

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

P1 **The Power  
of Play**P2 **Classroom News**P3 **Centre News**P4 **Notices**

# FootSteps

## COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

28 Puhinui Road, Papatoetoe, Auckland | Tel +09 250 1067 | Fax +09 250 1084  
Email [footstepspap@xtra.co.nz](mailto:footstepspap@xtra.co.nz) | Web [www.footstepskids.co.nz](http://www.footstepskids.co.nz)



Our series about your child's day continues:

**Review** – your child has had a delicious sleep, a nutritious breakfast, travelled safely to school in their car seat and now they are ready for an exciting day at preschool.

The preschool programme is thoughtfully and intentionally designed to meet the important developmental needs of your child. Throughout the day there are times for your child to be quiet and still and times for them to eat and to be active. We are going to explore the importance of play and activity in the healthy and holistic development of your child.

Did you know that play is a very important part of being a healthy child? All children play and it is a natural and instinctive behaviour which brings joy

and fun and is not participated in for any other reason than for the joy of it!

Play is an essential way for children to be active and make sense of their world. It supports their physical, spiritual, social and emotional abilities as well as developing their resilience and creativity. It also helps them to learn how to be friends with others and how to communicate effectively. All this helps children to grow a positive self-image as they see themselves as being capable.

Quality play which includes physical activity improves children's ability to learn by making the brain stronger through strengthened neural pathways. It also supports greater emotional self-regulation and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# WHANAU NEWS

## WELCOME TO FOOTSTEPS

Welcome - we are so glad that you are now a part of the Footsteps family! Welcome to the Pond: **Finau**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TIME IN MAY, JUNE AND JULY!



Another year of blessing was and is to be celebrated for many of our precious children.

**Isla » Winter » Praniit » Roman » Taniela »**

**Thomas » Josiah » Joshua**

**» William G » Taylor** We pray God's blessing on the lives of these precious children as they grow older.

## GRADUATIONS

We say good bye to these big boys as they go off to Big School: **Praniit » Roman, » Taniela » Taylor » Thomas » William G**

We will miss you! You have been a special part of our Footsteps whanau.



## GOODBYE

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to **Isla** and her family as they move away from Auckland. We will miss our little friend and wish her and her family God's blessing as they start their new life in a new location.



# NEWS FROM THE POND



Being a Pond person is so much fun! There are lots of exciting and engaging things happening in the Pond every day.

The children are being very curious at the moment – exploring their environment, scientific concepts like gravity, how to build friendly relationships and how to worship God through music – especially by singing 'Make Me Like a Tree.' They recently enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Science Playroom and appreciated the help and support of parents and caregivers.



# NEWS FROM THE BEEHIVE

The Beehive children have been flying themselves off to exotic locations recently! They especially love to fly to Italy! We have pilots, passports and in-flight service! The children are thinking about the people in our community who helps us. They are looking forward to having interesting visitors come into the Beehive to visit and to explain all about how they support children and adults in the community.

The children have been enjoying cooking – making cheese sandwiches by themselves, tasty soup and bread to celebrate Matatriki, vegetable kebabs and green soup! Beehive children show their growing independence.





# THANK YOU!

Thank you for making Green Day so fabulous! The children looked amazing and there were some stunningly green lunch-box foods. It was excellent! Check out the Photobook and Facebook for more fun photos!

Thank you too for your generous support of the Auckland Women's Refuge. The trolley of goodies got pretty full and we were able to raise a good amount of money through our fundraising goodies and lunch. The final total we raised was \$315.90.

Your help is a great blessing to women and their children who are in need.

Jesus said, "...whatever you did for one of the least of these my brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matt 25:40, 45



## THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Love  
Aroha

Joy  
Koa

Peace  
Maungārongo

Patience  
Mānawanawa

Kindness  
Atawhai

Goodness  
Ngākau pai

Faithfulness  
Ngākau pono

Gentleness  
Whamarie

Self-control  
Mana whaiaro



# NEWS, NOTICES AND INFORMATION THAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

## SCHOOL READINESS

The School Readiness children have been working hard this term. The end of the term is just around the corner so the children who are almost 5 will be completing their last School Readiness sessions with Mrs Jeannie. They will go off to school well-prepared for the routines of a New Entrant classroom. Being a School Readiness kid means that they are growing very big!



## NOTICES

Because the gentler wintery sun is important for our bodies we do not need to wear our sunhats during Term 2 and 3. You can take your child's hat home, launder it, rename it and tuck it away ready for Term 4.

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

encourages creativity and imagination.

Great play should be both self-directed (by the child) and also include some adult/child time where children's skills can be challenged and developed through appropriate, guided and supervised risk-taking. It should also include both indoor and outdoor play and there should also be opportunity for vigorous play for an hour a day, especially for pre-schoolers (3-5 years of age and beyond).

Rich play can include times for children to play in the mud, in the rain, with water. They should have access to places to climb and explore. There should also be equipment that lets children experiment with speed – such as bikes, scooters, slides and play should include some rough and tumble. Play should invite engagement!

As you read this little article did you see the links between the power of play and the Footsteps preschool programme that we offer? Your child gets to engage in rich, powerful play every day: play that grows and develops them holistically and makes them want to come back for more!

While your child is playing at Footsteps today, see if you can think of some fun ways to play with your child at home and ways that you can support them to play, play, play every day. Remember to include plenty of outdoor play too. You will love that! Remember that you are never too old to play! You can start today!



## FOOTSTEPS CALENDAR

Thu 21st Jun:	Music Day
Sat/Sun 23/24th Jun:	Staff Retreat
Thu 28th Jun:	Parent Connect Event
Wed 4th Jul:	Pyjama Day
Mon 9th Jul- Fri 20th Jul:	School Holidays
Mon 23rd Jul:	Term 3 begins

**Keep up to date with all planned events by checking you child's mail pocket, our Facebook page and posters up around the Centre.**

### EVENTS FROM PAPSDA

**Kids Church** Saturday, 30 June at 11:00am. All Welcome!

**Free Kids Sports (EPIC Sports)** Every Sunday during school term for 3-12 year-olds at the Alan Brewster Centre in Old Papatoetoe.