



# NEWSLETTER

## PANUI

### TERM 1 2024



From Gaylene Brownlie

Welcome back to our returning families and a very warm welcome to the new families joining our Kindergarten community. I hope you have all enjoyed your break from the usual day to day routines of work, Kindergarten, School etc. With such beautiful weather to start our year, I feel positivity and happiness in the air. It is so good to see everyone's smiling face and to hear the holiday stories from you and your children.

We would love to see some photos of your children during their holidays so please feel free to bring some in and we'll put them up on our Holiday wall. The Teachers all managed to get out of Auckland for some of the holidays and have put some photos up to share.

Does anyone have any swan plants with caterpillars on them? We would love to watch the metamorphosis of caterpillar to butterfly. If you have any to share, we would love to have them at Kindergarten.

**Committee 2024** - Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to be on our 2024 Committee. I am in the process of looking for more new members. If you have some time to spare, even just a little, and are interested in being on our Committee, please let me know. It is a great opportunity to meet new people, have some fun, and get to know how Kindergarten works. We need another four or five helpers to ensure the Committee functions as efficiently as possible. Our AGM is coming up late February/early March. If you would like more information, please come and have a chat with me.

We have an action packed term ahead of us including walks to Cornwall Park, Chinese New Year and Easter celebrations, and finishing the term with a trip to The Pumphouse Theatre for our older children.

#### A few reminders

- \* please ensure your child brings a hat each day and that you apply sunscreen in the morning before Kindergarten. We do not provide sunscreen.
- \* don't forget to pack a drink bottle filled with water only. The water cooler is also available for the children to use throughout the day.
- \* please also pack named spare clothes in case your child gets wet.
- \* send your child in suitable walking shoes as we hope to walk to Cornwall Park this term
- \* PLEASE NAME EVERYTHING.

Thanks everyone.

Gaylene Brownlie



## DEVELOPING LEARNING DISPOSITIONS

At Gardner Road Kindergarten we use 'Learning Dispositions' to understand children's ability to be self-motivated and to be life long learners in a changing world. Learning dispositions are characteristics or attitudes to learning that are life skills. Taking responsibility, persistence when faced with difficulties, and coping with change are all dispositions or ways children respond to learning. These are closely aligned with the key competencies in the New Zealand curriculum used in primary schools.

Planned experiences and the way teachers respond to children as they learn, support children's dispositions to persist, find interests, select and assess their own learning goals, and take an active part in the programme.

Children who see themselves as someone who tries new things, keeps going when it is hard, knows when to stop and ask for help, learns from making mistakes and has good support networks, are children who will be successful in an unknown world.

**ABSENCES** - If your child will be absent from Kindergarten for any reason, please either text Gaylene on **020 41593212** as soon as you can in the morning, or email Karen at [gardner.rd.kindy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gardner.rd.kindy@xtra.co.nz). This way we can monitor our roll numbers and know if we need to book a Reliever or not. Please only use the mobile number for absences.

If you have any queries during the day either email Karen or phone us on **09 6388760**.

If you are going away on holiday or will be absent for any reason for a week or more, we do need a written note for the absence. This goes on your child's file for when we are audited. Written notifications should be emailed to [gardner.rd.kindy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gardner.rd.kindy@xtra.co.nz).

## FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM

On a Friday, we post organically to our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages. These are often photos and a blurb about what we have been doing, helpful information and/or tips. It is a great way to stay engaged and provides some dinner time talk with your child. The posts go up at around 7pm each Friday evening, so if you are not following us on social media, please do so, and we hope you enjoy the content.

## SUNHATS/CLOTHING

Sunhats are compulsory for Term 1. **NO HAT, NO OUTSIDE PLAY**. Please also ensure that your child has spare clothes in their bag and that they are named. We have very little spare clothing at Kindergarten.

**DON'T FORGET TO PACK A SUNHAT, SPARE CLOTHES AND PUT SUNSCREEN ON YOUR CHILD**

## FOOD ALLERGIES

We have some children at Kindergarten who have allergies to various foods.

**Please do not send peanut butter, hard boiled eggs, loose nuts, yoghurt in pottles** (pouch is OK).  
**These foods put other children at risk.**

Also, don't forget to pack a drink bottle filled with water only!

Thank you.

## SIGN IN SHEETS

It is really important that the sign in and out times are recorded clearly and that you sign in and out each time your child attends. Please do not let your child scribble or write on these sheets. You have a 15 minute window either side of the session start and finish time and so you can record times for arriving between 8.45am and 9.00am and leaving between 2.30pm and 2.45pm. If arriving after 9.00am or leaving before 2.30pm, we ask that you record the time as either 9.00am or 2.30pm. We appreciate your support.

