

PELORUS COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

NEWSLETTER—DECEMBER 2017



*Tena koutou, tena koutou,
Tena koutou katoa*

December is here! My how time flies when you're having fun! This month we welcome Nixon Shearing to the Paua room. We are sure you will enjoy your time at our preschool. A reminder that sunhats are a must from October-March and we enforce a "no hat, no outside rule" for all staff and children at preschool. Parents are also expected to apply sunscreen to their child prior to attending preschool. As the weather gets warmer the children will be more involved in water play and a change of clothes is a must, as is bringing along your wet-bag!

h a p p y b i r t h d a y !



For December we would like to wish a very happy birthday to Jackson Hamlin-Gilbert (2), Jack Cherry (5), Aiden Bailey-Gatchell (2) and Greer Tyson (5).

We wish you all a very special day.



Wishing you a happy Christmas with family and friends and safe travels.

From the Staff and Board of Pelorus Community Preschool.

END OF YEAR CLEANING AT PRESCHOOL... it's that time again when we ask for parents to help with the BIG cleanup! Jobs include cleaning the fridges/oven, walls, cleaning chairs & tables, shelves, waterblasting the exterior of the building and tidying up the gardens. We have put a list up in the foyer and ask that you select a task and sign and date it when completed. Many hands make light work!

Thanks to everyone who has already put their name forward for jobs!

fundraising 'fʌndˌreɪzɪŋ pengumpulan dana insamlingar

kaituna ridges ramble

Kaituna Ridges Ramble 2017 went well with 94 participants in the 12km Ramble walk/bike/run event, and 33 in the Ratbags Ramble. Numbers unfortunately were down from 2016 but a fantastic day had by all!! It was great to see Parents & Teachers out getting involved and enjoying themselves.

A MASSIVE thank you to ALL that helped on the day, and prior leading up to this event from our local Posties (Kath, Neil, Dennis, and Olive) distributing the flyers, Jenni at Hirepool discounting the Portaloo, New World for food voucher, Renwick Meat Market for discounted meat, Havelock Fire Dept, Havelock Museum, Gumboots Playgroup and Amanda & Jim for loan of gazebos and tables, Bengie & co for discounted fruit, Pak n Save, Jessie & Ian at Havelock Pub for cooking the meat, Stephen at Marlborough Orienteering Club for Ratbags Ramble, Estella Romagnoli our musician, and the wonderful parent and community helpers Kelly, Spencer, Grace Fisk, Kahlia, Nicole, Amanda & Jim, Steffi & Brodie and Sarah & Zeth. Last but by no means least - without their fantastic community spirit Paul & Muff Newton for the fifth year in a row allowing PCP to run this event on their Farm.

We are still finalising figures, however, at a glance we're in the vicinity of over \$2000.00 raised. So thank you again to all involved with helping and/or participating for our annual fundraiser the Kaituna Ridges Ramble!

thanks

... to each person who helped in some way with our fundraising this year. We appreciate all of your efforts. Thanks to Mel Cherry for being our fundraising co-ordinator ...it's a big job and often frustrating...you've worked hard!

Also a special thank you to Katrina Steele for our successful Auctions over the years. We will truly miss you and the family next year and wish you all the very best for your new life in the North Island. We will look forward to your monthly visits!

