



Monthly Head Teacher Report

Te Mata Kindergarten Date: 20th May 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?

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

Excursions planned.

Topics children have been learning about through their individual discovery projects and as a group.

- *Creativity*
- *Space*
- *War*
- *Ireland*

The children have been linking many of their previous learning with their current interests. Many visitors are amazed how the children are using the sewing skills they mastered earlier in the term into some wonderful creative projects. We have been teaching the children many new creative skills and activities using a variety of materials and mediums.

The morning children were totally absorbed learning about World War 2 and continue to ask for the “plane” music. This was actually a cd from the library that recorded the sound of German planes bombing England. This became a favourite soundtrack for the children. The sandpit was transformed into a trench and the Te Mata troops were on ready alert for enemy planes. Other children were the medics rescuing the injured and we used some party poppers for enemy gunfire. The children loved this role play and continued for many days. We also acted out the battle between two armies. There were medics, soldiers, generals and eventually surrender and signing of the Peace treaty. Throughout all the fun many families shared their own special war stories and collectibles from past wars and present in Afghanistan. We had a German soldier’s coat, part of German tank and war medals to name a few.

The interest in Ireland was embraced by all and the children have become wonderful performers of Molly Malone. We

	<p><i>made a DVD to send to Ireland for one family and have organized a special event for the children through a music promoter. Families have been invited to meet an Irish band Beoga which is touring at 5.00pm next Friday before their performance in Hastings. We will be singing Molly Malone to them and the children will have the opportunity to see and hear traditional Irish instruments. We are inviting all families to join us and are very grateful the band has taken time for us.</i></p> <p><i>Our space topic saw an immense collection of resources being shared from home and we appreciate and value this sharing of resources and knowledge.</i></p>
<p>Relationships and Strategic Management</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><i>The sand pit shed and decking has been completed and we are very pleased with the final result. We have also had shelving installed and the shed is a complete success. It is accessible and encourages children to make their own choices and is positioned to maximise the play area for the children. This shed has improved the sand play learning opportunities for the children.</i></p> <p><i>We would like to make special mention of Jarrod Williams the builder who has been amazing.</i></p> <p><i>This week we were visited by Glynis Cooper who is contracted by the Association. Glynis provided us with very positive feedback and congratulated us on the quality of teaching we deliver and the quality of learning opportunities for the children. Glynis commented how many complicated skills the children have, their ability to link and extend their previous learning and their level of independence to make choices. Glynis also affirmed to us how our philosophy and teaching style reflected current research and theory. This was very encouraging and it was rewarding to receive such positive feedback from a Professional in Education.</i></p>

<p>Health and Safety / Property</p> <p>Building or Ground Development/ Maintenance.</p> <p>Health visitors or relevant information to parents.</p>	<p><i>We would like to thank Jim Inglis for helping ensure the kindergarten is meeting all new safety regulations.</i></p>
<p>Human Resources</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>Karen attended workshop on children's art.</i></p> <p><i>We have our student Annie who works with us on a Monday and Tuesday. Annie has been sharing her new resources of the legend of Te Mata through puppets , story telling and a parent helped to illustrate a children's book of this legend which obviously is special to our Kindergarten. We are hoping to have this book published and are investigating options. Annie has also been teaching the children how to batik and to make traditional Maori Kites.</i></p>
<p>Information Systems</p> <p>How are we managing ICT development</p> <p>Requirements.</p> <p>Web Page Changes required</p>	<p><i>We have had excellent feedback regarding the Head Teacher reports being on our Te Mata web site and we have also included the monthly newsletters for families to access when they are not able to visit Kindergarten. This is a valuable means of communication especially as so many of our families travel overseas. We have also been adding new photographs to the web site.</i></p>
<p>Finance/ Administration</p> <p>Rolls</p> <p>Any significant purchases/ grants received.</p> <p>Wish list/ requests.</p>	<p><i>Both rolls are full and we continue to sustain an excellent waiting list. The children in both sessions are very settled.</i></p>

