



# Term 1, 2020 Newsletter

## Term Dates

Term 1: 21 Jan—9 April

Term 2: 28 April—3 July (27 April Anzac Day public holiday)

Term 3: 20 July-25 Sept

Term 4: 12 Oct—21 Dec

## Parking:

We are very fortunate to be able to use the church carpark (except Tue or Wed 9-12, please respect this as other groups use their hall and need the parking). **Please** be courteous of other drivers by not parking in the middle of the driveway blocking it, double parking or in the driveway of the house next door. You may need to park in the side streets close by if there is nothing available please.

## End of each day:

Thank you to the whānau who help us at the end of session by tidying up. If you don't already, please consider helping (sweeping, cleaning paint pots, dishes, wiping tables...) so that the teachers can spend more time planning/writing Learning Stories rather than cleaning. Kia ora.

We would really appreciate someone volunteering to spend 20 mins once a week to file the children's paintings...Could this be something you can do?

**Kia ora whānau and a huge welcome to our new families who have joined our kindergarten community.** Christmas seems a distant memory now as we are already into week 4 of term 1!

Like every new year some people have moved house or have a new phone number, could you please email us on

**[newlands@wmkindergartens.org.nz](mailto:newlands@wmkindergartens.org.nz)** or let a teacher know so we can change our records. Our phone number is: **04 939 0281**

We also need to add to our records if someone, who is not listed on your child's enrolment form, is picking them up. Note: we cannot let children under 14 years of age take a child home.

**Please do not latch back the front door as it is a safety issue with children going out by themselves.**

## Children's morning routine:

**Please remember** it is your child's job to find their own name for their locker and to put it back in the afternoon. This not only supports their developing literacy but also their ownership and responsibility. We also ask that you encourage children to put their own lunchboxes on the Kai shelves, otherwise they don't know where to find it at morning tea time.

When we meet with school teachers they always emphasise the importance of children taking responsibility for their own belongings. If they can already do this before they go to school what a great start that will be.

The beginning of the year is also a good time to check if your child's **bag, hat, coat, lunchbox and drink bottle are named**—this makes everyone's life a lot easier! We have vivid pens that you are welcome to borrow as we know that names can rub off, so feel free to ask for one if you need one.

## Wā mene/mat time:

We have noticed lots of children are arriving during wā mene/mat time (usually we begin this about 9.15 am). This can be very disruptive for the other children and the teacher/kaiako who is taking mat time. Wā mene/mat time is an important learning time for the children where they are developing concentration and language and what is happening for the day is discussed. We don't want your children to miss out on these opportunities so could you please try and arrive before then, it is also important to get into that routine before your child starts school.

## Odds and ends

Now that plastic bags are phasing out we don't have a supply of them anymore, could you please put a sturdy (preferably **reusable bag**) in your child's bag so that we can put wet or soiled clothing in it?

**Sunscreen:** We apply (just before lunch) 50+ SPF Sunscreen to children from September to April. If you could remember to apply a layer of sunscreen to your child before coming to Kindergarten in those months that would be much appreciated as New Zealand has a high rate of skin cancer and we want to protect our children's skin from a young age.



He Whānau Manaaki o Taranaki  
Free Kindergarten Association Incorporated

## StoryPark

We are enjoying the new opportunities StoryPark is providing, especially the increase in parent/caregiver feedback we are receiving. Please keep this up as it is such invaluable information around your child's learning and it helps us to get to know your child and family better. It's also a great way for you to share events from home.

We also have the hard copies of the profile books for you to look through with your child and so your child can revisit their learning while at kindergarten. StoryPark is a great way for you and anyone else that you choose to invite, to be involved and keep up-to-date with your child's learning and development.

Could you please remember to bring in 2 or 3 pieces of **fruit** a week? This is very handy when children run out of food in their lunch boxes and we offer fruit for morning tea.

We are needing old towels and clean newspapers. If you can help us with these items, we would really appreciate them.



Do you have any of these "Favourites Chocolates" plastic tubs left over from Christmas? They make great drums for the children! Large milo/coffee tins or baby formula tins are good too.

We would also love to have some more of these CD holders so that the CD's are easy to access. Do you have any you don't need anymore or the CD flip books? If you are going to Trash Palace at any stage please keep an eye out for us, thank you!

Ngā mihi nui, Lauren, Cath, Jackie, Tania and Yvette