

Good Beginnings Educare Centre

OCTOBER 2023 PĀNUI

Welcome

A warm welcome to **Amaiya, Lockie** and **Aiden** who have transitioned from the Infants & Toddlers and to **Carter** and his whānau. We look forward to getting to know you all.



Haere ra

Jackson has started school this term. **Ruby** and **Summer-Joyce** will be starting school in November. We wish them all the best for their learning journey.

Staff news

We are excited to have **Caroline** back from her holiday and her last practicum placement. We are pleased to say we have our full teaching team on board.

Charlotte who is with us on Wednesdays and Thursdays will be on her first placement for her training at the end of October.

Nicola is away for two weeks from the 23rd of October. Any queries during this time should go to Becks or Joe. You can email Joe on admin@goodbeginnings.co.nz

Onesie Day

A big thank you to everyone who dressed up in their onesie and donated to the Wellington Free Ambulance. **All up Good Beginnings donated \$300.** In the Wellington region we are very lucky to have this crucial service for free so it is important that we support it so it can continue to serve our communities and whānau. We were very lucky to have two paramedics Georgia and Lily's Mumma and Chris visit us in the ambulance. The tamariki got the grand tour inside and out. They learnt about some of the life saving medical devices and what it is like to be a patient. After the tour of the ambulance Jess read some books about ambulances to the tamariki. The tamariki had the best time. A massive **thank you to Jess and Chris** for taking time out of your day to come and give the tamariki an amazing hands on experience and education.



Talent Wairarapa is hosting another **fundraiser** for the **Wellington Free Ambulance building**. Featuring finalists from Talent Wairarapa over the last 4 years. **Where:** Kuranui College. When **Sat 21st Oct 7pm**. Tickets \$5 for children \$10 adults. This is again another great cause and a great night supporting local talent.

Emergency Drills

Over the past 2 months our centre have practiced our **Fire, Earthquake** and **Lockdown Drills** incase we experience a real life emergency event. The tamariki are confident with our emergency procedures and know when and what actions to take when they hear the emergency called out. This month on **Thursday the 19th of October at 9:30am** we will be joining the rest of Aotearoa for the **NZ Shakeout**. We will **Drop, Cover, Hold** just as we have been practicing. This will help keep us safe in the event of an earthquake. Have you got an emergency plan at home? If you would like information on how to put one together you can go to getready.govt.nz for free plans and information about how to prepare for an event. It is also a great time to remind you to bring in your child's emergency kit 😊

Get Ready to ShakeOut.

Kelly's weekly tip

Keep an eye out for Kelly's weekly sustainability tip next to the childrens sign in chart. **Kelly's tips are to support us in reducing the amount waste that goes to landfill, healthier living and promoting a healthier environment.** If you have ideas/tips that you would like to share feel free to share them with Kelly and the teaching team, we would love to work with whānau to promote a healthy future for our tamariki. Also, if you would like more tips feel free to ask. We have tips for reducing waste, recycling and creating healthy waste free lunches that can save you money too.

Programme



Over the months of September and October as a group we have had a '**transportation**' focus. This was following most of the children being interested in vehicles. If you take a look around the centre you will notice some of the amazing creations by our children; paintings, colouring and models. **Thank you to all of the awesome whānau who brought in vehicles for us.** We had tow trucks, an ambulance, police car, ride on mower and quad bikes come in for the tamariki to investigate. We also had wheels day where tamariki brought their own transport, bikes, scooters and trikes. The tamariki enjoyed sharing their wheels, taking turns and testing out different types of wheels. Above the lunchboxes sits our transport inquiry book, we would love for you to have a look at it and maybe

even pop a comment or two in it. Inquiries like this allow our tamariki and whānau to share their knowledge/resources from home and grow their understanding of how the world around us works.

Upcoming dates

Labour Day – centre closed.

Children's Christmas party – 16th December

The centre will close for two weeks at

Christmas. Our last day is Friday 22nd of December. The centre will close at 5:30pm and reopen on Monday the 8th of January 2024.

Please complete the hours form in your child's notice pocket and return asap. Thank you



Halloween dress up day Tuesday the 31st October
Come dressed up as any character you like.

Ripper Rugby

Ripper Rugby season begins next month. Tamariki will have the opportunity to participate in group lessons and games taught by Doug from the local Ripper Rugby organisation. We will be taking a group of tamariki once a week over 3 weeks to the field behind Una Williams Kindergarten. There we will learn some ball skills and how to play Ripper Rugby. This is a great opportunity for tamariki to learn some sports skills while getting out and making community connections. Any whānau that would like to join in are more than welcome – we know our parents last year had a blast.

Tamariki must have suitable footwear for running, no gumboots or jandals.



Newsgroup

The tamariki are enjoying two News Groups a week. Please only let your child bring one item and please restrict the size, our news bucket is getting overloaded. Thank you for your co-operation.

Clothing reminder

Warmer weather is on its way..hopefully. Please pack spare changes of clothing, warm and cold. We are having more water play which means getting wet. If your child does not have spare clothing you may be called to bring some in if they need more as we have a limited supply of centre clothes. Don't forget their **sunhat** and **appropriate footwear** for the season. Replace the gumboots for light footwear like sneakers so your child has more comfort and stability to run, jump, climb and play, even sitting on the floor is much more comfortable in shoes and their feet won't get so hot and sweaty either.

Please check and claim your child's lost property, especially the socks.

Te Reo Māori phrase

Each month a teacher takes a turn at introducing a relevant te reo Māori phrase that we can use in the centre. This month's phrase is:

Kia tūpato – Be careful

New invoicing software

Thank you to everyone for being patient while we come to terms with the new software system. If you have more than one child attending Good Beginnings you need to **pay the invoices separately referencing each child's number** for their payment.

Internal Evaluation

As part of our internal evaluation we have been looking at ways that we can better communicate with whānau and have you more involved in your child's learning and the centre. Through your feedback with Kerry's questionnaire it was highlighted there have been some issues with the online portfolios. We have looked into options and will be **introducing Storypark** as our online communication system for portfolios. This will be happening over the coming months.

This review has led on to the team looking at how we share the children's learning with whānau. We have already made plans to make the **programme planning more visible** by shifting the information to the board above the lunchbox storage unit and including the current inquiry book for you to look at and jot down any comments. It was great to see so many **parents becoming involved** in the transpiration focus – thank you so much.

There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to create a learning story. Teachers meet regularly to discuss children's learning and interests and from there we plan and implement experiences to extend these. Over a month the teachers collate information and write the **learning story**. With Storypark we will be able to share your child's learning plans for you to have input and help to evaluate the learning that has happened for your child. We feel strongly about working in partnership with whānau, so look forward to having a more collaborate system for sharing your child's learning and development.

Fee increase

We have tried to hold off on this for as long as possible but like everyone our daily running costs continue to rise. From the start of January 2024 the hourly rate for 3-5 year olds will increase to \$7.50 per hour. You will still continue to receive the 20 ECE hours free of any charge. All new enrolments to Good Beginnings will have an hourly rate of \$7.50 as well. If you foresee any issues with this please reach out to Nicola or Joe.

Kāhore taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini

We cannot succeed without the support of those around us

