



Parent Newsletter

End of Year Newsletter, 2012!

Happy and Safe holidays to everyone, we look forward to seeing you all in 2013. Best wishes to everyone who is starting school, we always appreciate visits so please do come and see us.

Some fun ideas that have been generated of things you may like to do over the holidays...

- Donkey farm, Model trains Sundays 10.00am-3.00pm at Forest Lake, Hamilton Gardens, Lake, Parana Park playground, Zoo, Waterworld, beach, fishing, camping (home & away), picnics, Mini golf, Bounceland, Lollipops Playland, McDonalds, library/museum, Candyland, rock climbing, Party Planet, Berry Farm (Gordonton Road), Paulonia Park-Newells Rd, Harrowfield house lights, Natural Bridge-Waitomo, Taitua Arboretum, Elim Church Holiday programme (\$30 per day), Christmas in the Park. CCS Disability Action toy library and other toy libraries

Remember to talk to your key worker before the term ends to ensure you have the support you need in place before we go on holiday.

Dates to remember are:

- end of term on **Wednesday 19th December (last session for 2012).**
- End of year Party! **Thursday 20th December 11am-1pm. Everyone is welcome! Please bring a plate of food to share, hats, sun block, and any special things your child needs. It can be a busy party so please be aware of this. Past families are welcome so if you know some one please invite them to come along.**
- The ESW contracts finish on the **14th December** so your child's ESW will not be available after this date for support at early childhood centres.
- **Round the Bridges Fun Run** We want to clarify some confusion which has arisen about what funds we receive from the annual Round the Bridges (RTB) Fun Run/Walk event. **McKenzie Centre does not receive any portion of the Round the Bridges entry fee, nor any other donation or funds from the event organisers.** Instead, the RTB entry form and web-site encourages participants to make a separate donation to the Centre when they enter the event. McKenzie Centre encourages its supporters to use the RTB event as an opportunity to fundraise for the Centre themselves by setting up a sponsorship page on www.fundraiseonline.co.nz, naming McKenzie Centre as the charity to benefit from this, and then asking their friends and family to donate to it. Thank you to everyone who raised sponsorship money and for those who walked and ran.
- **James Bond "Skyfall" Movie Fundraiser** night at the Lido Cinema, Hamilton, was a very successful evening and very much enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who supported the evening by providing food, selling tickets etc. We will repeat movie fund raisers next year, so if any one would like to help come and see the admin team.
- **Parent Support Circle** this term will be **Friday 30th November at 10.30**, facilitated by Marcia, and is a chance for all parents to meet, share information and support each other. If Friday is not your usual session, come along anyway, and the staff will be available to care for your children.

Dates for 2013 to make note of:

- Sessions start on Monday 4th February 2013. Most of the staff are back on 21 January 2013.
- **Lollipops** have kindly offered McKenzie Centre families another free family evening in the new year on **Tuesday 26th February 2013 from 5.30 until 7pm**. Families who have recently graduated from McKenzie Centre are also welcome to come and enjoy the fun. Pop this date into your diary as it is a lovely chance for children to have some fun in a really cool place, and for families to meet each other as well. The cafe will be open. There will be a flyer in the foyer for more details next year.
- **Education Review Office, ERO**, will be at the centre during the period 25.2.13 - 8.3.12, the final date that they will be on site is to be confirmed. ERO want to know how well McKenzie Centre is placed to promote positive outcomes for all children. To find this out ERO will explore how well governance, management, leadership, partnership with parents/whanau, curriculum design and teaching practises are contributing to children's learning and well being. ERO will talk to adults and children, look at documents and observe aspects on the programme. Copies of a letter from ERO to parents are in the foyer and will also be emailed.
- **If you do not receive information from us via email check we do have your address. See Sandra.**
- **Hanen More Than Words Program**
Estelle is planning to commence with this programme at the start of 2013 with a group of interested families and will be having an introductory session in Term 4. This is an opportunity for interested families to learn about the program contents, the dates and expectations and make an informed decision before committing to the program. Feel free to get feedback from other McKenzie Centre families who have completed this program or speak to your Key Worker or Estelle for more information.
- **Mobility Parking, Hamilton City Council are planning a space outside McKenzie Centre. Some of you may be eligible, please contact CCS Disability Action.**
Am I eligible for a permit? To qualify for a mobility parking permit, your doctor will assess whether you: Are unable to walk and rely on a wheelchair for mobility, or Rely on mobility devices (e.g. crutches, walking sticks, walking frames), or Are unable to walk more than 200 metres unassisted because of the nature or severity of your condition. This can relate to people of any age when their mobility is impaired.
- **Feedback** please come and talk with your Key Worker, or Trisha, at any time, as we really appreciate your comments and will genuinely use them to make sure your time with us is comfortable and supportive.



