

Term Four, 2015

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have" Maya Angelou

Dates to Remember 2015

Term 4 starts	12 October
Earthquake drill practice	15 October
Parent Focus Group	2 - 6 November
ESW Workshop	11 December
Term 4 ends	18 December - Children's End of Year Party
Term 1 starts	2 February 2016

Yippee! We are starting to have warmer days and that means it is sunhats and sunscreen time! Please try to make sure your children wear appropriate sunhats when they are at their early childhood centre and when they come to McKenzie Centre, as our little friends can quickly become sunburnt in our harsh New Zealand sun. If you do forget, McKenzie Centre has a supply of hats that can be borrowed during the sessions and our sunscreen is always hanging on the hooks outside the front entrance to the admin office. Once used, please place the hats into the laundry basket.

Curriculum Focus Term 4: Our focus areas for this term are written up on a poster in the music space. We are focusing on providing a range of fine motor experiences, sensory and messy play opportunities, implementing strategies from the Hanen programmes we offer, and loads of other interesting plans. As with all early childhood centres, Te Whāriki, the Early Childhood Curriculum, provides the framework on which we plan experiences, activities and events which occur in our learning environment. If you want to know more about our planning, please talk with your Key Worker.

Children's End of Year Party: We are planning to have the Children's End of Year Party on 18th December from 10.00 am - 12.30pm. Please bring a plate for a shared morning tea. There will be lots of bubbles, fun activities and an opportunity to meet some of the other families. The typical session will not run on this day. Everyone is welcome so please spread the word.



We have changed our bank account: McKenzie Centre now banks with the BNZ so we are asking everyone to make all future payments into our new bank account.

The number is 02-0316-0466333-00. This is the number that will be on all our Family Invoices from Term 4. Sandra and Lillian are very happy to help if you have any questions about this.

Parent Focus Group

These get-togethers happen during sessions, once a term. This term they will be in the week of **2nd -6th November**, and the focus will be on routines, using visual schedules and completing a Parent Survey.

Last term our parent focus groups had discussions around our assessment process and assessment processes from other services that families have been involved with. From your feedback, and other sources, we have made a few changes: the report you receive will now be known as your child's Developmental Progress Report and it will contain information from a variety of resources. Alongside the team assessment, information from sessions, early childhood observations and your feedback will continue to be included. The report will

remain a record of your child's strengths and achievements over the past 12 months. Please have a look as we have made a flow chart on the wall of the whanau room.

A big thank you to Alpha Interiors who have given McKenzie Centre \$2300.00 in sponsorship. We will use this to continue to support all the children and families/whanau who attend the Centre.



Thanks to the Larke Family who visited the Centre just before the end of term and generously donated some beautiful clothes, toys, a stroller and spare nappies to share with other families at the Centre.

Thanks to Mac Jenkins' aunty Teri who is a fitness trainer. Following a tradition at her last job, she held a fundraiser when she left, and chose McKenzie Centre to receive the \$600 she raised. What's really special about this fundraiser is that Teri did an amazing work out to raise the money: 105 Squat Jumps, 60 bent over rows, 60 Weight Toe taps, 60 Kettle Bell swings (16kgs) and much more! Thank you Aunty Teri!

Thank you to Schick Construction.

They have taken out the tree stump in the carpark, resealed the area and created some much needed new parking spaces for



us. Their time, and resources were kindly donated, and will be a huge improvement to the Centre by making it easier to park during sessions. Thanks also to Aaron Woolley, of Arrow Line Marking, who painted the new car parking lines. Please remember to be vigilant when entering or reversing out of our "new" carpark area, as it can be very hard to spot little people there. Feel free to double park as car parks remain in scarce supply, we can come and get you to move your car if this is needed.



Fundraiser. Thank you to Hamilton East Rotary Club who supported McKenzie Centre with a Race Night fundraiser in July. Some of the Centre staff went along and said it was a great night out. Hamilton East Rotary generously donated \$2250 to McKenzie Centre from this fundraiser.



New Faces at McKenzie Centre: Welcome to volunteer Yuliya Pollock: "My son David used to visit McKenzie Centre. He is 7 years old now and goes to school. He is doing fantastic and I am very thankful to all the McKenzie staff for all the support and help we were given. They are amazing people who do an important job. I am confident that early intervention is the key to the future success for us. It has been 2 years since we stopped coming here, but I always had a special place in my heart for McKenzie Centre. That's why I've offered my time as a volunteer, to help the professionals to do their work and to help the parents like me to be strong and believe that things will change if we work together, and help our children to succeed in life."

Are you interested in Dance Classes for your child?

