



Term 4 2009 Parent Newsletter

Welcome back to McKenzie Centre for Term 4 and we hope you had a restful holiday break. Wasn't it nice to see the sun shining, briefly, we have had more than enough of the wet winter and are looking forward to the longer and sun-filled days ahead, it will be great to see the new umbrellas up in the play ground!
"Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face" Victor Hugo

This will be a long newsletter as we have many new and exciting things happening this term.

Term 4 dates to remember

Monday 12 October to Thursday 17 December.

McKenzie Centre AGM: Monday 19 October 6pm. All welcome.

Labour Day weekend is celebrated on Monday 26th October, so there will be no session that Monday.

'Round the Bridges Fun Run' 15 November is scheduled, donations from this are given to McKenzie Centre. We may need helpers to cook sausages and would love to see as many of you, family and friends participate in this event as McKenzie Centre benefits from donations and sausage sizzle proceeds. You can enter online or pick up an entry form in the foyer.

25th Anniversary Family Day Celebration. Saturday 28 November 11am until 3pm.

Thursday 17th December will be our **'End of Year Celebration'** from 10 am until 1 pm. So there will be no session on this day. We invite all families to come along to celebrate a positive year, bring a plate to share. Past families are also very welcome to attend.

Term One 2010 will begin on Tuesday 2 February 2010.

Health and Well-Being.

Last term saw a number of children unwell, thanks to all parents who kept their children at home when they were concerned. Just a reminder if you are not sure what to do.

- 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.
- 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.

Tissues

Have you noticed we have purchased 3 tissue dispensers which are attached to the wall so we always know where the tissues are! There is a dispenser in each play room and one outside. Rubbish bins are there so the children can “blow and throw”. With the flu the Ministry of Health recommended blowing noses or coughing into a tissue and throwing it away to decrease the spread of infection. Or you can model coughing into your elbow.

Please remember to wash your hands and cover coughs and sneezes 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.

Please note: It is parent’s choice whether or not they choose to vaccinate their children. As an early childhood centre our policy is to ensure information is provided to you, we are not attempting to influence your decision. We do ask for immunisation information so if an out break of a childhood illness occurs we can take the appropriate action. Remember to give your immunisation certificate to your key worker so we have current information.

Parent workshop.

This term the parent workshop week will be November 2nd - 6th. Morning session times for the workshop are 10.30 am start and afternoon session time is 1.30 pm start. The workshop usually takes an hour. During this time the usual session is different i.e. key workers will not be able to give 1-1 attention to your child in the typical fashion, as they will either be assisting with running the workshop, or supervising children while parents attend the workshop.

The topic for this workshop is ‘Steps for Independence’ focusing on ideas to assist with self care/ well being skills involved in eating, dressing, toileting and sleeping. Also, come prepared to share your one most valuable tip on ‘How to Survive the Holidays!’ should be interesting.

Parent workshops give an invaluable opportunity for parents to take a little time out to sit and talk with one another about concerns, joys, celebrations they have in common. No one understands/identifies more than ‘the person that walks the same path.’

Time Out for Dedicated Dads. Altrusa International Auckland Ltd are running a weekend for dads who have children with special needs. They have organised a weekend of fun for Dads on November 7 & 8 in Parnell. Spaces are limited to 9. Contact Steph Squire 09 630 9299 or Lilian Simpson 09 626 5054 for more details. If you would like us, at McKenzie Centre, to organise opportunities for Dads to get together, talk to Trisha as we would welcome your ideas.

Note about Borrowed Toys, Equipment and Software

- **Amnesty** - Please return switch adapted mice or software or discuss with your 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 ESW workshop this term is Friday 4 December 2009 at 12.30pm.

True Colours feedback Term 3, 2009. Kim Hurrell and Brenda met with families on Friday 14 August. Kim talked about resilience and listed factors that affect resilience

1. How you have dealt with previous distress
2. What meaning you give to disability/ illness
3. What philosophy you have about life
4. How your own culture views situations
5. How severe the situation is
6. What the personality make up is
7. How important 'control' is to you in your life

She also left us with the quote...."*Admit it...some days you're the pigeon and some days you're the statue*". *Unknown*

The date for True Colours to attend this term is yet to be confirmed. We will let you know...

