

ESW Newsletter

TERM 4 2015



“Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it” Charles Swindoll



Wow, it is already Term Four and in case you didn't realise there are only about 11 weeks to Christmas. Daylight saving has commenced which gives us longer days and the temperature is starting to warm up. The beauty of spring and summer is adding colour to the gardens and some bright ribbons are giving colour to our tree at McKenzie Centre.

We hope that your two week break has provided you with the opportunity to re-charge your batteries and now you are ready to support the children with a 'spring in your step'.

Dates to Remember

- ✦ The term commences on 12 October 2015.
- ✦ ESW Workshop: **11 December at 1.15pm.**
- ✦ Contracts finish on Thursday 17 December 2015, so please bear this in mind when planning end of year activities.
- ✦ **Labour Day**, public holiday, is Monday 26 October 2015.
- ✦ **Family End of Year Party:** Friday 18 December 2015, 10am-12.30pm. You are all welcome to come along and celebrate with the families.
- ✦ **McKenzie Centre AGM** 19 October 2015 at 6.30pm. All welcome.
- ✦ Contracts are likely to start 2 February 2016.

House Keeping

- ✦ Health and Safety policies e.g. do you know where to go in case of fire or other emergency in each of the centres you work in during the week?
- ✦ Communication Journals: please write in these daily, it is a requirement of your employment and the families enjoy reading your entries and celebrating the achievements. Please write neatly and if it makes it easier use bullet points to share your information.
- ✦ Timesheets, please remember to get your last timesheet in on 18 December for the final pay run of the year.

Performance Appraisals

The appraisal forms will be emailed or mailed to you shortly, please complete it and return it to Teresa Blake, so that the information you provide can be the focus of your appraisal.

ESW Workshop:

- ✦ Date: 11 December 2015, Time: 1.15-2.45pm
- ✦ Appraisals will be completed by Teresa.
- ✦ Reflection on professional development this year.
- ✦ Afternoon tea will be provided.
- ✦ Come along and share your knowledge, have some fun, enjoy good food and celebrate the end of another great year.



[McKenzie Centre Fundraiser:](#)



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

For just \$25 per ticket: contact Sandra for your tickets

- 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 scope of operation as he peels back the layers of deceit to reveal the terrible truth behind SPECTRE.

[An Interesting Article for you to think about](#)

Giving Children Less

September 1, 2015

"Today's designed world doesn't leave much room for kids to explore," write 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."

McKenzie Centre Website

You will find our Parent and ESW newsletters online so you can keep up to date with us now and in the future: www.mckenziecentre.org.nz

Lillian does a great job of updating the website and Facebook. Take a look! Have a look at the family newsletter each term to keep you up to date with Centre news.

Phone Extensions

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Helen Gempton | ext 702, Business Manager |
| Anita Wilson | ext 703, Speech Language Therapist |
| Sue Scott | ext 703, Physiotherapist |
| Suzanne Kok | ext 704, Early Intervention Teacher |
| Stephanie Wacker | ext 706, Early Intervention Teacher |
| Estelle Pretorius | ext 707, Speech Language Therapist |
| Claire Hintz | ext 708, Occupational Therapist |
| Trisha Benge | ext 710, Centre Director |
| Teresa Blake | ext 712, Early Intervention Teacher |
| Ruth Michels | ext 713, Teacher, Assistive Technology Specialist |

Useful Websites:

www.suelarkey.com

www.pushplay.org.nz

www.downsyndrome.co.nz

www.autismhouse.org.nz

www.nzgg.org.nz/asd

www.asdguidelines.com

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