

TOTARA NORTH EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

Newsletter October 2024
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Nau mai, Haere mai
Welcome to all our new Tamariki and Whanau

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

The Snapper are running at the moment so you all better be fishing or gardening! Make sure to check your Maramataka calendar for the best time.

The Tamariki have been busy beavers here so far this term painting, drawing, planting their seedlings in the garden, facepainting, crafting some amazing crowns and bracelets, practicing their writing and numeracy in their own special books. The cardboard creations are still in full swing, you name it, they've made it! Fry bread Fridays were such a hit, our tamariki have been refining their MasterChef skills with all their kai creations - chopping, measuring and mixing, and who can forget the taste testing at afternoon tea time, Tino Reka! We also have an amazing team of doctors, nurses, veterinarians, beauticians and hairdressers in the making.

SunSafe - With the weather warming up we will be following our sun safe procedures, encouraging tamariki to wear their centre hats. We also ask that you apply sunblock on your children in the morning before attending the centre, we will provide sunscreen and ensure it is then again applied after lunch. The sunblock we use are the two pictured to the left, Woolworths Sunscreen SPF50+ and Smart365 Sunscreen SPF50+. If your child requires a special sunscreen, please pack this in your child's bag and let the team know.

ERQ - They will be visiting our centre on 4th, & 5th October. Please refer to the letter attached.

Hineka Closure - as some of you already know, the Board has made the hard decision not to reopen the bottom centre, we will however continue to operate as a mixed age centre as we have done for the past 10 months.

Lunchboxes - We ask that you please exclude juice and any lolly or string type snacks from your child's lunchboxes. These snacks pose a massive choking hazard and as such will be put in your child's bag to take home at the end of the day. Water is available at all times for tamariki to drink and kaiako will ensure that tamariki have water provided with every meal.



Head Lice Alert - Please be on the lookout and check your child's hair.

REMINDERS.....

- The Centre will be closed for Labour Day, Monday 28th October 2024.
- Please pack lots of spare clothes as the days are warming up, we will be having waterplay which means plenty of changes.
- Christmas Shutdown - Our centres will be closed for our annual Christmas break Friday 20th December 2024 re-opening Tuesday 21st January 2025.

Thanks whanau, arohanui from Tnecc until next time.....



To the parents, whānau, and kaiako

ERO's visit to your Early Childhood Service

The Education Review Office (ERO) will soon be undertaking a visit to your early childhood service. Your service leaders will let you know when the review team will be onsite.

What does ERO want to know?

ERO is firstly interested in assessing the information and practices the service has to meet regulatory standards and provide for safety and wellbeing, in areas that are potentially of high risk to children. Based on these findings, ERO will then choose to either look more closely at the regulatory standards or to evaluate the quality of the conditions at the service that support children's learning.

If looking further at regulatory standards, ERO will assess whether the service is meeting the standards relating to curriculum, premises and facilities, health and safety and governance, management and administration.

If undertaking a quality evaluation, ERO will focus on the extent to which your early childhood service has the learning and organisational conditions to support each child's learning and development. To find this out, ERO will discuss what your service knows about what is happening for children, what is contributing to or hindering progress, and what your service is doing to improve quality. The service and ERO will use [*Te Ara Poutama: Pike Ake, Kake Ake; Indicators of quality for early childhood education: what matters most*](#) available on ERO's website, www.ero.govt.nz. This is to make judgements about how children are learning in relation to the outcomes of [*Te Whāriki*](#), the early childhood curriculum.

In both approaches, ERO reviewers will talk with adults in the service, read documents and observe aspects of the curriculum. ERO will also be interested in how parents and whānau are supported to contribute to their child's learning and how kaiako and parents and whānau are involved in decision-making in the service.

Once we have all the information we need, ERO will summarise what we found in a brief report. The report will be sent to your service and will be published on our website after the review.

ERO makes use of the information and feedback parents and whānau have shared with the service, such as surveys and questionnaires, as part of our process. We have developed a resource for parents [*What Matters Most – for your child and their learning in an early childhood service*](#). This is available on our website.

We look forward to being in your early childhood service.

ERO review team