25 year celebrations. McKenzie Centre is celebrating 25 years providing early intervention in the Waikato. There are 2 special events. On 10 October we had a Charity Dinner and Auction which was held at Southwell School. This was a very successful evening and a great celebration. We would like to thank all the people who helped by selling tickets, donating items to auction and many other ways. We want to acknowledge all our sponsors in particular our major sponsors TALKINGTech, New World Te Rapa, Stace Hammond Barristers and Solicitors, Artworx and Manu Bay wines. Please support these businesses and tell them how much we appreciate their support. A full list of all the sponsors, individuals and companies who donated goods and services are acknowledged in this newsletter.

As you may know Sir Roy McKenzie was Patron for McKenzie Centre for many years until his death in 2007, since then his wife became our Patron. Lady Shirley wrote a letter to acknowledge our 25th anniversary

"Please convey my congratulations on your anniversary. Roy would have been so delighted that you have achieved so much over these years since you first started. With all good wishes from the McKenzie family in your future- long may you continue with the good work."

The second event will be a family function here at McKenzie Centre; this will be held on **Saturday 28 November 11-3pm**. For all current and past families, staff, trustees and community members. Spread the word and invite people to pop in and see how far we have come. Help us to celebrate McKenzie Centre providing 25 years of early intervention in the Waikato.

Rebranding. At the celebration dinner we launched our new brand. We hope you like it. McKenzie Centre "Realising a Childs Potential". Special thanks to Jane Burton, Artworx, who donated her time and expertise to this project. Jane has included many symbols and metaphors into the new logo.

Pink gives light to: friendship, love, affection, caring and nurturing

Red displays: strength, power, energy, determination, passion and drive
Green portrays: growth, freshness, nature, safety, healing and hope
Orange shows: enthusiasm, fascination, happiness, creativity, success, encouragement and stimulation.

The swirl (koru) represents the enveloping of everyone- child, parent, siblings, extended family/whanau all working together to achieve a common goal - to start at the core and wind slowly up the path to success- being supported all the way. The hand represents McKenzie Centre giving children a "helping hand" in life.

The new tag line "Realising a child's potential" was the outcome of some deliberation. The trustees wanted a line that was simple and captured that McKenzie Centre is a place for children. They liked this tag line as there were many different ways of interpreting the phrase. For example; some families do not realise their child has potential, particularly if they have been given a poor prognosis or are feeling overwhelmed. The parent's expertise combined with the expertise of the staff help our children develop to their fullest potential. Another example is when the children realise or reach their goals. At McKenzie Centre you have other parents who celebrate your child's achievements with you; sometimes the significance of our children's achievements is not understood by others who have typically developing children. Parents often tell us they come to McKenzie Centre as they feel accepted and comfortable here.

Web site this is being relaunched, take a look, amongst a range of things we will publish our newsletters on line so you can keep up to date with us now and in the future. www.mckenziecentre.nzl.org

Thanks to Brendon Muir from Spike @ School for providing the website free of charge while we seek funding for it.

A few housekeeping things...

Whooping cough. NZ could be facing an epidemic in 2009 or 2010 as we get a surge of cases every 3-4 years. The Ministry of Health has asked we inform families there is a vaccine available should you wish to pursue this.

Whooping cough (pertussis) vaccine is free for babies and children. In New Zealand it is given as an injection in combination with other vaccines: diphtheria, tetanus, polio, hepatitis B and Hib. About 84 percent of babies are protected once they have completed three doses of vaccine at six weeks and three and five months of age. The vaccine protection wanes over time. For most people, it lasts around four to six years, so it is important that four and eleven-year-olds get their booster doses.

For more information please go to

<http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/immunisationdiseasesandvaccines-whoopingcough>

Measles The Ministry of Health warned that there has been a rapid rise in the number of measles cases reported in NZ. So far this year already seven times higher than the total number of cases last year. Measles is a serious, notifiable disease. We need to ensure our immunisation register at McKenzie Centre is maintained, please see Sandra who will photocopy your certificate in your Well Health Book. Immunisations in NZ are free, however it is your choice whether or not you immunise your child. We still need your information so if an out break of measles, or other illness, occurs you can be notified.

Survey thanks to everyone who completed this, comments are currently being collated and we will circulate the outcome as soon as we can.

Parking The City Council have put broken yellow lines down one side of Hammond Street, which will affect everyone. Our parking area is for our families so if there are no spaces available please drive in anyway and park in the central area. We do not want you to have to park down the road and walk with your children. We can organise shifting cars when you leave the session.

Other matters

- Please remember to ensure that the front gate shuts behind you.
- Thanks with your continued co-operation with encouraging shoes to be off in the ball pit. This makes it safer for all children.
- The curriculum has been reviewed and you will find the curriculum plan on the wall in the playroom.

