

The James St Preschool
5 James St
Redcliffs
Christchurch
3819008



The James St Junior School
156 Main Road
Redcliffs
Christchurch
3819008

www.jamesstpreschool.co.nz

October 2011

The days are now getting longer and much warmer and we now have less than 80 days until Christmas. Since our last newsletter 10000 out of 14000 Port Hills homes, including both Preschool and Junior School have been reclassified into the green zone. Hopefully this is the catalyst needed to start the massive repair and rebuilding process in our area. To all of our families that our still in the White and Orange zones we do hope decisions are sooner rather than later for you. As soon as Redcliffs School reopens and at least one of our supermarkets, our area will move ahead in leaps and bounds. Hopefully there will be a few less leaps and bounds though as soon as the causeway is rebuilt.

This year has given us plenty of opportunity to practice and reflect on our emergency procedures. Many of you said that the email communications were invaluable during the times we were closed due to the February and June earthquakes and also the August Snow. Some people said they would have liked to have had a text communication system in place also. During the August snow closure we successfully trialled a text alert system with staff and are now in a position to implement this for parents as well. In the event of any future emergency situations or closures we will continue to use our email communication system, website updates as well as text alerts to all parents and staff.

Many of you will be aware that the Ministry of Health are closely monitoring two cases of Measles that have appeared in Christchurch. This is an opportune time to remind parents of the procedures that would be followed if a case of measles or any notifiable disease was suspected at either preschool.

The James St Preschool & Junior School has a legal requirement to maintain a register of immunisation status for all children attending preschool. This information is collected at enrolment and as children's immunisations are updated. If your child has received an immunisation since you last enrolled at Junior School or Preschool could you please place a copy of this with your child's name on it in the payments box at either preschool. Alternatively you can email a copy of this to murray@jamesstpreschool.co.nz

The Ministry of Health can request this information at any time and will do so in the event of a notifiable disease outbreak that may affect our preschool children. The Ministry of Health have the power to exclude any non-immunised child from attending preschool during such an outbreak. This situation happened two years ago when the Nursery was upstairs at preschool. A preschool baby was suspected of having measles. The test for this took three days to confirm. During this time all preschool (not Junior School) children that were not immunised were excluded from attending preschool. Consequently the suspected measles was confirmed as negative and all children were allowed to return. Please drop Murray an email if you are not sure what immunisation details we hold for your child.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FAMILIES:

Hylton George Phoebe Henry
Madison Moir Corleone Seinafo
Annabella Wegener

FARWELL TO:

Jesse Blake Torah Bradshaw
Romah Halcrow Christophe Lindlbauer
Josh Nicolson

STAFF:



We are looking forward to Kirsty Jones returning from maternity leave later this month. Kirsty will be returning on Wednesdays & Thursdays working with the 3 - 5 year old children.

Kirsty's return means that Karmel will also be finishing later this month. We have been incredibly lucky to have had Karmel over the last year. Parents in the preschool area will know Karmel is extremely creative and has brought a tremendous amount of fun to her work with the children. Staff have also found Karmel invaluable in her knowledge of Te Reo and have appreciated her support and help in this area. We wish Karmel all the best as she finishes her centre based training towards her Bachelor of Teaching degree.



CONGRATULATIONS:

To Julie, Matthew & Finn Maling on the birth of Jack.

To Sue, Matthew & Max Alldridge on the birth of Isabella.

SUNBLOCK/SUN HATS:

Now that the weather is warming up, could parents please donate a bottle of sunblock and bring along a named sunhat for their child/ren. We would prefer the sunhats to be left at the pre-school for your child's use any time that is necessary. These will be washed on a weekly basis. The Consumers Institute of New Zealand recommends the Nivea Childrens 30+ Sunblock.



PRESCHOOL NEWS:

The children's interest and enthusiasm towards the rugby world cup has been fantastic, we are continuing to focus on rugby and extending the children's awareness of the different countries around the world, in particular the ones involved in the world cup. If you have any special knowledge about these countries and would like to share it with your child's group that would be appreciated.

News time, the children particularly enjoy this aspect of group time in the morning, however we are finding that our news boxes are overflowing at times. Children share talking news within the group as a way of encouraging communication skills and public speaking, if your child wishes to bring an item to show and talk about please limit it to one small item, thank you.