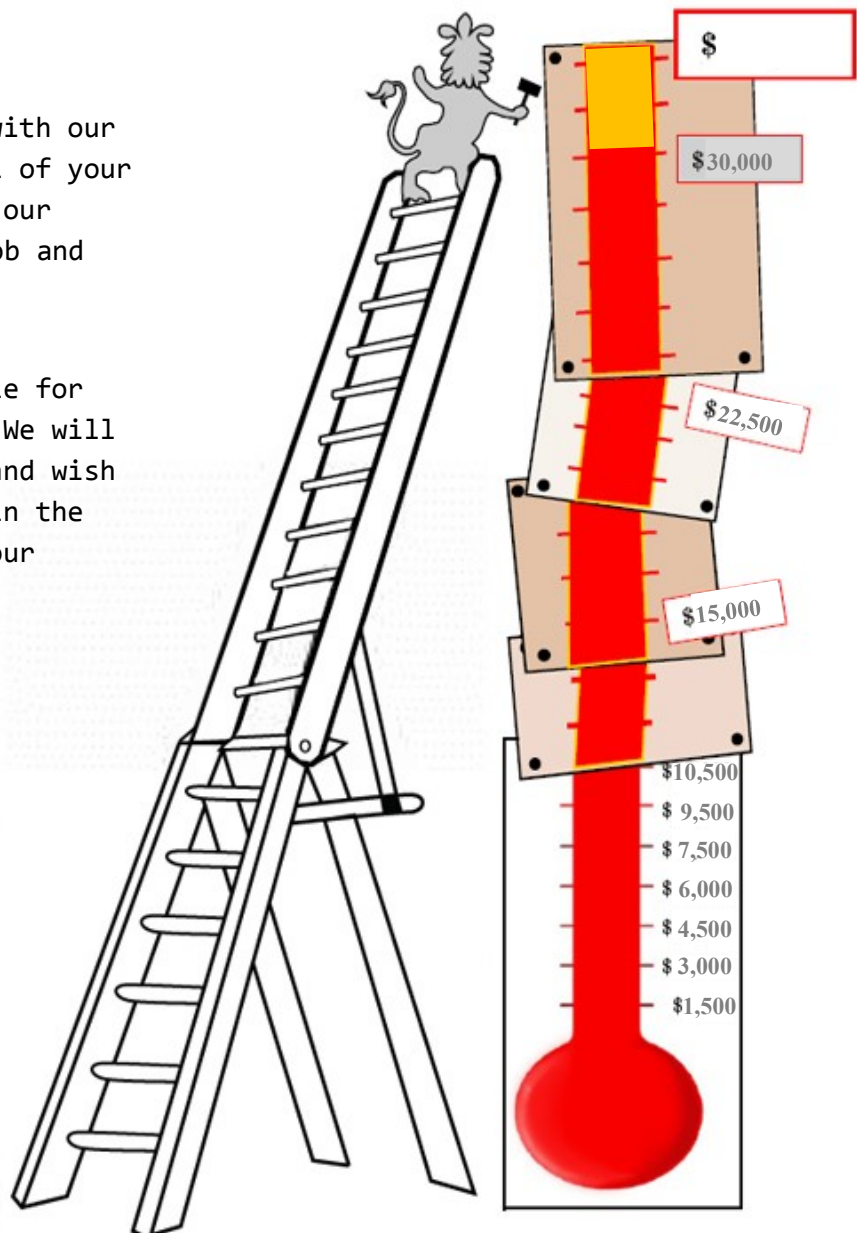
UPCOMING EVENTS...

PELORUS MAILBOAT COOKIES

NOVEMBER TO MARCH

We require people to help roll & bag cookies one Tuesday per month. Recipes and cookie dimensions are already set.

See notice in foyer for more info.





HO HO HO!!! Tis the season to be jolly!

Christmas is just around the corner and the end of the year is near. As we begin to wind down for the year we get into the Christmas spirit and enjoy lots of fun activities and events. This month we will be getting our 'Christmas on' with loads of decorations, a tree and endless Christmas songs!! (YYYYAAAYYY!!!) The tamariki have already been busy decorating the tree and making special Christmas crafts.

We aim to venture out and about to the Foote's farm for our annual preschool 'farm trip' to play on their very cool miniature train and enjoy their beautiful child friendly natural environment. And we also have our annual visit to see Santa down at the big Christmas tree at the memorial in central Havelock. Dates for these events will be put on Storypark closer to the time.