We will try to end sessions approximately 10 minutes earlier so that children can assist with the tidy up process. It is important for children to be actively involved in routines so they learn new skills, co-operate with others and gain a sense of achievement from a job well done.

Bikes must be ridden only on the concrete area outside not on the soft padding around the adventure play ground. This is for safety reasons. Coloured cones will be placed at the edge of the concrete area to remind children and parents where the bikes should stay. A STOP sign will also be purchased so hopefully will be ready in the new term.

We all look forward to having a very happy and stress-free few months ahead in the build up towards the end of the year.

From the Admin Team We are trialling an **EFTPOS machine** here in the office - it will be here until the end of October, at which time we'll need to decide whether to continue with it. There are costs involved with having the machine, so we will need to assess whether the benefits outweigh the costs (through prompter payment and more donations!). So if you'd like to pay by EFTPOS or credit card, please see one of us before October 30th. Please note that credit card transactions attract an additional fee, so while these are available, we would appreciate an extra donation to cover this cost.

WINZ has made us aware that the income thresholds for the **childcare subsidy** have increased. This subsidy, if you qualify for it, may cover your McKenzie Centre fees. Please come get a brochure and have a chat with Sandra, Nan or Lillian to find out more about it. We cannot assess your eligibility, but we can give you information about the thresholds and the process for applying. You do NOT have to be an existing WINZ client to qualify.

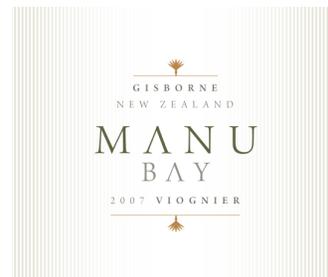
We would like to start a "**Friends of McKenzie Centre**" group of people who want to support McKenzie Centre in various ways. This could be with practical help, fundraising projects, or by making donations of money or goods and services. We need some volunteers to work with us on this, and we also need to recruit "Friends". This will be an informal group that will choose its own projects and take on only as much as its members choose, and one can choose which projects to be involved with. Please talk to us in the office or fill in the form below to indicate your interest.

Yes, I would like to help with Friends of McKenzie Centre

Name _____
Phone _____ Mobile _____
e-mail _____

From the McKenzie Centre Team.

McKenzie Centre Trust wishes to acknowledge and sincerely thank the sponsors, individuals and companies who donated goods and services for this event and for the live and silent charity auctions at our 25th Celebrations on October 10th.



NEW WORLD

Te Rapa

STACE HAMMOND

SINCE 1912
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

PO Box 19-101, Hamilton 3244, DX GP20026
New Zealand
www.stacehammond.co.nz



TALKINGtech

www.talkingtech.com

*Advance Physiotherapy
Maioro Barton
Bounce Funland
Colin Meads*

*Baby Factory
Blake family
Box/Borrington family
Crossland family*

*Barker's Menswear
Brian Booth
Bunnings Warehouse
De Luca Family*

Donovan's Chocolates	Eftco	Elite Meats
Ellis family	Goldsmith Gallery	David Henshaw
Hamilton Musical Theatre	Hamilton Vet Services	Harvey Norman
Helping Hand Group	Hidden Valley	
Hilton Brown Swim School		Andrea Hitchcock Massage
Holdfast	Sir Patrick Hogan	
Hukanui Body Therapies	Jumping Jacks	Brian King
KMart	Tim Macindoe	Meccano Mens Clothing
Metropolis Caffè	Middleton family	Yvonne Milroy
Dr David Newman	Parents Inc.	Tiffiney Perry
Peterken family	Playways	Pro-life Foods
Pumpkin Patch	Scintilla	SCA
Southwell School	Stace Hammond	Swales Family
Te Kowhai Automotive	The French House	Toyworld
Treweek family	Warehouse Hamilton	Warehouse Te Rapa
Westpac Merchant Services	Williamson family	Winders family
Zinc		

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
Talking Tech

Trust Waikato
WDFK Karamu Trust
John Illott Trust
Community Post
ANZ Staff Foundation
Gull Community Grants
AXA Hearts in Action

And our sponsors:



Southwell School Chapel Fund
Global-Pix
Cooper Aitken and Partners
Stace Hammond Barristers & Solicitors

Hamilton City Hawks
Matt Fitzsimmons
Nicola Inglis Photography



Paper for this newsletter was kindly supplied by:



KONICA MINOLTA