Kia ora whanau and welcome to our Term 3 newsletter

As I draft this newsletter the weather has turned cold and it doesn’t much feel like Spring today. But there are daffodils about and my large weeping willow tree is bursting out, so I am assuming this cold spell is just temporary.

You will now receive a newsletter from us once a term with lots of information about what has been and what is coming up. Keep it handy and record events coming up on your calendar.

I have now met several of you and I thank you for making me feel welcomed and a part of the Family Tree whanau.

Jen Hall.

What’s coming up?

Next Week:

Tuesday 25th Mobile Farm Animal visit to Tarns place with Waka Iti playgroup 9.30-11.30am

Wednesday 26th Kaiapoi community Playgroup Bike Day 9.30 -11.30am

Thursday 27th The Wonky Donkey Show with Craig Smith at Kaiapoi North School Hall: time to be advised as soon as we know

First Week of the Holidays:

Tuesday Oct 1st Picnic morning at Waikuku Beach Domain Playground 10am – 12 or bring your lunch and stay a while ( Weather dependent)

Thursday 4th Crazy hair day at Tania’s at 67 Fuller St 10-11.30am

Second Week of the Holidays

Monday 8th Bike morning at the Torlesse Park Playground (opposite Lillybrook Shopping Centre in Johns Rd Rangiora) 10-11.30am or bring your lunch and stay a while ( Weather dependent)

Wednesday 10th Hot chip Lunch at Sandra’s at [6 Porter Place Kaiapoi](https://maps.google.com/?q=6+Porter+Place+Kaiapoi&entry=gmail&source=g) to farewell her long term residents Emily and Josh who are off to school after the holidays 11.30-1pm.If the weather is amazing we may have this at Belcher St Park on the south side of Kaiapoi and enjoy the sunshine and playground too. We will text through an update closer to the time

Friday 12th Natural Playground Exploring at Matawai Park 9.30am for morning tea, expedition starts at 10am-11.30am. There will be a scavenger hunt for all

Then back to school and normality on Monday 15th October

Janice has some wonderful ideas for events and experiences for children and families in October. Watch this space!

**What have we been busy learning about?**



**Pirate day**  **Outdoor Playgroup at Matawai Park**

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**Visited the Fire Station Fortnightly Playgroup**

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**Visited Farmer Jen’s and met all of her animals**



**Had a stall at the Woodend Watched the Kapa Haka**

**School Fair performance**



**Celebrated Matariki**

**……and lots more other exciting events!**

This term we have said happy birthday to:

Jackson, Beaudyn, Abel, Eli, Travis, Lillian, Isaac. Georgia, Emily, Joshua, Sophie, Amelia, Jaxson, Evelynn and we look forward to Anaru’s at the end of the month.

We have also said happy birthday to these wonderful ladies: Carolyn and Tarn, with Donna, Annie and Lisa’s coming up soon.

* On the 27th of September we have the Ministry of Education visiting two of our wonderful Educators homes. This is due to the change in ownership and will not have any impact on our families. If they are there when you arrive to drop off they may want to have a quick conversation with you.
* Additionally we are having a visit from the Education Review Office in December. This is a part of their review process that they undertake. Again, this will not have an impact for you, but again they may want a quick conversation with you if you are dropping your children off. We will send you a letter regarding this closer to the time.
* You may have noticed we are currently advertising for more Educators in the Kaiapoi, Rangiora, Amberley, Leithfield, Waikuku, Woodend area. This is due to high demand from parents wanting to enrol with us. If you know of any friends or family members that may be interested please ask them to make contact with Jen or Janice.
* Thank you to those that completed the parent’s survey and returned them. It is still not too late to do this as we do appreciate your aspirations and feedback. This supports our planning for the coming year, and we like to ensure you have your say. We have now formulated a 3 year strategic plan following feedback from yourselves, Educators and management. I will attach it with this newsletter so you can read it along with our new philosophy statement.
* Our Educators have a large amount of paperwork to complete to ensure we meet our regulatory requirements. We acknowledge that it can be time consuming for parents to complete change of bookings etc however we are legally obliged to have these completed fully and accurately. Thank you for being patient and vigilant with these.
* Please ensure you sign the timesheets every week as we do get audited and this is one of the matters that they check.
* Please ensure you view our current policies being reviewed and provide us with any comments or questions you may have. Remember also to sign the review form that your Educator has at her home.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you parents for your on-going support and for sharing your children with us. Thank you also to our dedicated passionate Educators who make Family Tree the wonderful company that it is! Additionally, special thanks to Janice for her devotion and endless energy to make Family Tree a wonderful network led by a professional practitioner.

Jen.