



# Monthly Head Teacher Report

Te Mata Kindergarten Date: 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Head Teacher: Fiona Francois

Teachers: Rachel Furniss

Karen McLaughlin

Kindergarten Support: Michelle Thompson

## Teaching and Learning

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

- Literacy and Numeracy.

*We have had a very busy and rewarding month with the children and families. Our Beoga concert was a very special event with over 30 families meeting at the Hastings Playhouse on a cold wet Friday night at 5.00pm. This was a wonderful experience for the children and us. We would like to thank all the families who came along and shared in this musical experience. We were very proud of our children and Kindergarten families. This was an evening where we celebrated our Te Mata community.*

*Back at Kindergarten the children's interests focused on learning about Robin Hood. The children developed new skills in archery and staff skills while balancing on a beam. The children are revisiting this learning with their dramatic play and outdoor physical challenges. Through teaching the children to use new equipment and encouraging their skill development children are then able to utilise these into their play and ongoing learning. The children were very interested learning about English history of Kings John and Richard, Sherwood forest and historic laws. One Grandparent even sent over a Robin Hood costume and book from England when they heard we were learning about the legend of Robin Hood.*

*The morning children have also been developing their acting skills and we presented a special performance of Snow White produced, cast, costume, props and set design all achieved by the children themselves.*

*Another special interest this month was initiated by a child who taught us all about toilets and how waste is cleaned and passes through pipes before going out to sea. Despite the obvious links this was actually a very interesting topic and the children were proudly able to share this learning with families.*

<p>- Meeting the aspirations of Maori children.</p> <p>What will be the focus in the programme over the next few weeks, any resources required for this.</p> <p>Excursions planned.</p>	<p><i>We also learnt about Canada linking this for a family who comes from Canada. The family shared their resources and special photographs. We were able to revisit previous learning about native Canadian Indians as well as learn about native Canadian animals, beavers, racoons, moose and squirrels. Several children continue to ask for Beaver tails to be cooked again. These were actually picklets in a waffle machine which we thought looked just like a beaver's tail.</i></p> <p><i>Our Student Annie has been introducing many new skills and tools at the woodwork table. The children have learnt how to use new saws, drills as well as safety equipment.</i></p> <p><i>Our commitment to New Zealand culture is ongoing and an integral part of our programme. This term we have been teaching both sessions the legend of Te Mata as well as revisiting many of children's favourite Maori legends. We sing our special Waiata " E Hara" and the national anthem in both Maori and English frequently. As part of the children's interest in music we have also been practising our poi skills and singing Maori waiata.</i></p> <p><i>We are planning to take the morning children to the Waiaptu Marae Nui Initiatives to celebrate Matariki on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July. This will cost Kindergarten approximately \$300 however we took the children to this performance last year and feel it is very worthwhile.</i></p> <p><i>Numeracy and literacy is evident in the programme in a variety of curriculum areas. The afternoon children have been sharing their enjoyment of numbers and some children have even been practising simple addition. Many children recognise numbers and extend this knowledge and learning into their play.</i></p> <p><i>We have recently added small blank books to the art resources for the children to use. Many children are creating their own books and using a variety of literacy skills including collage, drawing, and writing and using the sewing skills they have developed to illustrate their books. Through these the children develop an appreciation and understanding of early literacy.</i></p>
---	--

	<p><i>Individual Discovery Projects</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Acting</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Toilets &amp; pipes</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Woodwork</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Music</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Sewing</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Canada</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Robin Hood</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Te Mata legend</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Relationships and Strategic Management</b></p> <p>Report on any Quality improvement processes.</p> <p>Other areas of review or improvement not included in previous planning.</p> <p>Policy and procedure review.</p> <p>Liaison with outside Agencies.</p> <p>Head Teacher release time.</p>	<p><i>Thank you to Sumiko who painted the new sandpit shed for us. It is now weather proof and admired by many other teachers who have visited.</i></p> <p><i>We have been reviewing the woodwork area and introduced new resources and tools which have been very positively received by the children. This has also impacted on their designs and thinking.</i></p> <p><i>Fiona utilised this today and was able to complete many planning, curriculum and self evaluation and regulatory requirements. Fiona also had meetings with parents, a Play ball representative and completed many of the end of term organising tasks.</i></p>
<p><b>Health and Safety / Property</b></p> <p>Building or Ground Development/ Maintenance.</p> <p>Health visitors or relevant information to parents.</p>	<p><i>The white lines in car park have faded and need repainting. Could someone contact the road marking firms and organise this for us.</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>This year we have had a wonderful father coming in to sweep the leaves and tidy the grounds often 3 times a week at 7.00am. We would like to thank him for this very generous act and give him a voucher for his family.</i></p> <p><i>Yesterday we hosted a cluster meeting of 4 Kindergartens. This was the final meeting of a contract we have been working on with a Professional Development provider – Glynis Cooper. This was a great opportunity to meet with our peers and share professional learning.</i></p> <p><i>We continue to have Annie our student who comes on a Monday and Tuesday as well as Kayla Anderson who visits on Thursdays from Havelock North High School.</i></p>
<p><b>Information Systems</b></p> <p>How are we managing ICT development</p> <p>Requirements.</p> <p>Web Page Changes required</p>	<p><i>We are using the big screen on a regular basis for the children and it was especially valuable yesterday when we hosted the meeting.</i></p> <p><i>These have been sent onto the Association. We have decided to also include our term curriculum evaluations as these show specifically some of the learning the children have been involved in and identify the curriculum at Te Mata.</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><i>The matting in the centre of Kindergarten needs water blasting or 30 seconds applied. Is anyone able to complete this for us?</i></p> <p><i>\$60</i></p> <p><i>We have received some new calendar ideas form companies which may interest the committee. These include personalised Diaries, cookbooks, and plates.</i></p>

<p>Total payments approved for payment</p> <p>Date of next committee meeting</p>	<p>\$3111.22</p> <p><i>To be confirmed as this falls in the holidays</i></p>
<p><b>Marketing / Communication</b></p> <p>Communication and Consultation with Parent's, Caregivers and Whanau.</p> <p>Parent Information and Social events.</p> <p>Promotion Plan.</p> <p>Liaison with local schools, and other Community groups.</p>	<p><i>We received a very special card of thanks from a child's family recently regarding their son's experiences at Te Mata. It is always rewarding to receive such positive feedback.</i></p> <p><i>We have also watched video which identified what a child requires in order to be "Ready for School". We have ordered this for families and plan to hold a special evening for parents to share this excellent information. The message confirms what we as Teachers have always endorsed, that children are not able to learn to read and write unless they have had significant large motor and sensory experiences. The development of these skills is mandatory for the child to be able to learn in the structured environment of school.</i></p>