# Important Dates

## TERM DATES for 2024

Term 1	Tuesday 30th January — Friday 12th April
Term 2	Monday 29th April—Friday 5th July
Term 3	Monday 22 July—Friday 27th September
Term 4	Monday 14th October—Friday 20th December

## Important Dates to Note:

Waitangi Day	Tuesday 6th February—closed
Good Friday	Friday 29th March—closed
Easter Monday	Monday 1st April—closed
Easter Tuesday	Tuesday 2nd April—closed



Hearing & Vision Testing	Thursday 22nd February	Selected 4 year olds yet to be advised.
External Outing	Friday 12th April	Friday children & 4 year olds
	Pumphouse Theatre—	The Great Piratical Rumbustification

# Important Information

## KORERO/COMMUNICATION

We communicate with you in a variety of ways - email, noticeboards, communication pockets, Storypark, Facebook and Instagram. We try to keep these all updated and current. We put Community posts on Storypark so don't forget to read those when you get an email notification. Also don't forget to check your communication pocket at Kindergarten regularly. We also have a daily whiteboard that tells you what has happened throughout the day. We hope this prompts a discussion between you and your child about what they have done during the day - rather than 'nothing'!

From time to time we also need to use the Text Facility to alert you to emails that we have sent you. We hear this has worked successfully in the past. It is really important that all your details are kept up to date such as email addresses, mobile phone numbers etc, as we use this form of communication in an emergency.

## DROP OFF/PICK UP TIMES

**Drop off time** - Our session starts at 8.45am. We would appreciate it if you are on time, quickly settle your child and leave. Not only does this help to free up parking but more importantly it helps the children settle into their Kindergarten day more quickly and ensures a quiet start to the day.

**Pick up time** - Because the children are on the mat having a story at the end of the day, we ask that you only come in earlier than 2.45pm if you would like to take your child straight away. Otherwise, please wait outside until the teacher opens the door at approximately 2.40pm. If you do come in, please leave as quickly, quietly and promptly as possible. Hopefully this will mean there is as little disruption as possible at story time. It is very difficult for the children to focus on the story and difficult for the Teacher to sustain the children's attention with so many interruptions.

During a child's 'Graduation' ceremony it is particularly disruptive so please be patient if we ask you to wait. We really appreciate your cooperation with this.

When you do come in at the end of the day, please move forward to the mat area where the children are waiting. This makes it much easier for the teachers to see you and farewell your children.

**We would also like to remind you that our carpark is not a playground. Please discourage your children from running around the church as there are vehicles often moving in this space.**

**Please keep this area clear at the end of the day.**

Thank you.

## CHILD SELF MANAGEMENT

Please continue to encourage your child's independence when they arrive at Kindergarten as it helps with their transition to school. We have noticed a lot of parents and caregivers carrying their child's bag. We will be encouraging the children to do this themselves so please reinforce this at home.

Some other ways you can encourage this independence is by -

- choosing their own hook and hanging up their own bag,
- providing a lunch box and drink bottle that your child can open and close independently,
- dress them in clothes and shoes that they can manage to put on and take off themselves,
- encourage them to greet the teacher at the door by name, especially if they are four years old.

## PARENT HELPERS

As a Community Kindergarten, we really need and value your help during our session, even if it's just for an hour. If you are able to help anytime between 9am – 12 please put your name up on our roster just inside the front door. Parent helping gives you a chance to see what happens at Kindergarten, but most importantly, your child loves having you here. You are welcome to bring younger siblings also. Grandparents, Aunties, Uncles, etc are also welcome!

## KINDERGARTEN WASHING

We would really appreciate it if you could take a turn at least once a term to wash the bag of towels and tea towels that is left at the door each day. There is no hurry for these to be returned the next day. Please wash them in a hot, separate wash. Near the end of the term, there may be items from the Family play area that need to be washed also. Thank you.

## STORYPARK

We love it when you engage with our posts on story park, please continue to comment and give us your feedback.

## FEES AND FUNDING RATES

Our funding rate from the Ministry of Education is \$16.80 per child per hour and \$10.04 for non 20 hours children respectively.

Our session charges are:

\$21.60 per session for 20 ECE or part thereof @ \$3.60 per hour

\$62.16 per session for non 20 ECE or part thereof @ \$10.36 per hour

**We welcome paying your term fees in instalments during the term and we prefer payment by the internet banking option:** A/C no. is 12 3025 0190983 00 (ASB Bank)

A/C Name: Gardner Road Kindergarten.

