



# Monthly Head Teacher Report

Te Mata Kindergarten Date: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Head Teacher: Fiona Francois

Teachers: Rachel Furniss

Mariana Walls

Kindergarten Support: Michelle Thompson

## Teaching and Learning

What has been happening in the programme over the last month?

*The past month has been very exciting and busy. The morning children have continued with their interest in sewing. The hand sewing skills have extended to learning to use a sewing machine. The popularity of this activity prompted us to purchase our own simple machine. This has increased the interest in sewing and the children are now designing and sewing their own creations. These include bags, hats, blankets and a variety of clothes for teddies. Many special soft toys have been brought to Kindergarten to have new clothes made.*

*This week Kindergarten was transformed to support New Zealand the rugby world cup. The children are enjoying this special event and practising the National anthem in Maori and English. There have been a variety of rugby games and haka's performed.*

*An interest in duck shooting also initiated a special duck hunting morning. The children drew their own ducks then headed to the woodwork table where they made guns. We created a duck shooting Mai Mai and the children waited inside for any passing ducks. Fortunately some duck puppets appeared and these were soon shot then prepared on the barbeque for lunch. This role play has meaning and is relevant to many children whose families have been duck shooting recently. The children also learn about firearm safety and controlling pests in New Zealand.*

*Individual Discovery Projects*

- *Sewing*
- *Mastering the monkey bars*
- *Music*
- *Skipping*
- *Friendships*
- *Numeracy*
- *Literacy*
- *Trapeze*

- Literacy and Numeracy

- Meeting the aspirations  
of Maori children.

What will be the focus in the  
programme over the next few weeks,  
any resources required for this.

Excursions planned.

*This week the children have been especially interested in numeracy and literacy. The children have enjoyed learning to count and read the numbers 1 to 20 and are also challenging themselves by counting backwards.*

*The Rugby World Cup is evident at Kindergarten. We are celebrating the many different countries participating and especially New Zealand. The morning children are fluent singers of our national anthem in Maori and English.*

*We have a busy last 3 weeks of the term planned with an International dress up day for the morning children on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will be celebrating the many countries that are visiting New Zealand and where some of our families come from.*

*Friday 30<sup>th</sup> is our book launch day and we have had wonderful support for this event from the community. The Leader is going to have a full page article promoting Te Mata Kindergarten and the book.*

*We are also holding a skipping morning to celebrate the achievements of the children learning to skip and mastering many new physical skills this term. This is also part of the Heart Foundation Jump Rope for Heart programme. We will have a morning of celebrating skipping and ask the children to bring a gold coin for a coin trail to donate back to the Heart Foundation as part of the programme.*

<p><b>Relationships and Strategic Management</b></p> <p>Report on any Quality improvement processes.  Other areas of review or improvement not included in previous planning.  Policy and procedure review  Liaison with outside Agencies  Head Teacher release time.</p>	<p><i>Fiona had 4 hours of Head Teacher release time last week. This was an opportunity to create resources and liaise with local schools promoting Te Mata Kindergarten and the book launch.</i></p>
<p><b>Health and Safety / Property</b></p> <p>Building or Ground Development/ Maintenance.   Health visitors or relevant information to parents.</p>	<p><i>Thank you to Ross who fixed the front gate hinge when it was broken.</i></p> <p><i>We have had many health visitors and meetings related to our special needs children.</i></p>
<p><b>Human Resources</b></p> <p>Thanks to .....</p> <p>Visitors to Kindergarten.</p> <p>Report back on PD attendance.</p> <p>Relievers, Students, kindergarten support.</p>	<p><i>Many thanks to Sophie and Claire Blokker who have been involved in our Book. Sophie has created wonderful illustrations and we will have the children draw some pictures as a special thank you.</i></p> <p><i>Group Special Education staff.</i>  <i>Christine Roberts GSE</i>  <i>Bronwen Bertram – General Manager Assn</i>  <i>Dave Mudford – Senior teacher</i></p> <p><i>Teachers attended an Association staff meeting</i></p> <p><i>John O’Herlihy</i></p>

<p><b>Information Systems</b></p> <p>How are we managing ICT development Requirements.</p> <p>Web Page Changes required</p>	<p><i>The family corner is a hub of families watching the slide show of photographs from each session. Parent feedback has been that they find it valuable to see at the start and end of each session as different adults collect the children. The parents value this opportunity to see the learning.</i></p> <p><i>Could we please have information on the web site that the Book “The Legend of Te Mata O Rongokako The sleeping giant,” is available for purchase at Kindergarten?</i></p>
<p><b>Finance/ Administration</b></p> <p>Rolls</p> <p>Any significant purchases/ grants received.</p> <p>Wish list/ requests.</p> <p>Petty cash requirements.</p> <p>Fundraising support.</p> <p>Total payments approved for payment</p> <p>Date of next committee meeting</p>	<p>42 / 30</p> <p><i>Sewing machine</i></p> <p><i>Permission to proceed with first stage of playground development. We would like to start on the water feature in the sandpit so the children can enjoy this in term 4. As many of the existing families have been involved in fundraising for this project we would like to begin this stage of the playground development.</i></p> <p>\$50.00</p> <p><i>We have been offering Wool Grow for families as a fundraiser. A parent has developed this product and Kindergarten receives the profit margin of sales.</i></p> <p>\$6,429.93</p> <p><i>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2011</i></p>

## **Marketing / Communication**

Communication and Consultation with Parent's, Caregivers and Whanau.

Parent Information and Social events.

Promotion Plan.

Liaison with local schools, and other Community groups.

*We would like to thank all those parents who came along to the consultation meeting with the Association last week.*

*Your support for Te Mata and the teachers is truly appreciated. We look forward to the future and know we have your full support.*

*The survey which the committee designed for feedback has also provided very valuable information regarding why families chose Te Mata and what they value. There was a clear indication that families appreciate the teachers, environment, teaching, community and learning opportunities.*

*We have been in contact with Te Mata and Havelock North Primary schools regarding our Open day and book launch. Both schools have been very positive and are advertising this event in their school community.*

*The promotion of our book will provide ongoing opportunities to liaise with local schools and the community as well as bring visitors to Te Mata Kindergarten.*

*Next Friday we will be celebrating the launch of our book combined with an open day. The publishing of the book has been a long journey and we would especially like to thank Sophie Blokker who illustrated the book and her Mum Claire Blokker who has also been involved in the publishing. We are very excited the book has become a reality and look forward to celebrating this achievement.*