

# ESW Newsletter

## TERM 4 2016



Kia ora Koutou

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, the temperature is starting to warm up, but it would be great if the rain could stop so that we could enjoy the colours that spring brings by being outdoors. We hope that your holiday break has provided you with the opportunity to re-charge your batteries and now you are ready to support the children for the final term of the year.



*“Challenges are what makes life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful” Joshua J. Marine*

### Dates to Remember

- ✚ Term 4: commences on 10th October 2016.
- ✚ **Contracts finish:** Friday 16th December 2016, so please bear this in mind when planning end of year activities.
- ✚ **Labour Day**, public holiday, is Monday 24th October 2016.
- ✚ **ESW Workshop:** 9th December at 1.00pm.
- ✚ **Family End of Year Party at McKenzie Centre:** Tuesday 20th December 2016, 10am-12.30pm. You are all welcome to come along and celebrate with the families
- ✚ **McKenzie Centre AGM:** 25 October 2016 at 7.00pm. All welcome.

### House Keeping

- ✚ **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.
- ✚ If family text you to advise the child is going to be away, please ensure that you notify Sandra in Admin to arrange to work at McKenzie Centre or to take Leave Without Pay.
- ✚ **Timesheets,** fill these in daily and please remember to get your last timesheet in on 16th December for the final pay run of the year.

### Performance Appraisals

The appraisal form has been emailed to you, please complete it and email or send it to Teresa by 21st October 2016, so that the information you provide can be the focus of your appraisal. Teresa will commence appraisals during visits to the early childhood centres and these will be completed at the ESW workshop.

### ESW Workshop:

- # Date: 9th December 2016, Time: 1.00-2.30pm
- # Appraisals will be completed by Teresa.
- # Reflection on professional development this year, so look back on the material provided at the workshops as you will be asked to contribute the knowledge you have gained.
- # A fun craft activity to stimulate your imagination.
- # 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.



### ESW changes:

A warm welcome to *Stacey Turnbull* who is commencing in the Cambridge area. Farewell to *Kelly Claridge* who is moving to sunny Hawkes Bay, a big thank-you to Kelly and best wishes for the future. Also farewell to *Suzanne Coker* who is taking up a full time employment opportunity.

### Play:

"**Free, imaginative play** is crucial for normal social, emotional and cognitive development. It makes us better adjusted and less stressed." This proclamation came from Melinda Wenner Moyer in her article, "The Serious Need for Play" in [Scientific American Mind](#) (Volume 25, Number 2). In concluding this article, Moyer noted...

"Many parents today believe they are acting in their kids' best interest when they swap free play for what they see as valuable learning activities. Some mothers and fathers may also hesitate to let their sons and daughters play outside unattended, and they may fret about the possibility of scrapes and broken bones that sometimes arise during rambunctious play... Although those parental instincts are natural, protecting children simply defrays the costs to later, when those same children have difficulty in dealing with an unpredictable, complex world... A better 2015 systematic review reported that risky outdoor play - climbing on high playground structures, for instance, or engaging in rough-and-tumble play - was associated with better physical health among kids, not worse, and that it was also linked to greater creativity and resilience".

### 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](http://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](http://www.suelarkey.com)  
[www.nzgg.org.nz/asd](http://www.nzgg.org.nz/asd)

[www.autismhouse.org.nz](http://www.autismhouse.org.nz)  
[www.downsyndrome.co.nz](http://www.downsyndrome.co.nz)

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/audience/young-children>

[www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)

[www.health.govt.nz/publication/new-zealand-autism-spectrum-disorder-guideline](http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/new-zealand-autism-spectrum-disorder-guideline)

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