Thanks:

Waikato Diocesan School students. In May, Dio's Young Enterprise Group *Stripes and Stars Apparel* handed over two Apple iPads to McKenzie Centre from their Company's profit. Dio Events Team handed over a \$2000 donation to the Centre from money raised through sausage sizzles at events and donations made at the school's May Ball. We are very fortunate to have had the support from these students over the recent years.



Thank you and Congratulations to Victoria Chan, Phoebe Havill, Bronte Douglas, Sophie Thomas also from Waikato Diocesan School who came third in the BP Community Enterprise Project 2012 with their project to sew and decorate cushions, bean bags, 3D triangle cones, animal tails and ears and dress ups for the children and parents. These students did a variety of fundraising events and approached businesses to donate resources all with the purpose of showing their commitment to putting everything they could to make this project successful. The girls are also making an outdoor blackboard and funded a new shed. We really



appreciate the efforts these young women have shown for the benefit of “our” children.

- ESW staff may be available during the holiday period to offer respite if parents need some help or time out. This would be a private arrangement, using your carer support package, so if you think you may need a break, ask your ESW if they are available.
- Handy Person Help: McKenzie Centre always has the odd job lurking which we could use some help with. If anyone is able to help we would really appreciate it. Please see Helen or Lillian in the admin office about this.

Best wishes and happy holidays from; Trisha, Claire, Sue, Anita, Estelle, Ursula, Annette, Teresa, Ruth, Helen, Sandra, Lillian, Marcia and Richard.

Funders

As always we would like to acknowledge and thank our funders, who help make it possible for us to provide an affordable and high quality service to families.



KONICA MINOLTA

As well as these funders too:

Ministry of Education, Special Education

Ministry of Health

Lotteries Community Fund

Tidd Foundation

CJB Norwood Trust

Page Trust

Freemasons

Gallagher Charitable Trust

Gull Community Grants

Walt Disney - Handy Manny

Sir John Logan Campbell Trust

Hamilton City Council

COGS (Dept. of Internal Affairs)

John Illott Trust

WDFK Karamu Trust

Todd Foundation

ANZ Staff Foundation

Talking Tech Foundation

Ministry of Social Development

St Francis Charitable Trust Board

Norah Howell Trust

Trust Waikato

Community Post

Frozen Funds Trust

AXA Hearts in Action

And our donors and sponsors (private donors names not published for privacy reasons):

Hamilton City Hawks

New World Te Rapa

Stace Hammond Barristers & Solicitors

BNZ partners

Lollipop's Playland and Café

hr connect

Countdown Hamilton Central

Business Enabling Systems Ltd

Friends of McKenzie Centre

Pak n Save Clarence St

Les Mills

Blakes Hire Company

The Lawrenson Group

Artworx

X3 Utility Services

True Colours

Crombie Lockwood

BNZ Closed for Good

CF Reese Plumbing

Stragglers Rod & Kustom

The Olde Creamery Café, Kaipaki

Satlan Corp

Erin O'Neill

Waikato Diocesan School students

Ricoh

Lido Cinema

Cooper Aitken and Partners

U-Leisure

Proform Plastics

Waikato Geely

Ingham

Countdown Te Awamutu

Novus

Linda Bates

Gilmours

New World Rototuna