One of our mums is a dance teacher. She is able to offer a special class if you would like your child to dance, but feel the typical dance classes are not suitable. Give your names to Trisha and if she has about 6 children she can get started.

National Earthquake Drill. We participated in the national earthquake drill on 15th October at 9.15 am. If there is ever an earthquake these are the things to do: Drop, Cover and Hold i.e. getting down on the floor, climbing in under a desk and holding on to the leg of the

desk. It is recommended by the Civil Defence to have a think about; how up to date your household plans are in the event of an earthquake, check emergency supplies at home, work and school, think about how you would get home if you could not use your regular transport, and to look for objects and furniture that could become hazards. For more information, visit www.shakeout.govt.nz or email shakeout@dpmc.govt.nz

McKenzie Centre Movie Night Fundraiser - James Bond - Spectre: Thursday 12th November at Lido Cinema. Please come to our fabulous movie night and enjoy a James Bond Experience. Tickets are just \$25 and include a drink and nibbles. Please spread the word around your friends, family or work colleagues as this is an important fundraiser for McKenzie Centre and we would love your support. Talk to Sandra or Lillian if you wish to purchase tickets.



*Thursday
12th November, 2015 from 7.30pm
Lido Cinema, Centre Place, Hamilton*

For just \$25 per ticket:

- Enjoy a complimentary drink and delicious nibbles on arrival
- See the movie in a luxurious and comfortable setting
- Validated free parking available at the Centre Place car park

A cryptic message from Bond's past sets in motion events that will see him come face-to-face with a sinister organisation. While M battles political forces to keep the secret service alive, Bond follows a trail from Mexico to Italy, Austria and Morocco, and is forced to operate outside his purview as he peels back the layers of deceit to reveal the terrible truth behind SPECTRE.



Some General Housekeeping:

- **Absences:** We do appreciate you ringing or sending us a text when you are not going to attend your session. Key Workers plan activities and prepare resources for your child in advance so a quick message would be very helpful. If your child is unwell often during the term we may need you to sign an EC 12 form. Your Key Worker will talk with you about this if needed.
- **Enrolment:** please keep your Key Worker updated if you change sessions at your early childhood centre. A new form will have to be signed. Remember you are welcome at our session for the full time period, so you cannot enrol or extend your hours at your early childhood centre during this time period. Talk to your Key Worker if this is an issue for you.
- To help reduce the spread of bugs and to reinforce hand washing as part of the routine we like to encourage hand washing before kai time. Please use the bathroom rather

than the water trough for hand washing. It is also important to reduce the spread of germs by catching your cough or sneeze with your elbow, using tissues and hand washing.

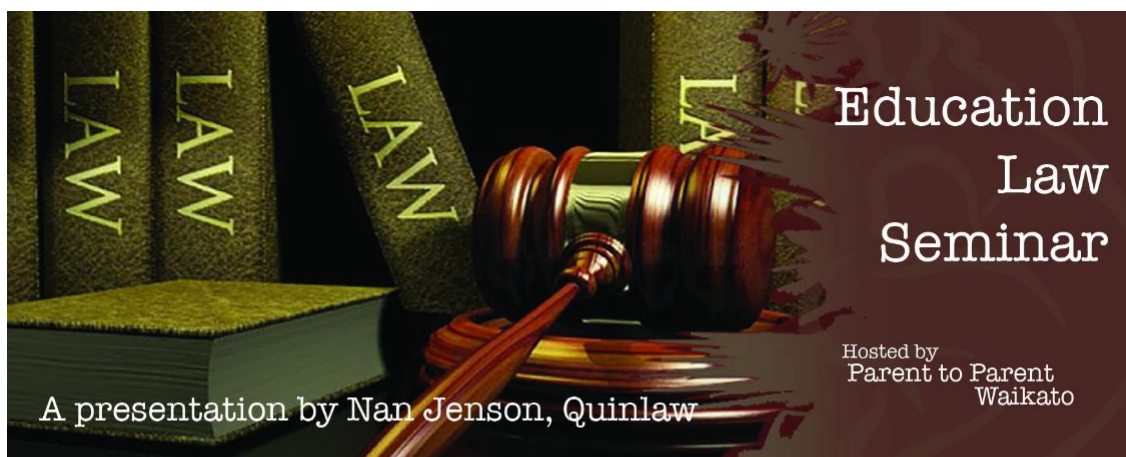
- **Top tip:** If you have forgotten the name of a parent in session or perhaps you haven't met them yet, you can look on the back of their child's photo. Staff photos and names are displayed on the blue wall. One of the great benefits of attending session is getting to know other parents, so make yourself known.
- Before you and your child move to the next area of play at McKenzie Centre, please spend a moment to tidy up resources that you have used. This means staff spend much less time tidying up at the end of session which is much appreciated. It also makes the environment safer and reinforces tidy up as part of the routine for our children. Children can learn a lot through participating in tidy up. Talk to your Key Worker about this.
- We would like to focus on developing language around routines, using visual supports, co-ordination and gross motor skills. Therefore we are on the search for cardboard tubes from glad wrap and Handee paper towels, to use for batting balloons and balls. If anyone has a supply or is able to collect the rolls after you have used them up, we would appreciate it. Our curriculum plan has more detail!
- **Immunisation Certificates:** please bring these in as part of our enrolment procedure and bring it in as your child/children have their immunisations so our records are updated.
- **Birth Certificates or Passports:** this documentation is required as part of our enrolment procedure and are early childhood requirements. Check with your Key Worker that we have a copy on your child/children's files. Siblings too.
- Remember to **sign in and out** as this is important for our records and legal requirements. Remember, the sessions are 4 hours and 5 minutes long so please stay to enjoy the entire session.
- **WINZ subsidies:** Several of our families receive a WINZ Subsidy for their McKenzie Centre fees. If your child gets a Child Disability Allowance, then you will also be able to get the Childcare subsidy. If your child does not get the Child Disability Allowance, CDA, then getting the Childcare Subsidy depends on the parents' income. It is important to remember to keep the CDA current and to reapply before it lapses, as it may affect your Childcare Subsidy. The reviews are sent out 8 weeks before they are due. Talk to your Key Worker or the office staff if you have any questions about this.

