Co-median Andre King, check him out on Facebook. Katrina Steele, another one of our dedicated parents, was the initiator of this event in 2013. Thank you Katrina for your passion, we are indebted to you. As a very busy mother and business owner, you still find the time to co-ordinate such a *fine tuned* event. We are also extremely lucky to have such great support from individuals and company’s, locally and further afield, who support the auction by donating items and sponsoring the event. It is held at the Havelock Town Hall and includes a glass of bubbles and nibbles on arrival, a main course and dessert. It is a stand out night and very popular. If you are interested in donating items, please contact Katrina Steele via email: [katrinahodel@gmail.com](mailto:katrinahodel@gmail.com) Further details and ticket sales will follow.

The Kaituna Ridges Ramble will be on 25th November. A sub-committee has also been formed for this and we will need volunteers for the food stall, as marshalls and participants. The Havelock Bonfire Night will also be in November and we will be holding a food stall at this event.

Stage 3 of the playground redevelopment is being worked on, with Board Member Kahlia Hutchison in charge of the sub-committee for this. Kahlia will be reporting in the near future regarding the next steps and where volunteers will be required for various working bees.

We have limited our fundraising events to a handful of very successful events this year and desperately rely on parents with volunteering their time, mostly, to assist with these events. When notices are posted for volunteers (via Storypark, newsletter or noticeboard) please make an attempt to help, it’s not a big ask for every family to help with one fundraiser in a year, you all reap the benefits for your children, and it takes the pressure off the same parents who often end up doing more than their fair share of fundraising. We have a great little community at our preschool, let’s embrace this and continue to support one another.



Kia ora Whānau

Now that we are in the second term of the year there is no need for the children to have a sun hat for outside play. We are in the last month of autumn already and its starting to get a bit chilly in the morning so we need to be wearing warm clothes. We recommend that children have a jacket on or in their bags when they come to preschool, for when we go for a hikoi and "gummies" are always good this time of the year for a good old bit of puddle jumping fun.

This month we are celebrating mothers day with a **high tea** on the 15th of May at 2.30pm, all are welcome, there will be lot of yummy kai and a range of teas to show how much mums are loved and appreciated.

Miss Brown

### **Paua Nui**

The paua nui group are finishing up our "who am I" focus where the children have been learning about each other and themselves. The tamariki have been practicing early literacy skills such as letter recognition and attempting to write their own names. We will continue to encourage all tamariki to write their names during focus time and free play.

We will also continue to do our buddy reading with children from Havelock school every Friday.

Our new focus will be our tinana (body)...how it works, what we can do with our bodies, how to keep them fit and healthy, how we are all a little different and that's OK!

The paua nui group as they are the "big kids" of preschool, are learning about looking after our environment and as a part of this they do the recycling twice a week. They sort the class, cardboard, plastic and tins into the bins at the back of preschool before it gets taken to the dump.

Miss Brown.

### **Paua Iti Tahī**

Kia ora Whānau,



The Paua iti tahi group have been enjoying waiata puoro kanikani (music and movement) and have been mainly focusing on learning new waiata (songs) and actions to go with them – keeping us active, healthy and fit.

We have introduced rakau (sticks) and poi into our daily exploration – learning the tikanga (the right way) of using them and learning new Māori kupu (words) along the way. Our current waiata that we are learning at the moment is "E Rere Taku Poi", this involves moving the poi in different directions such as runga (up), raro (down), roto (in) and wahoo (out). Tamariki have to concentrate on controlling their body to move the poi in the correct direction – this has proved to be quite challenging for some but with every practice they are developing the confidence to do so.

We have also introduced a waiata called "Little Birdie" this is a Samoan song that Louie's mum Va has brought along for us to learn, we are currently working on some actions that we can incorporate to go along with this waiata.

As we have such a diverse mix of families within Pelorus Community Preschool we are excited to be able to learn and celebrate new waiata from different cultures. If you have a waiata (song) or a kanikani (dance) that is special to your culture and you would like to teach us we, would love for you to come in and share your knowledge. Nga Mihi, Miss Megan.



### **Paua Iti Rua**

In Paua iti rua focus times we have been exploring our natural environment with the focus being on gardening. We have been looking at the different leaves, flowers, stones, and dirt we have within our outdoor garden as well as looking at the textures, colours and sizes.

The tamariki have also been building their understandings of edible plants like silverbeet, leading their own learning and interests in making their own soups using spices from the pantry. The tamariki enjoyed doing this experience on two occasions, both times showing an interest in consuming it! On our second attempt the tamariki came up with the recipe themselves, adding what they thought necessary through discussions and smell of the spices being added. This was contributing to their developing numerical skills by using measurement, counting and colours.

As a group we have also been investigating how plants grow and what they need in order to become big! We also had group discussions to further our working theories around how we can support growth in our plants. We have also been using a range of resources to find out information to clarify and enhance our learning around growing seeds and plants. Our hypothesis is that they need soil, water and sun, and of course a seed so we have planned to grow some seeds to gather a conclusion.

Amber



### **Pipi**

Kia ora e te whānau! Paengawhāwhā (April) has been a lovely calm month in the Pipi Room. We haven't had any new tamariki join us this month, and so we've had a settled few weeks of really getting to know one another, forming new friendships and connections, and developing our social skills. We've been seeing some awesome reciprocal skills (such as turn taking and sharing) being used, and it's beautiful to see how empathetic and thoughtful our children can be. Ngā tamariki are definitely getting a lot of joy out of these shared learning experiences...as are ngā kaiako! Towards the end of Poutūterangi (March) we'd been noticing some strong emergent interests in the areas of sensory play, transport, and body confidence and control – these have all continued throughout Paengawhāwhā, and we've enjoyed finding different ways to extend, support, and challenge these interests. We'll continue with these areas of planning for the first few weeks of Haratua (May), and we'd love to know if any of these are strong interests at home as well! Ngahuru (autumn) is definitely upon us, but we tell you, these colder days won't be slowing us down one bit, not when there's so much learning and exploration to be done! Mā te wā, whānau – Ange & Jessie.





# CHEESE

## Whizzes

### *What you need*

*3 cups self-raising flour*

*250g tasty cheese, grated*

*600g plain unsweetened yoghurt*

*1 punnet cherry tomatoes (optional)*

*Basil leaves to serve (optional)*



### *Here's how it's done*

- 1 Pre-heat oven to 200°C fanbake.*
- 2 Combine flour and 3/4 of the cheese in a bowl.*
- 3 Add yoghurt and mix with a knife into a soft, sticky dough.*
- 4 Use a floured tablespoon and lightly floured hands to form into walnut-sized balls.*
- 5 Arrange on oven tray lined with baking paper, leaving a little wiggle room for spreading.*
- 6 Press a cherry tomato into the centre of each, then sprinkle with remaining cheese.*
- 7 Bake until cooked through and golden (10-15 minutes) and garnish with basil leaves to serve.*

*Serving suggestions: for a fun lunchbox snack, press the dough out to one centimetre thick. Cut out shapes with a cookie cutter, or spread with pesto or marmite to make savoury pinwheel scones. And for a great time saving tip: what about making double the mix and freezing?*

*RECIPE [www.wearewhatweeat.co.nz](http://www.wearewhatweeat.co.nz) ANNABEL LANGBEIN*

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**PRESCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF QUEEN'S  
BIRTHDAY—MONDAY 5 JUNE 2017**

