



Cambridge Early Learning Centre

March 2019

Kia Ora & Welcome!

It's our first month of Autumn and after some extremely hot summer days it will be a nice change to have sunny, cooler days. There is lots of exciting things happening this month ...

- 3rd March (Sunday) - Children's Day
- 4th March (Monday) - we are celebrating Children's Day in the Centre
- 5th March (Tuesday) - Whizz Bang Science are coming to visit ... More details inside
- 15th March (Friday) - we are having a GREEN Day to celebrate St Patrick's Day
- 17th March (Sunday) - St Patrick's Day
- 7th April (Sunday) - Daylight Savings ends

Inside this issue:

Happenings	2
More Happenings ...	3
Nursery News...	4
Toddlers News...	5
Pagoda News	6
Feature Article	7
Finally...	8

CHILDREN'S DAY



STAFF NEWS:

- Gill is away on maternity leave—at this stage baby hasn't arrived but he should be making his appearance any day now. We wish her and her family all the very best.
- Priscilla and Jess have returned back to studies so we will see a little bit less of them around the Centre.
- Welcome to Olivia, who is a Year 1 student at Waikato University. Olivia will be at the Pagoda on a Thursday.



THANKS:

- Thank you to all of the children and staff who dressed up 'Kiwi style' and had so much fun on 'Kiwiana Day'.

CHILDREN'S DAY:

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We are having our Children's Day celebration in the Centre on Monday 4th March. This year we will be enjoying a hot dog & chips picnic lunch together.



ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS:

It's that exciting time of year ... Entertainment Books are due to be launched from 1st April 2019. We are hoping to raise enough money this year to go towards some new outdoor equipment for all age groups.

EARLY BIRD pre orders are available now ... to receive \$150 in offers that you can use straight away please see Julie at the office or use the following link to order <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/1w54069>. Thank you in advance for your support ☺

POLICY REVIEW:

This Month we are asking for your feedback on the Centre's Transition to School Policy. This can be found on the sign in desks and we would appreciate your feedback. Thank you.

WHIZZ BANG SCIENCE:



On Tuesday 5th March our 2-5 year olds attending that day will have the opportunity to experience Whizz Bang Science's "Little People, Big Discoveries" workshop designed specifically for early childhood. It goes for one hour and the children get to discover science through play in an exciting interactive environment.

Please see the notice and permission slip on the sign in counters for further information.

PARENT HELP:

Parent Help is a non-profit organisation **supporting parents** to build resilient and positive families/whānau.

We run a free confidential **parenting Helpline** for parents and caregivers. The Helpline is available from 9am - 9pm, 7 days a week, providing advice, support and practical strategies on any parenting concern.



PARENTS CENTRE BONANZA:

This is happening on Sunday 10th March at the Cambridge Town Hall from 9.00am—12 noon.

Selling newborn to 10 years old, quality new and pre-loved clothing, toys, maternity wear and nursery equipment.

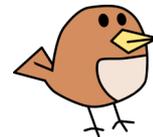
Meet local businesses and organisations providing support and services for families and more ...



The Nursery 0-18 months



Welcome to our new friends Axel, Elizabeth, Eric, Peyton, Victor, Zoe and Willa. We are enjoying getting to know you and your families.



Please remember you are most welcome to give us a call if you are ever worried or have forgotten to tell us anything that could affect your child's day.



With the weather being a little changeable please send in extra named light layers that we can add or remove as required

Our Story Park is up and running with most of our families already involved. We look forward to seeing your contribution to your child's online portfolio and are grateful for the opportunity to share their days at the nursery with you and your invited guests. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to talk with us .



Information Updates: Please keep us up to date with new routines or foods that have been introduced at home so that we can provide continuity for your child while they are here.

The Toddlers

18 months-3 Years



From the Nursery we have recently welcomed into the Nursery Toddlers Hudson, Jed, Nash and Savannah.

This month we also send a warm welcome to Drakkar, Lucas, Rosanna and their families who are joining us in the Toddler Room.

To all new and existing families please feel free to take one of our Whanau apples to fill with photos of your child's family. The children love sharing these with their friends and teachers .

Story Park is now being used, and we have already had some great feedback from parents. So look out for some cool stories that will show a snippet into your child's day here at the Castle.

A big thank you to those who have returned the permission slips for Story Park. If you are still to do so, they can be given to Julie in the office or one of our Toddler Team.

Many Thanks

This month we are celebrating Children's Day on Monday the 4th.

We have a trip the following day for an interactive morning at the hall behind the Castle.

Later in the month we will be celebrating St Patrick's Day with a Green Day on the 15th. Remember your green gear.



Although the weather is cooling down 'slightly' we are still enjoying lots of messy/water play. These are activities the children really enjoy and gain so much confidence from taking part in. Please ensure your child has a variety of spare clothing in their bags each day.

If your child goes home in center clothing please return as we tend to run a little low on these at times :)

This month we plan to start our Toddler Team Internal Evaluation. The focus for us will be Whanaungatanga and to what extent this is visible within our room. During this evaluation we will be seeking parental input through conversation and documentation, such as a short survey.



The Pagoda

3-5 years



Happy School Days

Happy School Days to Tessa. We wish her all the very best for her new adventures at school later this month!

What's happening in March?

- Children's Day—Monday 4th March, hot dog & chips and enjoying a picnic with our friends at The Castle
 - Whizz Bang Science—Tuesday 5th March
- Lots of gluing, painting and collage has been happening as the children and Jenny create their representation of Maungatautari
- We are currently focusing on our bicultural practice within the Centre and will be gaining parent and whanau feedback via a short survey later in the month

Whizz Bang Science

We are super excited to be going on our first excursion for the year.

We are heading next door to the Senior Citizen's hall where the children will get to actively explore a variety of science experiences.

Thanks to Lauren Walker for organising and inviting the Pagoda to participate.

Things to note

- If there are any changes to your child's routine or dietary requirements please speak with a teacher.
- Spare clothes—we are running short again, donations of old clothes are greatly appreciated.
- Please remember to put in several changes of clothes/togs and a wet bag in to your child's bag each day.
- We sunblock the children after morning tea, water play and again early afternoon. If your child requires special sunblock please ensure they have this with them each day.

STORYPARK

The Castle is excited to announce that we will be implementing Storypark—a secure, private, online space to share your child's learning while here and you are able to be more involved and up-to-date with what your child's been up to.

Storypark provides each child with an online community which you control and have access to.

Storypark helps educators, children and families:

- improve understanding of each child's interests and abilities so they receive even better support
 - deepen relationships and strengthen communication
- share videos, photos and text capturing children's learning and development
- create a portfolio of your child's learning that travels with your child and can be accessed by you forever
 - reinforce experiences and deepen children's learning
 - capture family culture and heritage
 - involve the children in their portfolio
 - interact quickly and effectively through iPhone, Android & tablets
- create smooth transitions when your child moves from one centre to another.

You can choose to add your own stories or leave comments and feedback for children and our teaching team. You can choose to share these stories with family members if you wish. We hope that you will invite your extended family so that the children have an authentic audience who are genuinely interested in their learning.

Obviously we have considered the aspects of cybersafety and made sure our teaching team have the knowledge and skills to ensure we are cybersafe. Storypark takes security very seriously. Storypark is not open for anyone to read, it is a password protected private space for you, your child's teachers and your family.

Content we add will only be shared with our teachers and

the family members you choose to invite.

No personal information is shared with any third party.

We look forward to sharing Storypark with you 😊



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.

