



Cambridge Early Learning Centre

March 2023

Kia Ora & Welcome!

Welcome to Autumn We haven't really had much of a Summer so hopefully Autumn will bring us some calmer, fine days.

- 5th March (Sunday) - National Children's Day
- 6th March (Monday) - 'Beach Day' to celebrate Children's Day—see inside for details
- 17th March (Friday) - St Patrick's Day
- 21st March (Tuesday) - March Equinox, marks the start of Autumn in the Southern Hemisphere and the start of Spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

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STAFF NEWS:

- Exciting news ... Kate starts her studies this month towards an ECE qualification. Best of luck Kate 😊

THANKS:

- A HUGE THANK YOU to **NATHAN THOMAS & THE TEAM FROM GROUNDZONE** who helped us out of a pickle following Cyclone Gabrielle. Our beautiful Golden Elm in the Toddlers playground succumbed to the high winds and needed to be removed for safety reasons. We are so grateful for the prompt assistance with making our Toddler playground safe again.
- Thank you to our families for your support whilst The Castle was closed for a few days post cyclone.
- Thank you to all of the staff who helped with the clean-up after Cyclone Gabrielle, getting us ready to open the doors again.



BEACH DAY:



On Monday 6th March we will be having a 'Beach Day' in the centre to celebrate Children's Day. Weather permitting ... there will be water play fun, a picnic and ice-creams.

POLICY REVIEW:



Our next policy for review will be our **Procedure for the handling of undesirable & dangerous child behaviours**. This will be uploaded to the community page in Storypark for your attention. Please read and email any feedback you have to: reception@cambridgeearlylearning.co.nz

Thank you 😊

CHANGE TO CASUAL DAY SWAPS **FOR CHILDREN 3 YRS +:**

Effective from 1st April 2023—we will no longer be doing casual day swaps for children aged 3 years and above who receive 20 hours ECE. Our roll number is very high in all age groups and it is no longer cost effective for the Centre to continue this practice.

Please let Julie or Laura know if you have any queries, or would like to look into whether it is possible to increase your days if you feel that this change is something that will affect you. 😊

CHILD ILLNESS:

Recently we have been experiencing, it seems like back to back, illness for some of the children in the centre. We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for keeping their children home when they are unwell, we fully understand it is difficult to juggle work and unwell children and we are grateful to all of you.



A few reminders:

- ◇ if you phone your child in absent from sickness prior to 8.30am, fees will be reduced to 50%.
- ◇ if your child receives antibiotics from the Doctor there is a 24 hour stand-down period.
- ◇ if your child has vomiting or diarrhoea the stand-down period is 48 hours.

The Nursery

0-18 months



We hope all our families have kept safe and well throughout the crazy weather systems that Aotearoa has encountered this last month. Lets hope for a more settled March.

This month we say good-bye to Albie and George as they continue their learning journey in the Toddler room

A big welcome to Lola, Jasper, Kauariki and James who will soon be joining our Nursery whanau, we look forward to sharing our exciting space with you :)

On Monday the 6th of March we will be celebrating 'Children's Day' with a beach day. Come with togs, if you wish, as there will be water play if the weather plays ball :)

Please note that our sun smart policy states that children should wear t-shirts with short sleeves (not sleeveless) to cover their shoulders to protect them from sunburn.



We would like to thank all parents that have kept their children home to fully recover from the illness that has hit our Nursery room hard over the past week or so. We know this can be a trying time for you, so we would like you to know we appreciate your support.



The Toddlers

18 months-3 Years



Welcome to Jack, Jackson and Koen who are joining us this month. We look forward to welcoming these new and past families to the Centre.

We also welcome George and Albie from the Nursery.

And we say goodbye to Pippa as she transitions to The Pagoda later this month.

Beach Day

On Monday the 6th of March we will be celebrating 'Children's Day' with a beach day. Come with togs or a spare change of clothes and we will have water play throughout the day.



As you have heard our poor tree got damaged during the cyclone last month.

Thank you to Nathan Thomas for coming so promptly to our rescue and saving the trunk of the tree.

Thankyou to all our centre families for helping us get through this time and your kind words.

We are currently looking into shade options for the playground while the tree heals and starts to grow again.

In the mean time we have been utilising the front area in the hotter parts of the day. With less shade please remember to sunblock your child before they come to the Castle, and we will reapply at 10am and 2pm.

This also means that we have been encouraging the children to wear hats outside. The tree provided a lot of shade for us so we are all adapting and the children are getting the hang of remembering.



The Pagoda

3-5 years



Children Vs Teachers water fight

Wow.... what a morning, we filled the water trough, buckets, water balloons and our water pistols and then got into our togs all ready for BATTLE.

The fight was soon on and the teachers started off strong, getting a few good hits in. However by the end we were defeated and came out completely WET from head to toe and a FULL change of clothes was needed.

What great fun we all had 😊



Cyclone Gabrielle

What a scary night we had in Cambridge and we hope that you, your family and friends are all safe, well and recovered.

We feel for the Hawkes Bay and Gisborne communities who were affected. A big thank you to anyone who helped and was able to come together and donate supplies, its much appreciated. We sent down 9 big boxes filled with nappies, wipes, formula, sanitary products & baby food to help out those in need.

Illness

We are aware that many bugs have lingered much longer this year and have not seemed to have gone away.

At the moment we have a few high temperatures and coughs going around. We ask that you please keep your child at home if they are sick and until they are well again so that we can reduce the spread of bugs.

Policy reminders:

Antibiotics: If your child has been prescribed antibiotics we have a 24 hour stand-down period.

Vomiting & Diarrhoea: we have a 48hour stand-down from their last symptom.



Cyclone Gabrielle

What a devastating impact this has had on our country, with many areas struggling through the event and now the aftermath.



The Waikato seemed to escape lightly in comparison to other regions.

It has been very sad to see many of our beautiful old trees in Cambridge up-rooted or break in two from the high winds, and our Golden Elm in the Toddlers playground was no exception with the force of the cyclone winds ending its years of shade to the playground.

In support of Hawkes Bay and Tairāwhiti Gisborne we organised a drop-off for families to donate goods for small children. We were overwhelmed by the response to this from our centre families and we packaged up all of the donated goods to be transported by truck to the affected regions.

A big thank you to Hayley Roil for organising space on a truck for us to send these goods through on, and a big thank you to all of the centre families who donated goods—we are so grateful to have wonderful, supportive families.



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.

