



## NEWSLETTER

December 2011

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WOW! Where has our year gone! It has been a fantastic year of seeing all our children learn and grow in so many different ways; confidence, social skills, emotional maturity, knowledge and physically.

Many thanks to all our wonderful families who came to watch our Xmas show. The size of the audience was fabulous and it was great to see so many parents, grandparents and wider family members. We were thrilled with the children's efforts and performances, with lots of parents commenting on how great it was to see their children's confidence grow and the quality of the production. A huge thanks to the time and effort put in by teachers and children!

Our playground is making huge progress - we are nearly there - yay! The top area has now opened with new climbing fort and sandpit. We re-scoped the new bottom area and chose to go with rubber matting instead of a deck, thereby saving us having to go through council consent process. So now this area will be ready for use shortly too. We intend to use this as a free play, scooter and trike area with vege garden and pleasant

shady areas under the trees. Thank you for your patience as we have gone through this redevelopment process - I am sure it will all be worth it as the children get to explore the new environment. We will open up the whole playground as soon as possible, however there will be continuing work done as we build a roof over the sandpit, new sun shades and general planting etc.

We still need more family photos for the family / whanau wall in the mat area that Moira has been developing. Please remember to bring in a family photo or email one to kindy and we can print it out.

### **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

\* Kindy - last day is Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Kindy is closed over the Xmas / New Year period and re-opens on Monday January 9<sup>th</sup>

\*Xmas Show, Santa and party lunch - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 10am-12noon. Please bring a plate.

\*Remember to finalise your year's account and stop your AP over our Xmas shut down period. No fees payable over closed period. The next invoices will go out on re-open day, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January.

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**New families:**

We would like to welcome Harrison, Edward, Lena, Lani, Benji & Isabella, Morgan and their families to the kindergarten.

**A few things.....**

We are missing an enormous amount of our kids kindy scissors. We recently purchased a large amount of new scissors and already most of them are gone. If any have made their way home or any other kindy items, such as puzzle pieces, toys etc - it would be great to have them back.

Next year the church has asked us to collect the Mainly Music money on their behalf and pay them as one lump sum, as it is an admin headache for them. As such we will be adding the Mainly Music charge to the invoices at the beginning of each term to make it simple for everyone.

We have our 3 yearly Ministry of Education Review Office visit on 16<sup>th</sup> of January; so will have a few people spending the day with us assessing everything.

All clothing & shoes need to be collected before the end of the year.

**Resources needed...**

Thanks for your help in contributing bits and pieces for the children to use and create over the year.

I am sure there will be a few beers & wine drunk over the

festive period, so if you could please collect for us:

- beer / milk/wine caps
- corks

**Holiday homework....**

When your child leaves next week to go on holiday, we will be giving them a paper bag for "Holiday Momentos". We encourage them to put little treasures in it to share upon their return in the New Year. Some ideas to put in: shell from a special beach, bus / plane ticket, postcard or brochure of place visited, anything you can think of that might be important. We will use these to help re-settle the children in the New Year by sharing their holidays with each other, at mat time for 'News' and a holiday wall display. If you could all email a holiday photo through to the kindy email next year we would appreciate it!

**Tips for teaching your child to write...**

As part of our big focus on Literacy, all the teachers have been focussing on activities and areas in which to help children develop writing skills. We will be working on these with the children but as a parent you can help too. When writing with your child, always model writing in lower case letters. It can be very confusing for a child when they are learning to write, especially their name, if they see mum & dad writing it in capitals.

Finally, on behalf of Adrian & I, we would like to thank you for your support during our first year of owning Lakeview. I look back on the year with pride at all we have achieved and am thrilled with the changes made at the kindy and the efforts of our hardworking teachers.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and get to spend some quality time with your families. We look forward to hearing all the holiday adventure stories upon your return in January.

Kind regards  
Michelle & The teaching team.

