

REPORT FROM THE STAFF TO THE COMMUNITY OF HORA HORA KINDERGARTEN

FOR TERM FOUR 2011

DATE: 20th December 2011

CURRICULUM

Although this had been a nine week term we have been busy welcoming and settling many new children and their whanau /families in the morning and afternoon sessions. It was heart warming to see new friendships developed throughout the weeks with both the children and their parents.

We continue to have families from many diverse cultures that are enriching our learning as we all practice ways to communicate with those with English as a second language and get to know them and about their cultures.

This has been a fantastic learning experience for all as our English speaking children become aware that there are other languages and cultures and ways to communicate with people who have different customs, routines and practices.

The sandpit continues to be an area of interest as children develop their understanding of the science properties of sand –wet/dry. They continue to design and build drains, waterfalls, volcanoes and buildings and roads which involved a huge group of children. They all worked cooperatively as a team. Children continued their interest in rugby (for the World Cup) and soccer games at kindergarten. We have excellent players who know all the rules and routines of playing rugby/soccer. They practised, persevered and developed good ball kicking, throwing, catching and tackling skills. Most importantly, they were able to show and teach others how to play rugby and soccer games. The staff document the children's learning (learning stories) in their portfolios

Manipulative construction sets are another area that is great for children's fine motor and cognitive development. The magnetic/geometric shape construction set has continued to be an interest for our children as the plan, design and create.

Many of our children choose to work on the computers and iPad, working at their own level and pace. They request support from the staff and their peers when they need to and enjoy and celebrate their successes.

Musical instruments, dance and movement has been an interest for a number of the children as they learn about the names of instruments, sounds, rhythm, beat and moving in space.

The children have had many opportunities to practice and develop early literacy and numeracy skills that they will use throughout their lives. They practice learning to read and write their names on their work/read their name cards to place on the board; a literacy table is available for children to practice writing their name, letters and words.

The art creations of the children have been amazing. We have children who have well developed art skills who continue to practice and create by following many different art processes – screen printing, bubble prints, revisiting to add more detail.

We have been encouraging the children to take responsibility for their own work and belongings through routines and processes – shoes/clothing that they remove go to their lockers, artwork and other work are placed on the drying racks.

We had planned to celebrate Christmas at Heritage Park with our morning children and families/whanau but due to very wet weather we cancelled and instead had a shard party here at the kindergarten and invited Mike the Magician and also Santa. This was enjoyed by many of our parents who were able to join us.

The afternoon children and families/whanau joined us here to share the party food and a visit from Santa.

We have been able to access extra support for some children through the NKA's speech language therapist and early intervention co-ordinator as well as the Ministry of Educations Group Special Education co-ordinators and specialists.

PREMISES AND FACILITIES

We got the resource consent for replacing and extending the veranda and canopy. The new deck has been built and the veranda roof. It is a fantastic play space that we can utilise in many different ways; while being protected from adverse weather. We are looking forward to the new blinds being attached during the Christmas break.

HEALTH AND SAFETY PRACTICES

The staff and children have practiced our fire and earthquake drills and procedures.

GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Roll numbers: AM: 40

PM: 30

Waiting list: 53

Strategic planning, self review and professional development

- There is a current strategic plan for the kindergarten/centre Yes
- The current project focus from the strategic plan is redesigning the outdoor area.
- The current area for self review is to be a team focus on Active Movement and healthy eating (Healthy Heart).

Environmental Health and Safety

- Daily Hazard Checklists have been completed for this month and a copy of any new Hazard Record Sheets and Action Plan (Form E) have been forwarded to the Association and placed in the Kindergarten Hazard Register
Yes
- The Trial Evacuation and Earthquake Preparation Procedures have been carried out and the Trial Evacuation Report (Form Q) has been completed and faxed to the Association for this term
Yes
- The monthly cleaning inspection has been completed
Yes

Child and Adult Health and Safety

- The following forms and procedures have been completed as necessary. Please circle those that apply this month:

Site Safety Induction Checklist (Form C) Yes

Volunteer Health and Safety Acknowledgement (Form H) Yes

- The Health and Safety Induction Register (Form B) has been updated
Yes

Matters/Issues Arising From This Report

- Planning for outdoor redesigning/applying for grants for funding

Signed: Helen White Date: 20th December 2011

PLEASE PRESENT THIS REPORT AT YOUR MONTHLY MEETING. The report is for the month prior to your meeting and must be circulated at least **3 WORKING DAYS** before the meeting.

After the meeting one copy is displayed in the kindergarten/centre, one copy to the Secretary's file and one copy to the Association.