

Dear Parents and Whanau

It has been a cold and wet month here at The Village, but that hasn't stopped us getting out and about in the Community and enjoying the fine breaks when we can.

It is normal that this time of year brings all the winter colds and flus. We ask our families to ensure that sick children remain at home to prevent the transfer of infection to other children. We do appreciate the difficulties faced by working parents when children are sick, but we are required to comply with the standards set by the Ministry of Education.

Daffodil Day Sessions

We are currently running Daffodil Day sessions to raise money for the Cancer Society. Just make a \$3 donation and receive a FREE 9-3 session. Please note this is for additional sessions only and subject to availability



Healthy Eating

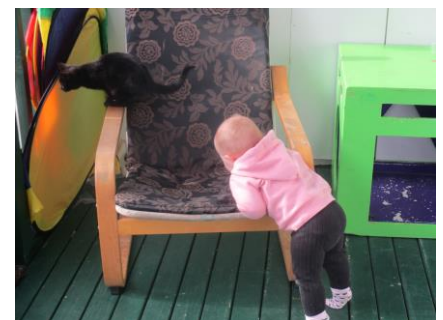
As part of our on-going review processes, the centre is working through a Healthy Eating review, to encourage healthy eating habits at The Village. We encourage parents and whanau to provide healthy food options in your child's lunch box. Each room has a set of resources available to inspire healthy eating options and where applicable, children attending the Centre will participate in growing, preparing and serving healthy food. Part of the Centre curriculum will focus on food, nutrition and hygiene and its role in achieving and maintaining good health. Please talk to our kaiako if you would like further information.

Mini Movers

Due to the popularity of our Mini Movers, we have decided to extend the programme to the Preschool Room. Alysha will be working Monday and Tuesday in the Explorers Room, then the rest of the week over in Preschool. Each room will have one dance class per week, Explorers on Monday and Preschool on Friday.

Tots

Our Tots Room has had a busy month with our babes out on excursions to the Garden Centre, Discovery Garden and Community Garden. Experiences in the natural world are always popular in the Tots room, with Animals being the new interest. We absolutely loved the School Holiday Programme 'Pet Day'. As a consequence we have been to Décor to look at "Punk" the parrot and are off for a visit to the Vets. We would love to meet some of your pets. If you have a pet at home email a picture to us at marion@villagechildcare.co.nz so we can begin our pet wall.



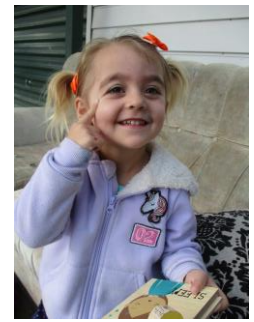
Explorers

The Explorers Room has developed a strong interest in well-being. This has incorporated looking after babies, learning about emotions, and preparing healthy food. Learning about emotions is so important at this age as children become increasingly capable of managing themselves and expressing their feelings and needs.

We have really enjoyed our baking experiments and making healthy food. This has involved the



preparation – peeling and cutting, food hygiene, and making something special to enjoy with our friends, even our ‘babies’. Our ‘babies’ are being very well looked after at the moment being bathed, having their nappies changed, and even being fed real baby food. It is lovely to see the children nurturing their toy babies and making trips to the Tots room to nurture our little ones.



Preschool

Preschool had an awesome time over the holidays learning about science. There were some explosive and tasty experiments as the children tried their hand at bottle blasters, making hokey pokey and other potions as they explored chemical reactions. It was great to see the Preschool come and share their knowledge and experience with our babies as they played rocket launchers with them.

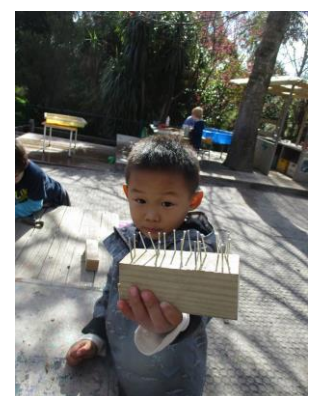
The interest in well-being has extended now into care for the environment with the children picking up rubbish from



around the playground and talking about the effect the rubbish has on our environment and sea life. This will tie in really well with Conservation Week which happens in October and focuses on Healthy Nature – Healthy People. This aims to encourage us to use New Zealand's natural spaces to maintain and improve our health and wellbeing.

We are starting to sow some seeds and as the weather warms we will be back out in the community garden planting our gardens for the spring.

Building has been another interest, with the Preschoolers creating all sorts of cool things from clocks to refurbishing our bird houses. As we are in another new term Cool for School, Sports Day and Trip Day are back in full swing, creating lots of wonderful learning opportunities for the children.



Claire Topping & the Team at the Village