

# Poupoutunoa Kindergarten

## Newsletter

March 2021



### **A warm welcome to our new children....**

Marika, Emre, Arley, Emily, Pippa, Oscar and Issac and welcome to their families we are very excited to have you as part of our Kindergarten.

### **Fundraising Meeting:**

We are wanting to have a fundraising meeting sometime before the school holidays. This will be for us all to catch up and discuss future plans for the fundraising side of things.

This meeting will be on - **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March @ 2:30pm, here at Kindy.**

### **The red slips that are placed in parent pockets:**

This means that the teachers are wanting you to sign or finalise something in your child's enrolment pack. Please see a teacher if you have one of these in your parent pocket. Thank you.

### **Upcoming project**

Thank you very much to everyone who has brought in and donated some items for the scarecrow. We are still after just a couple more items for the scarecrow, so we can get it started:

- Wooden poles
- Old shirt
- Straw hat

### **Whanau Involvement:**

A big thank you to the parents who have come in for their whanau involvement time with one of the teachers. It has been great getting to have that one on one time to chat and discuss your child's learning and aspirations.

For those of you that have not had your time yet please make a note of the date that you put down for this. Please remember this is a fantastic opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and discuss your child's learning and aspirations.

Please feel free to let a teacher know if this date doesn't suit and we can find another time or day that suits you.

### **Important upcoming dates...**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** - Otago Anniversary

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** - Good Friday

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April** - Easter Monday

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April** - Teacher only day

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April** - ANZAC Day

\*\*\* Please note that the teacher only day has changed. It is now on Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> April.

This change is due to COVID19. Sorry for any inconvenience.

## Group Planning

Here at Pouputunoa Kindergarten we have been working on fostering children's independence in becoming capable and competent learners. We have been supporting and encouraging the children to give things a go themselves before asking a friend or a teacher for help.

It has been great to see our tamariki trying new things, pushing themselves and growing their confidence to give things a go such as jumping of the high blocks themselves and taking charge of their own learning.

We have also had a focus on self-help skills, looking after our well-being and also our belongings. Putting lunchboxes up ourselves, finding their name tags and putting their belongings away in their bags. We have been mastering how to wash our hands properly to make sure we get rid of all the germs, nose blowing and also looking after our own belongings.

It is also awesome for us teachers to hear the parents and whanau using that language with their children and supporting them with their own self-help skills, such as in the mornings and afternoons with the children unpacking and packing their own bags, and signing in their name tags for the day ahead at Kindy.



## End of term clean up jobs:

End of term clean up jobs is a chance for parents to come into the kindy to help out the teachers giving teachers more time for teaching and learning. This would be greatly appreciated and it doesn't need to be a huge job, 20-30 minutes out of your time. Many hands make light work.

Jobs could include:

- Weeding the garden
- Cleaning the laundry (all surfaces)
- Fish tank
- Art room
- Kitchen (all surfaces)
- Clean chairs

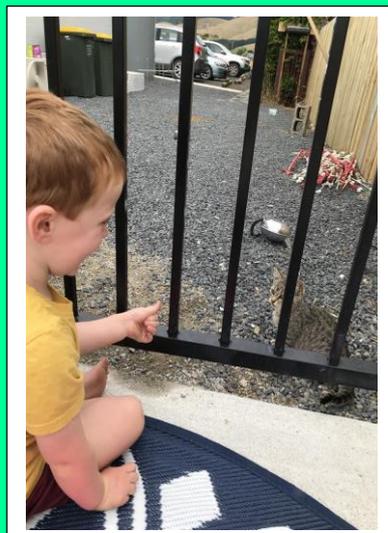
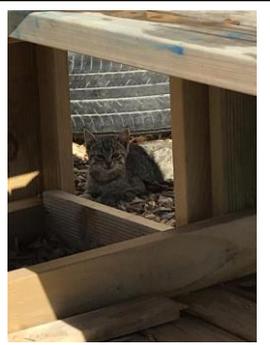
**“While we try to teach our children about life, our children teach us what life is all about”**

## Quick reminder:

Holidays are approaching fast. Please let one of the teachers know if your child will not be attending or if you are planning on going away at all during the holiday time, thanks. 😊

## We have welcomed a kitten to kindy!!

A couple of weeks ago we had a surprise visitor in the playground. The children were so excited and followed him/her, over the next few days the wee kitten kept coming back to the gate to say hello. The children love the kitten and are often found sitting at the fence looking at the kitten and convincing it to come closer so they can give it a pat. We all love watching the kitten eat its food, watching him/her come closer, gaining its confidence so we can give it a pat when it jumps through the fence. The children are absolutely loving the kitten, and are being very gentle and caring with it, knowing how to get the kitten closer and that sometimes it can be easily scared so the children are letting the other children know what to do, especially the younger children. This is a great example of working together with our friends (Ako).



## Wet Bags

Just another reminder for some families to bring some form of wet bag/ reusable bag for their child's wet clothes at kindy. This is also a necessity if your child is toilet training. Warehouse Stationary sell swim bags that are suitable.

## Changes in our morning teas

Due to the recent changes in the food regulations brought out by the Ministry of Health. The teachers have had a lot of discussion around the shared fruit platters at morning tea time. We have decided to move away from the shared fruit and children will have access to their lunch boxes for morning tea, as we found due to the changes in the regulations and the way we prepared the food we found that the food was not inviting to the children, or children were opting out of eating morning tea. Please be mindful to put extra fruit/food in your child's lunch box to ensure they have enough food for the day.

## We are after a board representative for our Kindy!!

### Are you:

- **Interested** in Early Childhood Education and **making a difference** for our young children.
- Experienced/or **prepared to learn** about committee work.
- Able to make **adequate time** available for this role
- Able to work as a **team member**
- Able to see another's point of view
- Able to say no when necessary
- Able to have a **sense of humour**

If these interest, you then maybe it's time to become a board representative.

### We offer:

- An Honorarium to attend each meeting
- Travel re - imbursement
- Short meetings that are to the point

Board meetings are held monthly throughout the school term, at our Association Office in Balclutha from 7 - 8:30pm

If you feel that this position is for you, and would like to know more than please speak to a member of the teaching team or phone the association office and express your interest in the role at the next committee meeting.

Poupoutunoa Phone - 03 976 6752

Kindergarten Association Phone - 03 4182043