Enabling good Lives Family Forums

Enabling Good Lives (EGL) is a new approach to supporting disabled people that offers greater choice and control over the supports they receive, so that they can plan for the lives they want. Family forums are an opportunity where family and whānau members can network and learn more about how Enabling Good Lives Waikato will work for them. These forums are held regularly and if you would like to know more please contact Loren Corbett Phone: 07 9571561, Text: 029 201 4780 or email Enabling_Good_Lives_Waikato@msd.govt.nz

Autism Spectrum Disorder Resource

Digital Magazines e.g. *Autism Parenting Magazine* and *Autism World Magazine*, are available on Android and on iPad -the magazine app is free to download and some resources are free to download as an in-app purchase. Subscriptions are also available at a fee. Digital and mail subscriptions are available for the *Autism Quarterly Magazine*, which has contributions from across continents, and from highly specialised and qualified professionals as well as parents with children who present with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Some examples of these articles are kept in a blue folder in the whanau room for you to look at.



The seminar explores the following topics:

- Section 9 access to Special Schools
- Section 10 appeals to Special Education decisions - including ORS
- Stand downs and suspensions - under what conditions are they fair
- Responsibility for the student's safety and welfare during travel between school and home
- Physical aggression and use of restraint
- What can the school legally ask you to pay for?
- School camps and extra-curricular activities
- A range of other education legal issues



Of Interest:

"Today's designed world doesn't leave much room for kids to explore," writes Cas Holman in "The Case for Letting Kids Design Their Own Play," in Fast Company.

"I've spent time with Penny Wilson, an influential play worker in adventure playgrounds in the U.K., observing children playing. She taught me the important difference between asking kids 'What are you building?' and saying to them, 'Tell me about what you're doing.' When we ask, 'What are you building?' it implies that: a) You should have a goal and be

working toward a finished thing, i.e., play is linear; b) you are supposed to be building something (children's understanding of the built world is often limited to houses, so they are confronted with either having done it wrong, or they change their vision to fit their perception of your expectation); c) you should be doing something that you can explain to me.

"We want to avoid all of these rules. So by saying 'tell me about this' we leave the door open to stories about what children are imagining, and they can share challenges, discoveries about putting things together, or any number of things about their experience with their peers and school.

"...Giving children less leaves room for them to contribute more. By allowing them to direct their own play they develop habits of agency, independence, and self-determination. Armed with these skills, they jump in to figure out who they are and will be in the world, rather than waiting for someone to hand them a model to follow."

Best wishes from; Trisha, Claire, Sue, Anita, Estelle, Suzanne, Teresa, Ruth, Jacqui, Helen, Sandra, Lillian, Steph, Marcia and Richard.

Funders:

THANK YOU to our wonderful funders, sponsors, friends and supporters:



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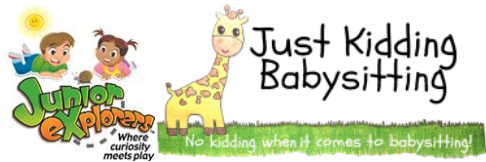
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30th Gala Dinner Sponsors:

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RESERVE

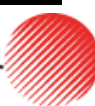


FOUNDATION
bar kitchen lounge



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