

ABACUS MONTESSORI PRESCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2010

Abacus is proud to announce that we have won the "Healthy Heart Award". We are the third centre in New Zealand to achieve this. Thank you to all the Parents /children for your continued support in healthy choices.



CHRISTMAS PICNIC

Attention all family/friends and whānau. This year we are holding a Christmas Picnic at Opawa school on Saturday 11th December at 10am. This will be a time for us all to sing carols, play some games and meet with Santa. Pencil the date into your calendar and get ready for fun. We will advise you all closer to the date what time it will start and finish.

CALENDARS.

This year's calendars will be your child's art work.

Please see Amanda to place your order.

Calendars \$12 each
Cards (pk 8) \$12 pk
Diaries \$15 each



All orders need to be placed and paid for by Oct 15th 2010.

CONTACT DETAILS

It is imperative that all children have an immediately accessible parent phone number/contact whilst attending preschool. Too often when children are unwell we are reaching answering phones and cell phones switched off. This is a serious matter. Please see Annelies, Sarah or Amanda and have your contact numbers on your enrolment form checked and your name crossed off the list.

FOOD IN THE FRIDGE

ALL food that goes into the fridge MUST be named. This includes bottles. Any food that is not named cannot be offered to children.

Parent Evening September 16th 7pm-8pm

Come along to learn about and have hands on experience with our Sensorial and Practical Life activities. The evening will begin with a talk from Clare followed by demonstrations from the teachers. We look forward to seeing you there.

This is a once a year opportunity to experience what your children enjoy each day.

WINTER

As we know, winter is still here. Children need to be dressed appropriately for all weather conditions. Children must always have a named jacket, hat and a FULL change of clothes in their bags. Please remember to collect all clothing at the end of each session as a lot is left behind and if it is not named, we will put it in the Plunket clothing bin.

TISSUES

Have you remembered to bring your tissues along for this term? If not, please bring in a box and give it to a teacher who will mark your name off the list. As always, a huge thank you to those who have already brought their box in.

TRANSITIONING

The transitioning children are really enjoying the Over Two's classroom and experiencing all the activities on offer. They are forming a great relationship with Bex the Over Two's transition teacher and other staff. They are quickly making new friends and rekindling old friendships with children they knew in the nursery. We are sure you will find your "transition sheet" most helpful. 'Official documentation' is carried over from the nursery to the preschool.

EXTENDED DAY CHILDREN

Our continued focus on the writing of the symbols for our 'teens' numbers and identification of the numbers is seeing a great improvement in our writing skills. The children have shown a great interest in addressing the entire class with topics of special interest. I would like to ask parents to help choose and informative 'preschool appropriate' topic, cut out pictures of interest from the newspaper and encourage children to bring this information to school. Each child will be given the opportunity to give a 'wee' speech (if they choose) to the class. This will be an ongoing part of our "News in Education"

EXTENDED DAY CHILDREN FIELD TRIP

We would like to plan and outing to the Art Gallery on the morning of 15th September. If your child attends this day and you are available for parent help with your child please let us know as soon as possible. We will be using public transport. The number of children that are able to go will depend on parent help. Please see Lisa in the next week to confirm your interest.

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN THE OVER TWOS?

In preparation for our Art Expo, we have begun a new topic on ART. The children have been learning about a number of different artists and their techniques and have saturated the classroom with their artwork. The children have shown a particular interests in our 'Artists Corner', where they have been working on still life drawings inspired by the artist Mondrian.



Spring time is upon us...that means the sun is almost here. Stay safe.

Clare, Annelies, Amanda, Sarah, Annette, Jaimee, Anna, Monique, Bex, and Lisa.

WHATS BEEN HAPPENING IN THE NURSERY?

Our classroom is beautifully decorated with our art work from our 'Sea Creatures'. After staff observations of the children we will challenge our physical skills in our next theme "Lets Get Physical!" Keep an eye out for challenging obstacles, lots of dancing and fantastic messy play experiences that will aid the development of our motor skills, balance and co-ordination.

PARENT SURVEY

This has been given out this week, please take the time to read it and make comments in the spaces provided. We appreciate your feedback. This helps us to ensure we have open communication with all families.

RECIPIE OF THE MONTH

FROM EVAN

HOT SAVOURY PINWHEELS

2 tsp oil
1/2 red onion, finely diced
5 rashers bacon
2 cups cold mashed potatoes
1 egg
1 cup grated tasty cheese
Salt and pepper
2 sheets butter puff pastry
1 egg yolk, lightly beaten



Preheat oven to 200oC. Heat oil in a small frying pan and cook the onion gently until softened. Remove onion from pan and set aside.

Increase the heat and cook bacon until crisp, then set aside. When the bacon is cool enough to handle, chop finely.

Mix together potato, egg, cheese, onion and bacon, and then season to taste.

Lie pastry sheets on a bench and cover with potato mixture, leaving a 2cm edge on one of the long sides. Starting at the opposite edge, roll pastry into a pinwheel, brush with egg yolk at the edge and press together.

Brush the outside of scone log with remaining egg yolk.

Slice log into pinwheels, approximately 1.5cm thick, and lie flat on a cold baking tray. Cook for 10 to 15 minutes until puffed and golden.

Left over pinwheels can be reheated or eaten cold, also a great way to disguise vegetable, cook with the potato and mash together.