

Heretaunga Kindergarten Newsletter

28 March 2011

Are you prepared: www.prepare.co.nz

Have you thought about your pets in an emergency and included provision for them in your civil defence kit. Also activities to do for children.



Wow, it's hard to believe it's nearly April already. What a long term it has been, everyone is ready for the two week break. We would like to welcome Theo, Sophie, Isabelle, Samuel, Karley, Paloma and their whānau to Heretaunga Kindergarten and afternoon Kindergarten. We would also like to welcome Diljot and her family to morning Kindergarten and Pat and Zac who moved from afternoon to morning.

IMPORTANT DATES

15 April 2011 – End of Term 1 for AM

14 April 2011 - End of Term 1 for PM

2 May – Everyone back.

SUN HATS/CHANGE OF CLOTHES: Term 2 means we no longer require sunhats however we do require that all children have a change of clothes in their bag. This is a civil defence requirement as well as being handy when your child becomes wet through play. With the Christchurch earthquake it reinforces the importance of this. We also ask that all clothes are named as our Lost Property just continues to grow and grow and there are some really nice items in it. This gets emptied each term so please look through it before the end of term.

DRIVEWAY: Our driveway is shared with our neighbours so please no cars down the driveway, please park on the street and walk down no matter what the weather!

PARENT PORTAL: A reminder that the parent portal is up and running, sometimes your child's learning story is on the portal almost immediately, a great chance to share with your child what they've been doing at kindy when the experience is fresh. You can also use the website to check on the parent help roster and other happenings. <http://www.rimukgtn.org.nz/HERETAUNGA/Heretaunga.html>

NUT ALLERGY - Reminder We have a child who is at morning kindergarten who has a severe nut allergy. This means we have to ban all nut products in the morning session eg peanut bars, peanuts (natural/cooked), peanut butter and nutella and also includes bars which may have traces of nut and scorched almonds. Please can you respect the health and well being of this child and refrain from placing peanut items in your child's lunchbox – Thanks.



FAMILY PAYMENTS/FUNDRAISING/EXCURSIONS – money, money, money.....

We now have a new 'black box' on our kitchen bench for the receipt of all of these. If you have any fundraising money, excursion monies/notices, premier books, family payments etc, please can you put these in the locked box. Please can you try and have the correct change as we do not carry money. The only money we have is what has been given to us and this is cleared weekly.





LOLLIPOPS/LOLLIES: Due to our healthy food policy we would prefer it if families did not bring in lollies/lollipops as treat foods when moving from afternoon to morning and when leaving. Small chippies, muffins, cupcakes, stickers, balloons etc are some suggestions. We also find that lollipops are unsafe and there are high risks of choking especially when children are sucking on these in the car on the way home.

INTERNET BANKING: If you are paying your family payment via the internet please can you let us know so that we can issue you with a receipt for tax rebate purposes. **A reminder that if you haven't already paid your family payment for this term, we would appreciate it before the end of term.**



SHARON: We would like to congratulate Sharon who has been chosen to undertake an aspiring leadership course throughout the year at our Association offices and also for the completion of her first year of her Diploma in special Education. This year will see her complete her Diploma and we will see her away for some of the year undertaking study in Auckland and locally.



BNZ: We recently had a team from the BNZ who during their "closed for good" Day came and worked at the Kindergarten. We would like to thank them for the new look fence down the driveway. They did a great job and it looks brilliant. ANZ also undertake this community initiative and we will have Pete Cowie one of our Dads doing some more painting for us, thanks Pete.

END OF SESSION: Please ensure that your children are collected by the end of session ie. 12.30pm for morning kindergarten and 3.30pm for afternoon kindergarten. It is important as it enables the teaching staff enough time to set up for the next session, complete some of their admin responsibilities and maybe even have a bite to eat!

CIVIL DEFENCE INFORMATION: Whenever we go on trips we take our Kindergarten mobile with us. We can always be contacted on this and our number is **0277692431**. We suggest you load this into your phone so that you can contact us if needed. We do not check this phone any other time so please do not text or ring it outside of trip times. However, we have loaded the cell numbers we have for parents into the mobile and if we needed to let everyone know something in an emergency we would attempt to send a text to you. A reminder that our civil defence evacuation centre is St Pats College and we would go there if our premises were not habitable or we were asked to evacuate by council/civil defence.

PARENT HELP: We are reliant on Parent Helps to make our job a little easier and allowing us to spend time working with children. This term was not a very good term for parent helps with lots of days when we did not have one. We "thank" the parents that came back early to do paints and lunch tables. However, we ask that families put aside two sessions per term to parent help. Not only does this help us out but your children also enjoy having you here with them. We also love having parents with us as it allows us a chance to share information and develop closer relationships.

EASTER RAFFLE: There will be more than one prize in this raffle and it will be drawn on Thursday 14 April. We have been given the 2011 Entertainment Book which will make an awesome prize. It is not too late to sell and return your tickets. Due to Budget cuts fundraising has become an important part of ensuring we are able to purchase resources for our children so please sell those tickets to friends, neighbours and family. This raffle has the potential to fundraise \$1200 of the \$7000-00 approx we require for this year.



CRAZY HAIR DAY: We thought this would be a fun way to end the term, afternoon will be on April 14th, and morning will be on April 13th, so start planning what to do now!!



FINALLY we wish you and your whānau a relaxing term break and a Happy Easter. If you are travelling, then please stay safe and we look forward to Term 2.

Sandra, Sharon, Ceri, Catha and Louise.