Thanks to everyone who came along to our Christmas concert on Tuesday evening – it was a great evening and it was so good to see so many whānau here to support their tamariki and celebrate together. The children LOVED seeing Santa ... even the older school children who tried to play it cool!! What a lovely way to get to know all our whānau!

A few weeks ago I put out a notice informing parents and whānau about some decisions that would affect all the children and whānau at PCP. As a team we discuss and evaluate certain things during our meetings to ensure we are providing your children with the highest quality and safest environment possible while allowing them to explore and take calculated safe risks.

One of these things is rough play, as a team we recognise the importance of children being involved in rough play in a safe and controlled environment. To accommodate this play we have introduced a 'wrestle mat' where children can get rough with their buddies while learning about all the important factors that come with this sort of play such as knowing their own strength, calculating and assessing the risk, following rules and listening to others. We have had this out on a number of occasions already and the children LOVE it. It is great to see all the children so interested and wanting to get involved – some of our children have really surprised us with their awesome skill and technique.

Another thing we discussed and asked for feedback on was lifting our 'nut ban' as we have no children with nut allergies at preschool at the moment. We received positive feedback from about 10 parents who were all in favour of lifting the ban so we are now nut friendly, and as of this week your children may include nuts in their lunches. Some children were fast off the mark and have already brought in their peanut butter sandwiches and nut snacks. Please feel free to include nuts in your child's lunch moving forward. Lastly, as we head into the warmer months of summer and start getting into a lot more water play we have decided to provide a swimming bag for all children at PCP. These bags will be given out this week; they are a gift from PCP so children can take their wet clothes home each day without having to use plastic bags. We are aiming to be plastic free in 2018 and this is just one way to work towards achieving this. Please make sure your child brings their swimming bag back to preschool daily.

The teachers have also been busy getting into some team building and bonding as part of our team contract and annual plan. We were all very lucky to get the opportunity to attend the Natural Phenomena Conference in Whangarei as a team where we attended some very worthwhile workshops about brain development, using the environment, risk in play and traditional Maori games and activities. We all thoroughly enjoyed this experience and feel it was perfect for us here at PCP as we are all about children being able to explore nature and the environment in their own way and at their own pace. The teachers have come away with some great new knowledge to help shape them as teachers and we have already started teaching the children some cool new games.

We also pulled on our trainers and all walked, ran and biked up the HUGE Mountains that make up the Kaituna Ridges Ramble – such an awesome fundraising event for our amazing preschool. Rachel Hackett was a machine and rocketed past us up one of the hills – good on you Rachel!! Some of us (me) were very sore for days after the event but we all made it through and had a great time! I definitely recommend it to you all!!

After our fundraising event and Christmas party we have a bit of kai left over and have decided to share it with the tamariki – we have already been enjoying sandwiches and toast with the children this week but still have more bread, sausages and meat left over. We have decided to provide lunch for all the tamariki who attend on the last week of preschool. So if your child is attending preschool between the 18th and 21st of December you will not need to pack their lunch as we will provide food for everyone.

WOW what a full on busy year it has been, I can't believe it is December already! Our little preschool baby Isabella is already 7 months and crawling around everywhere!! Thanks everyone for another fantastic year at PCP... without this amazing whānau community PCP wouldn't be what it is! I hope everyone has a very festive season and enjoys some rest and relaxation with loved ones. MERRY CHRISTMAS WHĀNAU!

*Malo au pito
Heather Robson
Senior Teacher*



Mailboat Cookie Bake-off –Tuesday 12 December & 16 January

Havelock School Hall 8.30am-12.30pm

We require volunteers to assist with cookie rolling and packaging. Please come along and help out for a few hours. Pop your name on the list in the foyer.

Last day of preschool for 2017–Thursday 21 December

Preschool will **re-open on Thursday 11 January 2018**. If your child is going to be absent for longer than the 3 week closedown, please let us know as soon as possible.

