



# Avonhead Portobelo Autumn 2019 Newsletter

*What's been happening recently at Portobelo Avonhead?*

## *Out and about in our community:*

### **Chinese New Year:**

Ni Hao Ma! As a part of our Chinese New Year celebrations we were lucky enough to take a small group of children to our local library (Upper Riccarton) to enjoy their weekly story time. This time it had a Chinese twist to celebrate 'Chinese New Year'. We sat and listened to stories related to Chinese New Year, learning the special traditions that take place over this time and also how to scare away the Nian Monster (loud noises work wonders).



### **Avonhead school visits:**

On a Friday of each term, a group of our oldest children walk down to Avonhead School for our first and second visits of the year. This was a great experience for those involved as it allowed them to get a taste of what 'big school' is all about. We joined in their mat time before being given school buddies to show us around and play with us during 'Discovery time'. There were many different toys and learning activities ngā tamariki could choose to engage in. It was also a great opportunity to reconnect with some of our ex-Portobelo friends who now attend Avonhead School as they came to say hello. It always helps to see a few friendly faces! We are looking forward to more successful visits in the next terms.



## Easter celebration:

April we celebrated Easter in style by inviting our whānau along to enjoy a hot cross bun and a cuppa. We enjoyed dancing to 'Mrs Bunny', eating our hot cross buns, Easter face painting and having an Easter hunt which ended with a small chocolate treat!



## News from the Nursery ...

This month here in the Nursery, our group focus we have been on baking around the world. This group focus has encouraged our tamariki to step out of their comfort zones to try food they may not normally eat. We have been busy making different dishes from a variety of countries as well as encouraging our Whānau to bring in some of their favourite dishes they make at home. Throughout this focus our tamariki have been developing a variety of skills including patience, turn taking and sharing, following instructions and extending on their friendships



As the sunshine is slowly disappearing this month, we would just like to remind all our lovely parents to please put a warm hat, jacket and boots in your child's bag to keep warm when we head outside.

Arohanui

Nakita, Rachel and Emma.

## ***News from the Preschool ...***

Over the last few weeks we have wrapped up our learning focus 'Exploration'. There are many aspects to 'Exploration' as we learn to make sense of the world around us. This includes physical skills such as; pouring, hammering, climbing, balancing and jumping (and learning how to take safe risks while doing so). Problem solving skills like trial and error, comparing, and classifying as children figure out how things work or move, and what they can do or create with various objects or substances. It also allows them to develop their understanding of social cues and rules with their peers and Kaiako (Teachers), as they get involved in imaginative play and try out new roles. The children have really enjoyed participating in such a wide range of experiences and it's been wonderful to see them grow their confidence and perseverance as they attempt new things and face new challenges



Arohanui , Chelsea, Kimberley and Angela.

## ***Contacting us...***

Just a reminder of our Nursery and Preschool cell phone numbers, so that you can text us to let us know if your child is going to be absent for the day, if you want to check on how your child's day is going, or for any other non-urgent messages. Our Nursery number is **0273618181** and the Preschool number is **0274556990**. We also update our Facebook page regularly with photos of our children's learning, so you can keep other family members 'in the loop'. This is where we post up to date information about the centre in the event of an emergency, so 'like' us on FB now!



## ***Welcomes & farewells – haere mai, haere rā ...***

**Welcome to the Nursery: Edison, Angus, Ashlee, Willow and Emma.**

**Welcome to the Preschool: Harvey, Lachlan, Hannah, Mansu, Jayden, Archie, Indie, Yuvaan and Ella-Rose. And our Nursery graduates Louie and Connor.**

**Farewell to our Preschool Graduates: Lily, Luke, Elisa, Mason and Rebecca. You all take our best Portobelo wishes with you to school, the next exciting step in your learning journey.**

## Upcoming events/parent and Whānau Notices:

- **MATARIKI DISCO –**
- **WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE**
- **5.30-6.30PM**



### **Parents and Whānau**

Please note that Portobelo Avonhead will be **CLOSED on Monday the 3rd of June for Queens Birthday.**

We wish you all a safe and happy long weekend.

*A special Congratulations to our very own Kimberley, and her husband Josh, who are pleased to share with us they are expecting their first baby in September.*



*The 'Change of enrolled hours' form is now on our website [www.bestpreschools.co.nz](http://www.bestpreschools.co.nz). If you need to change your child's booking, you can download the form, complete it and scan it through to our Centre Leader at [avonheadportobelo@xtra.co.nz](mailto:avonheadportobelo@xtra.co.nz).*

*Please remember that requests must be made at least a week in advance, so we can change our rostered staffing to ensure we meet legal requirements.*