*Please include child's initial and surname and their info-care account number (on invoice) as your references.*

**FEES ARE DUE TO BE PAID BY FRIDAY 12th APRIL,**

**unless you are leaving during the term and then they are due by your child's leaving date.**

*There are 11 weeks in term 1.*

## ME TREE

Our **ME TREE** is looking fantastic! Thank you to everyone who has brought in a photo. If your child's photo is not on there, please bring us a photograph of your child that we can cut up and add to our tree. If you are unsure what our Me Tree is, just ask a teacher or come and have a look. It is an important part of your child's belonging at Kindergarten and used in their celebration when they turn five and graduate.



**RESOURCES**

We love to reuse and recycle at Kindergarten so please think of us when you are throwing away boxes, paper etc. Your junk is our treasure! Please note, we do not accept toilet rolls, tissue boxes, meat trays, medicine boxes, polystyrene and anything that has obvious residue such as milk powder or egg - this is due to the risk to children with allergies. We are always in need of cardboard, untreated wood, ribbons, wrapping paper, small boxes, buttons, etc.

**Staff/Kaiako**

Your full time teachers are Gaylene Brownlie and Kirsty Fergus both working Monday to Friday.

Zara Anderson	Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri.,
Susan Piaggi	Tue, Wed, Thr & Fri
Tania Wickens	Mon, Wed, Thr & Fri.
Kara McNeil	Tue, Wed & Thr.



There are five teachers working each day in order to maintain our ratio of at least 1 adult to 8 children.

Gaylene is available in the office on Wednesdays if you would like to make an appointment to discuss a specific issue or to find out how your child is progressing.

Karen Day is in the office Monday to Friday during school hours. If you do not catch her in the office, please email her on [gardner.rd.kindy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gardner.rd.kindy@xtra.co.nz) and she will respond as soon as she is able.

Please feel free to talk to the staff at any time about any issues or concerns you may have or if you need information about anything, no matter how large or small. We are here to help you and really value your feedback.



We wish these children all the best for their next step in their life journey. We know they will do very well at school. Please contact Ms Brownlie if you would like to have a parent discussion prior to your child leaving.

**Ruby Stanners, Oliver Fitzgibbon, Alvin Yang, Kyan Parag, & Scarlet Almeida**





## Have you joined the Parents Facebook page?

It is a great way to meet other families and connect.  
The group is used as a chat group and to organise play dates or catch ups.  
The link is below and if you would like to join, click the link and you will be accepted into the group.



This Private Facebook group is called, **Gardner Road Kindergarten Parents group**  
[https://m.facebook.com/groups/2425686494397274/?paipv=0&eav=Afaf78L9215iJ02QwuNcRHTRZbjXumYlJunDASCw-XaGcXAvnliqdVKqSu-uEWhpn78&\\_rdr](https://m.facebook.com/groups/2425686494397274/?paipv=0&eav=Afaf78L9215iJ02QwuNcRHTRZbjXumYlJunDASCw-XaGcXAvnliqdVKqSu-uEWhpn78&_rdr)

## Child's Voice

Some children were talking about their pets when a Teacher asked one of the children if they had a dog, she replied...

**"No, I just have a sister".**

**We have great quality Bucket Hats & Tote bags**  
**\$10.00 each**  
**Celebrating 50 years in our community.**



*See Karen for hat sizes & bag colour options.*



Navy only



Available in Blue or cream

## GARDNER ROAD KINDERGARTEN COOKBOOK

*We still have copies of The Gardner Road Cookbook that our fundraising team published late last year. It is full of delicious recipes and family favourites.*

**\$20.00 a copy** (online payments only)

*A copy is available to view at Kindergarten.*



Print this out and put it on your fridge or notice board

Week No	1	2	3	4	5	6
Monday's date	29/01	05/02	12/02	19/02	26/02	04/03
Visits, Trips Important Dates	<b>Mon 29 Jan Auck Anniver Closed</b>	<b>Tue 6 Feb Waitangi Day Closed</b>		<b>Thr 22 Feb Hearing &amp; Vision Testing</b>		
Week No	7	8	9	10	11	
Monday's Date	11/03	18/03	25/03	01/04	08/04	
Visits, Trips Important Dates			<b>Fri 29 Mar Good Friday Closed</b>	<b>Mon 1 Apr Tue 2 Apr Good Friday Closed</b>	<b>Fri 12 Apr Puphouse Theatre</b>	<b>Fri 12 Apr Last day of term 1</b>

### Programme topics for this term

During the term, these are the topics we hope to cover:

- \* Summer
- \* Beach
- \* Sea Creatures
- \* Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- \* Water play
- \* Chinese New Year
- \* Easter



Please remember to refer us to friends and family if they are looking for a Kindergarten



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