

Walkathon

Our fantastic annual walkathon is coming up again on Tuesday evening 28 February from 5.30 to 7.00. All families are welcome to come along with a picnic tea to enjoy in our grounds (a sausage sizzle will be available). There will be a bouncy castle and a fun obstacle course set up for the children to try. A notice will be put in the pockets closer to the day.

Hats

During terms 1 and 4 the children have to wear hats while playing outside. Please remember to put one in your child's bag, or they may use one of the spares we have available. We also have sun block by the sign in sheet which you are welcome to use.

AGM

The AGM is to be held on Wednesday 28 March at Onekawa Kindergarten. All are welcome to attend.

Parent/Whānau Library

Please feel free to have a look at our books in the parent library, which is situated in the block corner. These books cover a wide range of subjects and are available for you to take home. Please let one of the teachers know if you would like to borrow one of our books.

Contact Details

If any of your contact details have changed e.g. cell phone numbers, home address, please let us know so that we can update our records.

This term's focus

This term our focus is on the community. We will be looking at things that we have or that occur within our local community and also people or professions that help us too.

Profile Books

The morning children have their individual profile books kept down by the book area. Please feel free to read these here or to take them home for the night. Please let one of the teachers know if you would like to do this so we do not worry if we cannot find a profile book. You are welcome to add your own comments and input about your child. This could be a sentence or a photo about what your child or family have done.

These profile books are very special records of your child's achievements, learning and experiences so please take care of them as we are unable to replace them if damaged.

Have you noticed?

During the holidays we had the painters in who have done a lovely job brightening up the kindergarten. We have had new poles put up for our shade sail after one of our poles was damaged last term.

We have also had our sandpit topped up with new sand which the children think is marvellous. They are now able to dig extra deep holes.

Child profiles are a purposeful collection of work that illustrates children's efforts, progress, and achievements. They are individual to each child and are gradually added to during a child's time at kindergarten.

The profiles might contain **learning stories**, photos, artwork, ME sheets and input from families. It is just a sample of all the learning children are involved in at kindergarten.

The Principles, Strands and Goals of Te Whāriki (NZ Early childhood Curriculum) underpin all we as teachers do.

The Principles are:- Holistic Development- Kotahitanga, Empowerment- Whakamana, Family and Community- Whānau-tangata, Relationships-Ngā Hononga

The Strands are: - *Well-being - Mana Atua *Belonging-Mana Whenua *Contribution-Mana Tangata *Communication – Mana Reo *Exploration – Mana Aotūroa

LEARNING STORIES.

Learning stories are a narrative assessment of a moment of learning.

Learning stories are based on the view that if children have many positive learning experiences they will develop habits or dispositions necessary for learning.

The learning dispositions include: -

- *Taking an interest
- *Being involved
- *Persisting with difficulty
- *Expressing an idea or a feeling
- *Taking responsibility

The learning stories and profiles are based on a credit model, things the child can do, has learnt to do or is learning but please be assured if we do have concerns about your child's learning, behaviour or skills we would let you know. Please feel free to share things you are very happy about and/or any concerns you might have with us.

You are welcome to read your child's profile with them at kindergarten or at home. If you are taking the profile home overnight please let one of the teachers know so we don't worry if we can't find it. Afternoon children's profiles are on the shelf in the block corner.

Families input into the profiles is very much appreciated by the children and teachers. You may like to write comments about a story the teachers have written or add your own story/ photographs about something your child or family have done at home or kindergarten.

Sharon, Debbie, Sue and Jackie

