

## Parent Newsletter

### Term One, 2014



Welcome back, and what an exciting start to the year with our remodeled building! We are all very excited by the changes and hope they work well for everyone. We are pleased to have all the play areas together and love the new doors out onto the verandah. For the past seven years Trustees, staff, families and the community have supported the remodeling project and our dream is now a reality. We do hope you enjoy our remodeled McKenzie Centre.



We would like to thank Andrew McNally, Architect, and his team from APG Architects, the team from Construct Builders and all the sub-contractors for their dedicated work over the holiday period and for turning our ideas into reality. We would also like to thank all the funders who made the building project possible: Ministry of Education, Lion Foundation, Trust Waikato, WEL Energy Trust, and DV Bryant Trust. A big thanks to Proform Plastics Limited for providing free storage for us, and to Brett Henderson, UTI New Zealand Ltd and Les Harrison Transport Ltd for donating and delivering a storage container on-site during the build. We would also like to acknowledge and thank A1 Cleaners, the team at BNZ - Victoria St, Gill Brown at MOE, Steve and the team at Cemac Interiors Ltd, the many volunteers who helped during our pack up and shift back in to the new building, those families who donated to the project and everyone who supported our fundraising efforts.

There are many, many people who have contributed to the new building over the years and we will be acknowledging them at our **Opening celebration on Friday 28 February**. Please come and celebrate with us and tell your friends, whanau and anyone connected to McKenzie Centre as we would love them to be present and share this special occasion. The building will be open from 3 - 5.30pm.

#### Dates to Remember

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Sessions start    | Friday 7 February  |
| ESW start         | Monday 3 February  |
| Building Opening  | Friday 28 February |
| Parent Focus Week | 17-21 March        |
| End of Term One   | Thursday 17 April  |
| Start Term Two    | Monday 5 May       |

**Parent Focus week.** This term the focus is on Assistive Technology, Ruth will facilitate these sessions and it will be an opportunity to look at apps and share ideas about the purposeful use of technology with children.

**Parent Support Circle** we have decided to abandon this as a separate group as Parent Focus week seems to meet many of your needs. If any gaps are identified, we will address these in other ways each term. Please do give us feedback as we are very motivated to meet the needs of all families.

**New Session Times.** We are looking at the possibility of moving to all day funding, rather than sessional funding. We will keep you informed about this. Currently our Early Childhood licence remains at 3 hour sessions.



**Friends of McKenzie Centre:** If you are keen to know more about how you can help McKenzie Centre with its fundraising efforts, please talk to Trisha or Helen about the Friends of McKenzie Centre group. Throughout the year, we run a number of fundraising events, and are always looking for support to spread awareness about these, or volunteering to help. Being involved with Friends is fun and you are not over burdened with a lot of extra work. Give it a go!

**Wintec Research:** Feedback from this project will be received this term and will assist us to formulate and plan services as we move forward. Thank you to current and past families who shared their time and thoughts with the researchers.

**Wellness and Health:**

Remember that if you, or your child, is sick then please stay at home so that others do not get the 'bugs'. There is a stand down period of 24 hours following a person vomiting or having diarrhoea. If you are unsure then phone and speak to your Key Worker or someone in the office.

**Email contacts:** If you do not receive information from us via email, check we do have your address. See Sandra in the office.

**Early Learning Information System (ELI):** If we do not have a copy of your child's NZ birth certificate or passport or a foreign birth certificate or passport please bring this into your Key Worker so this can be recorded. A copy will be held on your child's file.

**Staff News:** Suzanne is commencing her Early Intervention Diploma, most of this course is online but she has a block course this term and will be away the week of 10 February. If she is your Key Worker she will talk with you about arrangements while she is away.

**General points to remember:**

As we spend time more time outside over the summer months, it is important to encourage the wearing of hats and using sunscreen. McKenzie Centre has hats that are available to borrow in the foyer and these are washed after each use. The grey matting in the playground can get very hot in the sun and this may be very sore on little feet that don't have shoes on.

