



lighthouse
early learning centre

Welcome

LIGHTHOUSE HOWICK

★ ABC ♪

Welcome back to another wonderful year at our Howick Lighthouse learning centre. Last year went by so quickly, we can't believe how fast all our children are growing up. Earlier this year we said goodbye to some of the older children as they are heading to school. We are very proud of all our preschool-leavers Winston, Nathan, and Leo, we wish you all the best at school! In this season's newsletter we have plenty to share with you about what our children have been up to at the centre. The Christmas concert was a big hit, as was our holiday program and under the sea learning theme! We are so excited for all the adventures, learning, playing, activities, and memories that 2016 holds for our preschool and we hope you are too!



Summer 2016

LIGHTHOUSE EARLY LEARNING CENTRE



The CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Thank you so much to everyone who attended our Christmas Celebration on Friday 11th December. It was a wonderful morning filled with joy and the children loved seeing all their parents in the audience as well as receiving a visit from Santa Claus! Lots of preparations went into the concert and the little ones worked very hard on practicing for the day. Every single child did a fantastic job and we couldn't be prouder!

The preschool was decorated with plenty of Christmas cheer. We had Snoopy and a snowy Christmas tree painted upon the windows, balloons and hand-made Christmas trees were hung above the rooms, and even our outside area was twinkling with tinsel and bells! There was certainly no shortage of Christmas spirit and decorations no matter where you looked.

The performance was split into three age groups. We had the 4 year olds singing 'Away in a Manger' in the setting of the nativity scene, starring our very own little Mary and Joseph, three wee wise men, gorgeous angels, beautiful animals and of course baby Jesus. The three year olds were very festive as they were appointed Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer as their special Christmas performance. They had gorgeous little hand-made antlers made from their own handprints. The two year olds and babies sang 'I'm a Little Star' and what little stars they were as they captured the audience's hearts with their sweet singing.

After all the performances we had a visit from a very special person, Santa Claus himself came to our Lighthouse Preschool! The children were in absolute awe as they were each gifted a present. There were endless smiles, giggles, and gasps of excitement! The concert was commenced with a delicious assortment of Kai for the children and their whanu to enjoy.

It was a wonderful morning for everyone involved and the children had a fantastic time performing for you all. Thank you to all the parents who attended, the children were very excited to share their efforts with you.

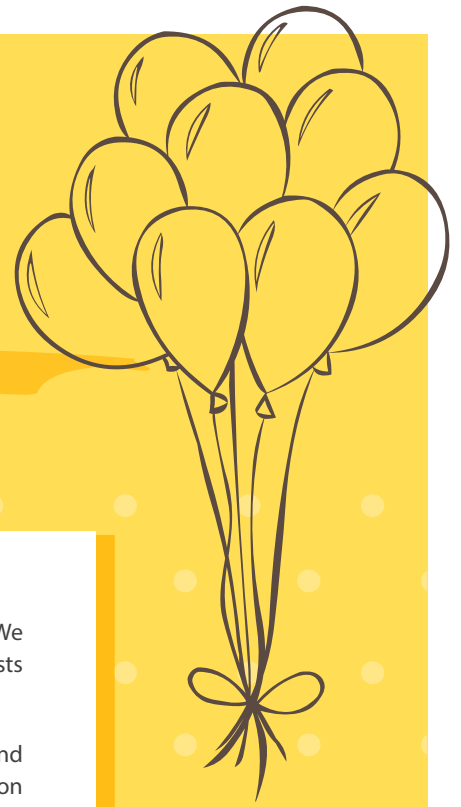


Our HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Our holiday program is something our teachers and children always look forward to. We have loads of activities and fun things planned so that the fun, exploring, and learning lasts for the whole day.