The warmer weather is fast approaching therefore water play is a popular choice of activity, this can result in wet clothing. Please ensure your child has at least one full set of dry clothing in their bag.

Could parents please remember to bring one piece of fruit each day that your child attends.

POLICY REVIEW:

We are currently reviewing the following policies:

October	November
Health & Safety	Fire, Earthquake & Tidal Waves
Sun Protection	Excursions

PRESCHOOL & JUNIOR SCHOOL DRESS UP DAY:



Dress up as your favourite rugby player or in your favourite countries colours for the final of the rugby world cup.



**Friday
21st
October**

JUMP-A-THON WEEK:



November 14th - 18th

Jump rope for heart is a non-profit fundraising programme to help children learn the importance of life-long physical activity and maintaining good health.

All funds raised at preschool during the Jump-a-thon week is returned to the Heart Foundation programme, encouraging more early childhood services and schools to participate and promoting awareness of keeping healthy.

All children at Junior School and Preschool will have the opportunity to participate in the week long events and fun activities. This includes time each day to perform all the jumping skills in our Jump-a-thon skills booklet.

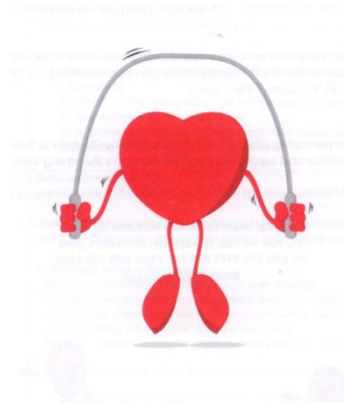
You may even see a few staff members giving the more advanced skipping skills a go such as the Double Dutch that a lot of us probably experienced at primary school. Families will be invited along to watch, share and participate in the fun on Friday 18th. Over the next few weeks we will send out a plan of our activities to complement the Jump-a-thon.

All children will bring home a Heart is Gold coin fundraising sheet for friends and family to support them in Jump-a-thon.

After completion of the sponsorship collection sheet your child will be awarded a certificate.

We thank you in advance for your support in promoting physical activity.

The Jump-a-thon also compliments our Heart Foundation Healthy Heart Award programme that we renew each year.



XMAS HOLIDAYS:

Thanks to all of you who have notified us when you will be away over Xmas, this greatly assists us in planning for staff leave over this time.



If you have not done so already could you please email murray@jamesstpreschool.co.nz or complete a holiday booking form and place it in the payments box at either preschool.

Holiday Booking Form Xmas 2011/12
Child's Name _____

We will be attending our normal hours during December and January. *(Please Circle)*

OR

Last day of attendance before holiday
_____ / _____ / _____

First day of attendance after holiday
_____ / _____ / _____

Please return this form to the payments box.

Holiday Booking Form Xmas 2011/12
Child's Name _____

We will be attending our normal hours during December and January. *(Please Circle)*

OR

Last day of attendance before holiday
_____ / _____ / _____

First day of attendance after holiday
_____ / _____ / _____

Please return this form to the payments box.

CHRISTMAS 2011/12 HOURS:

The preschools will be opening the following hours over the Xmas period. Children will be required to bring lunch boxes from Wed 28th Dec through until Fri 20th Jan.

Date	Hours Open
Fri 23 rd Dec	Normal Hours
Mon 26 th Dec	Closed Public Holiday
Tue 27 th Dec	Closed Public Holiday
Wed 28 th Dec	8:30 - 4:30
Thurs 29 th Dec	8:30 - 4:30
Fri 30 th Dec	8:30 - 4:30
Mon 2 nd Jan	Closed Public Holiday
Tue 3 rd Jan	Closed Public Holiday
Wed 5 th Jan	8:30 - 4:30
Thurs 6 th Jan	8:30 - 4:30
Fri 7 th Jan	8:30 - 4:30
Mon 9 th Jan	Resume Normal Hours

Kind regards to you all,

Murray, Tonia, Kerry, June, India, Rebecca, Kirsty, Karmel, Elleke, Kylie, Teryl, Sally, Hilary, Jo, Hayley, Heidi, Sue & Ali