**Policies and Procedures:**

A complete list of all the Centre's Policies and Procedures is in the Yellow Licence, Policies, ERO Report folder in the Whanau Room. We review policies regularly to ensure they are up to date and relevant. Parents/whanau, trustees and staff are invited to review the policies so everyone can contribute to what is done at the Centre. The policies under review are listed on the notice board in the Whanau Room. If anyone has any questions about the policies, procedures or the review process please see Lillian or Sandra in the office.

**A Disabled Carpark** is now marked to the left of our driveway on Hammond Street. You will need a disability sticker to legally park there, so contact CCS Disability Action to see if you are eligible.

**A Day of Fun at HAMILTON ZOO** for people with disabilities and **immediate** family/caregiver. This will be held on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2013 10.00-2.00pm. Entry is free. Sausage sizzle, soft drinks, ice blocks will be provided. You do not need to register for this event - just turn up on the day. Supported by Dinsdale Lions and Friends of Hamilton Zoo.

**Hanen:** Anita will be running "It Takes Two to Talk" and Estelle, "More Than Words" Hanen programmes during Term One and Two.

**Movie Night: The Hobbit (Part 2): The Desolation of Smaug**

This was another successful fundraising night for us last December, with all profits going towards the Building project. Thanks to everyone who supported the night, including: A1 Cleaning, Blakes Hire Company, Classic Car Museum, Godfreys The Base, Lido Cinema, Meyer Gouda Cheese, Glenn Carter and New World Rototuna, Rainbow Springs, shampoo n things, Skyline Rotorua, The Entertainment Book and Whitcoulls Chartwell for providing goods or raffle prizes for the night. Annette Ah Chee, Ester Dorshorst, Giles and Lillian Lusty,

Melanie Wacker, Michelle Powrie-Daysh, Jessica Cole, Melissa Murdoch, Nathalie Thomson and Victoria Hatwell who were all stars, helping before or on the night.

**Thanks to :** The Year 13 Prefects at Waikato Diocesan School for choosing McKenzie Centre to benefit from their year-long fundraising efforts; Metro Finance and the Hatwell, Crowther, Huang, Dale, Horsburgh, Steur, Dunning and Verner families for their donations towards our building renovation project.

Thank you to Hannah Zuman and family for the donation of a child's treadmill. We are looking forward to using this.

Thank you to NZ Livestock Limited and their Bobby Calf Scheme which donated \$112.00 to the Centre from the 2013 season. Please recommend this scheme to any farmers you may know so next year's donation can be even bigger.

**Remember to check our McKenzie Centre Facebook page.** See what we're up to and connect to everyone when we have an event coming up, such as our next movie fundraiser night, or our Opening celebration. Feel free to like us on Facebook! Photos of the building progress have been regularly uploaded for everyone to see.

*Best wishes from; Trisha, Claire, Sue, Anita, Estelle, Suzanne, Teresa, Ruth, Helen, Sandra, Lillian, Steph, 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.



As well as these funders too:

Ministry of Education  
Lotteries Community Fund  
Tidd Foundation  
Grassroots Trust  
John Illott Trust  
Talking Tech Foundation  
Sir John Logan Campbell Trust

Ministry of Health  
Hamilton City Council  
COGS (Dept. of Internal Affairs)  
St Francis Charitable Trust Board  
Alexandra Lodge Freemasons  
Gull Community Grants  
Stan & Margaret Goosman Charitable Trust

Norah Howell Trust  
WDFP Karamu Trust  
Community Post  
DV Bryant Trust  
Todd Foundation

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

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Proform Plastics  
Stace Hammond  
BNZ Closed for Good  
Hamilton City Hawks  
Waikato Diocesan School students  
BNZ Partners  
Godfreys The Base  
The Entertainment Book  
Classic Car Museum  
Friends of McKenzie Centre

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