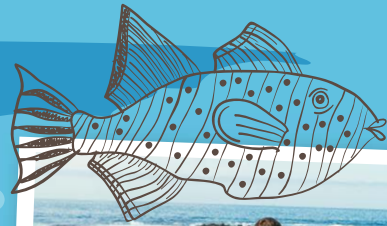
During the holiday program our children's favourite play activities were face painting and bike riding. The children got to choose anything their little hearts desired to be painted on their cheeks. From butterflies to spiders the face painting let their imaginations run wild. Bike riding is always appreciated by the children. They love to zoom around while feeling like they are going a million miles an hour.

There are also some little chefs in our midst and their skills came out to play when we made our own lunches. Our little Lighthouse chefs helped us make sandwiches and pizzas, which was a real treat! It also made for a great learning experience as it taught the children about turn-taking, basic maths in terms of counting and measuring, responsibility, and baking is also always fantastic for building their confidence, as they are proud of their tasty creation.



Our Theme focus:

UNDER THE SEA



Our theme focus for the past few months has been 'under the sea'. We have really had a lot of fun exploring and learning about the flora and fauna that live in the ocean.

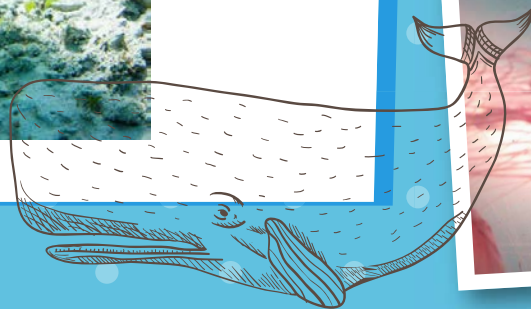
This theme came up through the interest of the children when they shared their news. We always try to have a theme focus that comes from what inspires the children, this is so that we are teaching the children about something they are interested in and care about.

Most of the children shared stories about their time spent at the beach. As a part of our focus we extended on learning about the sea and the children's stories by making a wind chime out of shells.



Things to look forward to:

As a special treat for the children and to end our ocean theme we will be taking the little ones on an adventure to Kelly Tarlton's! This excursion is still at the planning stage so keep an eye out for further notices that will be sent out closer to the time.



Special VALENTINES TRIP



On Thursday 11th of February, our preschool children were dressed in red and pink as we embarked on a very special Valentines trip to visit Marron Downs rest home. We entered the rest home as a sea of red and pink and handed out our Valentines treats.

The children had prepared delicious cookies with love-hearts drawn on them with red icing. Everyone was licking their lips when these tasty cookies caught their eyes!

Our children also made creative cards by cutting out red and pink love-hearts and using lots of glitter. The cookies and cards paired with the children's adorable smiles and bubbly personalities stole the hearts of everyone there!

This was a wonderful way of celebrating Valentine's Day this year for both the children and everyone in the rest home. We know how much our children make us smile and it was lovely to see how contagious their smiles were at Marron Downs rest home smile too.



Changes TO THE CENTRE

We are so excited to begin 2016 with improvements to our centre's play areas. During the holidays we have made some exciting new changes to the centre. We varnished the deck, which looks nice and neat. We cut back some trees and rearranged the play areas. The family corner, block room and the science area are new spaces for our children to discover. The children have really enjoyed exploring in these new areas and now know that everything has a place. The purpose of our rearrangement was to make it open and more inviting to play in and we are happy to see we succeeded!

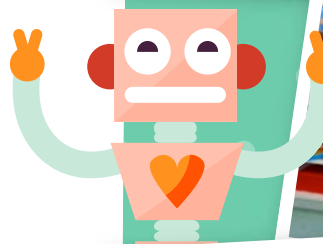


Like us on Facebook

We now have a facebook page where we will be regularly posting about what the little ones have been doing while at preschool. We will also be using our Facebook page to update you on any important events or information to do with Lighthouse be sure to give us a like! To like us, search "Lighthouse Learning Centre Howick" or visit <https://www.facebook.com/lighthouselearningcentrehowick/> ! We look forward to seeing you all on there!



lighthouselearningcentrehowick



Summer 2016

LIGHTHOUSE EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

