



Monthly Head Teacher Report

Te Mata Kindergarten Date: 22nd April 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?

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

- *Germany*
- *Hippopotamus*
- *Easter*
- *Sewing puppets*

The final interests explored in term 1 were varied as usual. Our German family shared their knowledge and resources as well as their German friends in the community. We were very fortunate to have a visitor dressed in traditional German clothing and Stella's mother prepared a tray of German food for all the children to taste. The different breads, cheese, pickles and meat were delicious. We even tried to learn the German National anthem, and made German flags to wave as well as some German words which the children continue to use.

Learning about Hippopotamus was very interesting and educational for us all. We ended the term celebrating Easter with special art activities and an Easter Egg hunt for the morning children who had to find an egg in the garden with their name on. Inside was a special fluffy chicken. This was great fun and finally we remembered where they were all hidden.

We have started the term learning about sewing puppets. The morning children have accomplished some amazing sewing skills and we will be continuing with this craft concept for everyone as well as the child who initiated this interest. We will be looking for socks darned by the children this winter.

As Anzac Day falls on the weekend this year we have also been teaching the children about the events which we

<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>acknowledge in our community. Many children recalled the information they had learnt previously when we were studying Germany.</i></p> <p><i>This term we also plan to explore our links to Te Mata Peak and our own local Maori legends. We are hoping to have an art work completed unique to our Kindergarten which will show this and become an informative learning opportunity for families who are involved with Te Mata. We will be teaching the children about the legend of Te Mata and taking them on a trip up to Te Mata Peak.</i></p> <p><i>Trip to Te Mata Peak – Term 2</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 new sandpit shed was installed over the holidays and is fantastic. We have discussed with the builder a few modifications including a step and enclosing the side. We have also noticed the seating on the edge of the sandpit have dropped and is in urgent need of repair. I have discussed options with Jarrod the builder and he is able to complete the rebuild in the next two weeks as well as install the shelving. He estimates the work to cost between \$1,500 and \$2,000 and will provide us with a definite quote soon. We would like permission from the committee to proceed with this work.</i></p> <p><i>Kirsty Bewley and Fiona Francois attended a meeting with the Heretaunga Kindergarten Association Board to discuss issues relevant to Te Mata. Thank you very much to Kirsty who was very professional and a great advocate not only for Te Mata but for all Kindergartens. We have received communication regarding the outcome of this meeting.</i></p>

Health and Safety / Property

Building or Ground Development/
Maintenance.

- *Sandpit seating and shelves.*
- *We have negotiated with the new gardener who has been very busy over the term break improving the gardens and helping with the leaves. We are very fortunate as we continue to have wonderful parent support in these roles, however this has greatly reduced the amount of time Teachers are spending sweeping. Many thanks to those families who give their time so willingly.*
- *A large tree was also removed in the holidays which was actually situated on the High School grounds but was creating significant shade on our grassed area. The Association has a policy for paying half the costs of tree work and have agreed to this expenditure.*
- *We also sowed some additional grass seeds and have fenced this area off while it is growing. The children still have access to the swings through the matted area.*

Health visitors or relevant
information to parents.

Michelle Grant Department of Health Vision and glue ear checks for children in both sessions.

Human Resources

Thanks to

Everyone who helped on our Playground opening luncheon.

Visitors to Kindergarten.

Since we featured in the Village Press we have had several of our past families visit to see the new fort. We have also had teachers from Lakeview and Havelock North Central Kindergartens visit and Peterhead Kindergarten next week.

Report back on PD attendance.

We were very busy in the holidays engaged in professional development....recharging ourselves and spending time with family.

Relievers, Students, kindergarten
support.

<p>Information Systems</p> <p>How are we managing ICT development</p> <p>Requirements.</p> <p>Web Page Changes required</p>	<p><i>Rachel's laptop was repaired over the term break..</i></p>
<p>Finance/ Administration</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><i>Both rolls are full and the waiting list continues to be steady.</i></p> <p><i>We have been purchasing some new puppets and resources to support our story telling and the plays which both sessions enjoy.</i></p> <p><i>\$50</i></p> <p><i>We had another successful wine fundraiser. Thank you to Kirsty and her team of helpers for organising this. We have indicated to families that the funds raised from the wheel-a-thon will be utilised to pay for completing the shed.</i></p>

Marketing / Communication

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

We celebrated the opening of our new Playground Te Ararau. It was a lovely event with our past parent Karl Wixon presenting us with a plaque and performing a Maori blessing. We enjoyed a shared lunch and it was a nice opportunity for both sessions to interact and catch up with each other. We were also thrilled to feature on the front page of the Village press with this event.

Parent Information and Social events.

The Wheel-a-thon planning is underway and families have been given the relevant information. We have asked Bruce Grimshaw our Havelock North Community Constable to join us for the event and talk to the children about safety on bikes. If children are riding bikes we will insist they are wearing helmets as part of reinforcing safe cycling practises.

Promotion Plan.

We would also like to ask for a volunteer from the committee to be responsible for publicity. We have had many visitors since the article in the village press and it would be beneficial if we could continue this link with our local paper.

Liaison with local schools, and other Community groups.

School visits