



## **Term 3 2009 Parent Newsletter**

Welcome back to McKenzie Centre for Term 3 and we hope you had a restful and warm holiday break. We are looking forward to the longer and more 'sun- filled days ahead!

**Term 3 dates: Monday 20 July to Friday September 25.**

### **Health and Well-Being.**

This is a term when there are a lot of 'bugs' and illnesses going around. We ask all parents to consider the health of not just their own child but the other children and parents in the session also.

- If your child has been vomiting or had diarrhoea within 24 hours then you must keep them home i.e. they must not come back until 24 hours has lapsed since their last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.
- With the swine flu situation we also ask parents and staff to take care and either stay away or seek medical input when they are feeling unwell, for the health and safety of all. See note later in newsletter.
- If your child has a running nose please ensure that their nose is wiped. If the secretions become thick and 'green' then your child should stay away from sessions.
- If a child has head lice then they are able to come to sessions once they have been treated.

We will ensure that there are plenty of tissues around the play rooms. There are also some anti-bacterial hand lotions around the play rooms for everyone to use. Any toys that are mouthed should be placed in the red bag hanging near the water trough for washing. This is to minimise the chance of infections being passed on to the next child that plays with the same toy. Thanks for your help.

### **Parent Morning Tea.**

**Dates: 21<sup>st</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> September 2009.** Instead of having parent workshops this term, we plan to have parent morning teas as a 'get together'. This will provide the opportunity for parents to meet other parents of children in your session, share ideas, ask questions or just relax. Staff will supervise children in the play room. Remember that during this week there will be a change to your regular session routine as your Keyworker will be unable to provide the typical individual programme.

The last workshop focused on "A way forward." We talked about your values and how you demonstrate them in your everyday life. We also gave a handout on the world's most popular goals. Loosing weight was right up the top!

### **Note about Borrowed Toys, Equipment and Software**

- **Amnesty** – Please return switch adapted mice or software or discuss with keyworker
- **Reminder** – Copyright rules apply to any software loaded on your computer. Our loan system relies on your cooperation to remove programs after four weeks.

### **Education Support Worker (ESW) Workshop.**

McKenzie Centre holds ESW workshops once a term as part of our staff professional development. Attendance is required of all ESWs and in some cases this will affect your child's ESW support for the afternoon it is held. In most cases children can still attend their centre without ESW support however if this is not the case alternative arrangements will need to be made for your child. If you have any concerns or queries please talk to your Keyworker.

**The date for the meeting this term is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2009 at 12.30pm.**

**True Colours** has been invited to come during the term. Kim Hurrell will facilitate this support group on **Friday 14 August at 10:30am**; all families are welcome, please come even if it is not your regular session. Staff are available to care for your children. Ask your Key worker for more details.

**Invitation to join an online support group...** I bring my son Cameron along on Fridays. He has Cerebral Palsy. A few months ago I started an online support group for parents all around New Zealand. I did this because meeting new people is hard enough, let alone having the added pressure of a special needs child, time and physical constraints, yet parents like us need the extra support, and to share the highs, lows and in between. Where else can you go to share your absolute delight that your 17 month old son picked up a toy!?!

Please feel free to have a look around - <http://cpkidsnz.yuku.com/> - however some of the personal areas of the group are locked for members only so that people who join can feel safe that not just anyone can read what they're sharing. Please feel free to pass the site on to parents that have children with cerebral palsy. I only have two other members at the moment and I'd love for the group to take off as I believe we're a unique breed of parents with our children and the support could be well worth it!

**25 year celebrations.** McKenzie Centre is celebrating 25 years providing early intervention in the Waikato. The Trust is planning 2 special events. On 10 October will be a Dinner and Charity Auction held at Southwell School. If you would like tickets please see Nan. We need items for the auction so if you have ideas we would appreciate it, please see Nan. The second event will be a family function here at McKenzie Centre, this is currently being planned and we will let you know the details.

**Rebranding.** At the celebration dinner we will launch our new brand, we have been very fortunate to have Jane Burton, Artworx, donate her time and expertise to this project. We can highly recommend Jane if any one needs branding, communication or packaging work done. Thanks Jane.

## **A few housekeeping things...**

### **Influenza A, Swine Flu**

We are in the 'manage it' phase and the primary measures remain of personal hygiene and remaining at home if you are sick with flu symptoms. Staff should also

stay at home if they exhibit flu symptoms. So please be considerate of others and stay at home if you or your child is unwell.

**Personal Hygiene:** please remember to wash your hands and cover coughs and sneezes. If modelling how to cough, cover your mouth with a tissue, then throw it in the bin, or cough into your elbow. This slows down the spread of viruses.

**Front gate:** Please make sure the front gate is shut behind you as you enter and leave McKenzie Centre.

**Shoes:** Thanks with your co-operation with encouraging shoes to be off in the ball pit. This makes it safer for children.

As part of our ongoing planning the curriculum is reviewed each term and evaluated. You will find the curriculum plan on the wall in the playroom.

Have a happy and successful Term 3,  
McKenzie Centre Team.

**Yes, I would like to make a donation to McKenzie Centre**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount \_\_\_\_\_  monthly  yearly

**Funders**

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



D V BRYANT TRUST



As well as:  
Ministry of Education, Special Education  
Lotteries Community Fund  
COGS (Dept. of Internal Affairs)  
Norah Howell Trust

Ministry of Health  
Hamilton City Council  
Community Post  
Page Trust

Debbie Wilson  
Freemasons  
Sir John Logan Campbell Trust  
Todd Foundation  
Gallagher Charitable Trust  
Frozen Funds Trust

Trust Waikato  
WDFK Karamu Trust  
John Illott Trust  
Community Post  
ANZ Staff Foundation  
Gull Community Grants

And our sponsors:



Southwell School Chapel Fund  
Global-Pix  
Cooper Aitken and Partners

Hamilton City Hawks  
Matt Fitzsimmons  
Nicola Inglis Photography



Paper for this newsletter was kindly supplied by:



KONICA MINOLTA