



Cambridge Early Learning Centre

December 2017

Kia Ora & Welcome!

What's happening this month:

Dec 3rd - Cambridge Christmas parade at 2pm

Dec 8th - Meg's last day

Dec 15th - Children's Christmas party

Dec 22nd - The Centre closes at 5.30pm

Dec 25th - Christmas Day- Enjoy this lovely festive time with your families.

Jan 3rd 2018 - The centre re-opens at 7.30am.

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Staff News:

- Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Meg early December as they are moving to the sunny North. Meg has been a friendly and familiar face in the Centre for almost 30 years and will be terribly missed. We wish Meg and Glen all the very best.
- Caro finishes in the Nursery this month to start her maternity leave. Caro and Michael's baby is due mid-January.
- Nicole will be back in the Centre from Monday 8th January as will be her daughter.

Thanks:

Thank you to all our Centre Grandparents who joined us for our Grandparents Day. We enjoyed meeting you all and had a ball!!

Policy review:

This Month we are asking for your feedback on the Centre's - **Transition from Nursery to Nursery Toddlers** policy.

Thanks to all who read and signed our **Sun smart policy** which we had out for review last month.

Opening / Closing for Xmas:

A reminder that the Centre closes on Friday 22nd December 2017 at 5.30 pm and will re-open on Wednesday 3rd January 2018 at 7.30am. The Castle and The Pagoda children will all be at The Castle for the first few days of the New Year.

Christmas Float:

This year the Cambridge Christmas Parade is on Sunday 3rd December. We are entering a Castle and Pagoda float with a 'Santa got stuck in the chimney' themed float. Huge thanks to Cambridge Hire for kindly donating the trailer as the foundation for our float. Also an advanced thank you to all the teachers and families who are participating in the parade, a special thank you to Lyle Walker (our driver) as well as all our teachers who designed and decorated our awesome float.



Christmas Party:



The Castle and Pagoda combined Christmas Party will be Friday 15th December, 6pm to 7.30 pm.

The timetable for the evening will be on display soon but as usual there will be a visit from a jolly man in red (plus other entertainment) and a BBQ tea for all. A big thank you to Cambridge Hire for donating the use of their BBQ.

Please note: this is an alcohol free evening.

RSVP sheets will be on the sign in desks shortly, please let us know if you will be coming. Please note due to venue size we are limited to two adults per family to attend. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there.

If you are coming to the party, please hand a small (under \$10.00) wrapped and named gift for your child into the office before the party day. This is limited to Centre children only please.

A gold coin donation would be greatly appreciated on the night.

Thank you

Holiday Notices and Retainers:

If you haven't already filled in a Holiday Notice please see the office as we require this information to enable our staffing to be organised over the holiday period. We thought it timely to remind parents/carers of a couple of points from our **Procedure for Charging Childcare Fee Retainers:**

Child Absence for Annual Leave If the Centre is given at least one week's notice 30% of the normal fee will be payable for the first two weeks, with additional weeks charged at 50%. Absences exceeding 21 days (3 weeks) will be charged at full fees.

Make-up Days Parents/carers may request, **before 3pm on the day before the booking**, that their booked hours are transferred to a different day/time in the same week. This way no retainer is payable. If alternative hours are not available a 50% retainer will be payable.



The Nursery

0-18 months



Welcome to our new friend Noah and his family.

We will say farewell to Cooper as he transitions to the Toddlers this month.



Please sunblock your child before they come and we can top this up as required through the day. Our sun sails are very effective at providing protection and we encourage the use of our centre sunhats.

We use water in lots of our summer time activities so please bring extra named clothing for changes and swimmer nappies are great. Sometimes the shady spaces can feel much cooler than you might expect, so a light layer that can be added or removed is ideal.



Our Christmas Party is a fun-filled evening that offers the opportunity to get to know other families and the teachers.

Santa comes to the nursery children first so that you can get away early for bed time if you need to, there is also a sausage sizzle and ice cream to enjoy, balloons, face painting and disco dancing!

Creativity in the Nursery:

Children often enjoy the process of drawing more than the finished masterpiece. They usually follow a pattern of stages in their drawing ability. *“Scribbling is a developmentally and artistically important kinaesthetic, manipulative and expressive behaviour”* (Lowenfield & Brittain).

Thank you for supporting our calendar fundraiser. The older nursery children created their own unique and stunning marble art whilst the infants calendars displayed their hand or foot prints.

The Nursery Team teachers wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all in 2018 for more fun times.



The Toddlers

18 months-3 Years



Welcome to all the new and transitioning children and their families that have recently joined us. We look forward to getting to know you and your families.

As the sun starts to shine more we have started applying sunblock as we head outside on these warm days. We sunblock the children after morning tea around 10.15 am and then when they wake up at around 2pm.

If your child can't use our sunblock please provide suitable sunblock or talk to a teacher.
Thanks ☺

Christmas is a special time of year and we celebrate it throughout the month of December. Look out for our annual Christmas make-over plus we will be learning some new songs and dances in celebration of Christmas.



We will also have our Christmas tree up and decorated in preparation for the Christmas party.

Thanks to all the Grandparents that came to spend time with us last month. We all had a great day and the children enjoyed showing their Grandparents around and having a nice play together.

From all the Toddler Team Teachers: We wish you a safe and merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you in 2018.

Remember to take your child's folder home to enjoy with friends and family over the festive season.



The Pagoda

3-5 years



Happy Holidays!

Wow, what a busy year it has been, from all the team at the Pagoda we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all again in 2018



Christmas Float

We are entering a float again this year. Our theme is "Santa got stuck up the chimney". Please see the notice by the sign in sheet for more information



What's happening at The 'Goda

Christmas Parade - Dec 3rd
Christmas Party - Dec 15th
Centre closes at 5:30pm—Friday 22nd

Children are encouraged to start bringing their swimming togs along to the Pagoda as the weather heats up. We know it is not always possible, however we ask that if you could please try to ensure that your child has some type of rash shirt for water play, alternatively we will place a t-shirt over their togs 😊



Happy School Days to our friends who leave us during January and February

Nathan - Cambridge East
Levi - Cambridge East
Logan - Leamington Primary
Adele - Hautapu
Tom - Cambridge Primary
We wish you all the very best as you begin your new adventures.



Benefits of Early Childhood Education

(From: Ministry of Education Choices book)

Early Childhood Education provides children with the chance to learn, socialise, and interact with other children and adults. It helps your child to develop into a positive, confident and capable person with a love of learning that will help them at school and throughout their life.

Your child will learn how to:

- ◇ Make friends
- ◇ Play and explore
- ◇ Listen to others, talk about their own ideas, be creative, and become independent
- ◇ Get on better with other children and adults outside of their immediate family
- ◇ Take turns, negotiate and share
- ◇ Think, problem-solve and reason
- ◇ Understand their own feelings and those of others
- ◇ Develop language, reading, thinking and maths skills ready for school
- ◇ Begin to understand and make sense of the world around them

These are important skills that help children to be more confident and curious about the world.





Finally...

**We hope you are all enjoying your time with us.
We are certainly enjoying having your children at the
Centre and getting to know you all.**

MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

