

Dear Parents & Whanau

It's hard to believe that we are drawing close to the end of the year. We have had a great year at The Village with some memorable events, the latest for our family being Claire's wedding in Rarotonga. Thank you for all your kind wishes, they were greatly appreciated.

Breast Cancer Fundraiser

Thank you to all of those parents who participated in the Breast Cancer Sessions, we raised \$200.00 for this wonderful cause.



The Centre Christmas Party will be held on Friday 7th of December from 4-6 pm. There will be songs from the children, a sausage sizzle and Santa and his helpers will be in attendance. Please let your classroom know how many members of your family will be attending. Parking will be on Moffat Road or in the Décor Garden Centre Car Park.

We are running a Share the Love food drive this Christmas for the Tauranga Food Bank. If you would like to contribute some food, cleaning products or personal care items, please drop them off at the office or your child's classroom. The Preschoolers will make a trip to the Food Bank in December to deliver the goods.

Share the Love
FOOD DRIVE



Fire Service Visit

We had an awesome visit from the Tauranga Fire Service last week. Our local fire fighters were there to show the children their equipment and talk about what to do if there is a fire. This reinforces the regular Fire Drills we have here at The Village. It was then time to hop in the Fire Engine and explore the inside.

Even our Tots took part, it looks like we have some future Fire Fighters in our midst.





Now that the extension to the Church is almost finished, we will be restarting our SPACE for you and your baby classes in February.

As many of you know, adjusting to life as a parent can come with a lot of happiness and fair share of challenges. The new routine (or lack of it) can be a daunting task that is sure to raise many questions.

At SPACE young mothers and their babies can connect with other new parents to explore parenting and children's development in a safe facilitated environment. The group meets weekly giving young parents the chance to make real connections during their baby's first year of life.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in joining our SPACE group, please ask them to contact Claire at the Office for further details.

TOTS

We say goodbye to Michelle this week who leaves to go on Maternity Leave with her second child. We will look forward to her returning in a year or so's time. We are delighted to welcome back Rebekah Penhall and her baby Benji who will cover Michelle during her absence. Our Tots have been enjoying the warmer weather with lots of water play and some messy play activities. Please send a rash shirt or changes of clothes so they can be out enjoying the water. Our strawberry garden has been a source of fascination for the children who have enjoyed planting, tending and now harvesting the berries.



EXPLORERS

There are a wide range of interests in Explorers at the moment. Carpentry and construction has piqued everyone's interest with children using hammers, screwdrivers and other equipment to extend their play. Animals seem to be a constant interest and we have been busy making farms and zoos and learning about our pets. We have had visits from chickens, dogs and Larry the Lizard. We have also taken trips to both the Discovery Garden and the Community Garden, getting out in nature and learning about the living world and have using vegetables from our garden plot like spinach and cauliflower in our meals.



PRESCHOOL

The Preschool room would like to welcome Lynda Braid to the teaching team. Lynda comes to us from Auckland and we are looking forward to putting her interests in the arts and gardening to good use. We have had some exciting trips in Preschool over the past month. We have been to the music store, down to the fishing boats at the wharf and have been busy harvesting vegetables and cleaning up our garden for the Garden & Art Fest. We have also enjoyed a visit to our elderly friends and we are looking forward to going back to see them to sing a few songs and bring some Christmas Cheer. We continue to enjoy our process cooking making muffins, pizzas, biscuits and other recipes.



Claire Topping and the Team at The Village