



Abacus Montessori May Newsletter

Kia Ora, the past weeks have been very busy for us all. Abacus has welcomed back many new and old families as well as new staff. The children have been sharing their Earthquake experiences and we have heard many interesting stories. Please remember we are here to support you so please let Amanda or Leah know if you have any questions or concerns.

We would like to thank all families for your continued support and positive comments..

Upcoming Dates to Remember

14 JUNE 2011

6.30pm-7.30pm

Parent's Montessori Evening
"Come along to discover the joys of the Montessori environment and how your child is involved in the classroom"

DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIMES

Please ensure you are adhering to your child's booked times. If you are going to be late, please call to let us know as this can affect staffing and ratios.

Please note: Full fees will be charged for any children picked up after their booked times.



TIME CAPSULE CEREMONY

Thank you to all who attended and helped to make this event a success.

This was a perfect opportunity for the children (and families) to talk about their experiences.

HEALTHY HEART AWARD

Last year Abacus was awarded with the 'Pa Harakeke Gold Healthy Heart Award'. To maintain this gold status, we need to continue following the Healthy Heart Guidelines.

Therefore, we need your continued support with this programme that ultimately will see our young children establish healthy eating habits which will follow them through life.

One way of encouraging healthy eating in our centre is by having "Chip Day Friday" This means that packets of chips will only be offered to children on a Friday.

We appreciate your support with this and welcome any suggestions or recipes for healthy alternatives for lunchboxes.

UPCOMING SHAPE/COLOUR/LETTERS OF THE WEEK.

Under twos	Over twos
Red square	6, f, orange, quadrilateral
Blue square	7, g, purple, square
Yellow square	8, h, black, rectangle
Green square	9, i, pink, trapezoid

REMINDERS

- Drink bottles are no longer needed at preschool.
- Please bring your child's hat and jacket into the classroom when you arrive and place it in the boxes beside the door.
- Please ensure all hot food is in microwave proof containers and has been pre-cooked (this includes noodles)



"Never let go of hope. One day you will see that it all has finally come together. What you have always wished for has finally come to be. You will look back and laugh at what has passed and you will ask yourself... 'How did I get through all of that?'"

What's been happening in the nursery?

What a busy month we have had! It was an awesome experience for us all to go out on a lovely walk to purchase some plants for our garden. The children especially enjoyed looking at the animals at the pet shop. All the children contributed to choosing flower, vegetable and herb plants and then in the afternoon we were able to plant them. The children have enjoyed choosing activities during Montessori time from the practical life shelf. They have been so eager to choose a tray and carry it back to the table to complete their chosen activity. Lastly, another fun activity the children have been enjoying is cleaning the windows in the outside environment with the squirty bottles and sponges. What very busy Montessori children they have all been in the nursery.

What's happening in the over 2's classroom?

It has been a busy time over the last month welcoming children to our newly renovated preschool. The children have done so well settling in, enjoying all of the new activities, equipment and playground.

Leading on from our topic of CONSTRUCTION, we have started learning about ANIMALS HOMES AND HABITATS. If you have any resources that we could use with this topic, please speak to Anna.

Montessori Corner

Cylinder Blocks

The Cylinder blocks help children with visual discrimination of dimensions. They also help to develop pincer grips and sequencing.



Keep well,
Clare, Pam, Amanda, Leah, Joanna, Anna, Annette,
Renee, Sam, Holly, Bex and Kim.

What's been happening in Extended Day?

The children have been so excited to get back into Extended Day. We have been learning about all the changes/renovations to the preschool as well as focusing on our handwriting, phonics and grace & courtesy.



Get to know Joanna.

I have been working in Early Childhood education for many years and I have spent 10 of these years at Tigger's preschool.

Due to the Feb earthquake, I have been fortunate to be able to join the Abacus team, along with my daughter Molly.

My husband's name is Peter and Molly especially loves her pet cat Eeyore.

In the weekends we enjoy walking, camping and water sports together.



Easy Broccoli Quiche

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 onion, minced
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 2 cups chopped fresh broccoli
- 1 (9 inch) unbaked pie crust
- 1 1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 4 eggs, well beaten
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. Over medium-low heat melt butter in a large saucepan. Add onions, garlic and broccoli. Cook slowly, stirring occasionally until the vegetables are soft. Spoon vegetables into crust and sprinkle with cheese.
3. Combine eggs and milk. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in melted butter. Pour egg mixture over vegetables and cheese.
4. Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes, or until center has set.

