



# Lighthouse Learning Centre Newsletter

7 Oct 2013

Hope this newsletter finds everyone starting to put their winter clothing away and preparing for the beautiful summer weather coming around the corner! Below is a quick summary of the activities that Lighthouse has been up to.

## Events:

### Father's Day

This year to celebrate Father's Day we invited all the dads around to have afternoon tea with their children. While they were here the children gave them a special Father's Day card they made and there were many activities set up throughout the centre for them to do together. Here at Lighthouse Preschool we value relationships and recognise children's place as part of a wider family/whānau and iwi. Thank you, all the fathers' for your support and participation!



### America's Cup

The staff and children here at Lighthouse enjoyed watching the America's Cup sailing race these past couple weeks. We extended the learning from the racing to make our own sailboat outside for the children to play in.



### A visit to Howick Primary

On Wednesday, 4th September, 2013 fifteen excited children from Lighthouse Preschool walked to the local Primary School around the corner. Ronald McDonald was the special visitor who was there to talk about some very important information about Road Safety. He shared some important things to remember about road safety and 'STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN' were the three main things to remember all the time. Also, 'Use your ears, use your eyes before you use your feet'. This special visit allowed our children to have a better understand of the environment around them and it is believed that children have learnt these important skills in protecting themselves from harm.



One play in particular that was a favourite was “There was a Princess long ago”



### Mid-Autumn Festival

The Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival is one of the most important festivals for many Asian countries and proudly celebrated it with our children. Firstly, Lynn introduced the story to children to help them understand this cultural event. Then children were encouraged to decorate their own moon cakes and lanterns as part of our celebrations. Afterward, children watched some video clips which extended their knowledge of this festival. From these learning experiences, children at Lighthouse have developed their knowledge of other culture, as well as being familiar with stories from different cultures.



Children are still being involved in lots of Imaginative play activities



### Learning Focus:

The learning focus for the month of August and September was imaginative/family play. The children enjoyed a lot of pretending with baking, shopping, tea parties, puppet shows, and creating and presenting their own productions of plays.





## Housekeeping items:

### Reminder- Clothing

As the winter is drawing to a close and summer is around the corner we just want to remind every family to please bring a **sunhat** for your child to keep here at Lighthouse. We keep our hats in a box for the children and they are washed weekly.

### Fee Schedule

We just wanted to let all families know there will be no change in fees after the New Year. Previously we have changed the fees, but we decided to not make any changes for this coming year.

### Christmas Holiday Bookings:

Lighthouse will be open between 23<sup>rd</sup> December and 3<sup>rd</sup> January. There will be no charge if you take these two weeks as holiday.

If you decide to send your child/children during these two weeks, charges will be as below:

Under 3 years - \$50 per day

Over 3 years - \$ 35 per day

Centre will be closed for Public holiday during those two weeks i.e. 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2014.

To help with our teacher roster planning, if you wish to have your child attend over the Christmas and New Year holidays please let the staff know your plans. We will have shortened hours over this time.

Please talk to Pratibha if you have any questions.



## Survey:

### Santa Parade at Botany Town Centre

This year Lighthouse Preschool is going to be a part of the Santa Parade held in Botany Town Centre on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013. There will be a lot going on throughout the day but we plan to participate in the parade that is from 11 am – noon. Please let us know if you'd be willing to join us and walk in the parade with your children.

## Get involved ...

Lighthouse is one big community and our focus is always on the happiness and education of all children here. If you have any suggestions, comments, feedbacks, we'd love to hear from you. Don't be shy.



That's all for now.

Lots of love from the Lighthouse Team.