



The Ridge Childcare

Newsletter—February 2015

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas/New Year holiday and feel refreshed. We have had a few new enrolments to the centre, so hopefully it is going to be an exciting and busy year for us and the children. We had an awesome Christmas party with the children and their whanau at the end of last year.



Fees: We would like to clarify some queries we have been getting regarding fees.

Statutory Days: There is no reduction on fees for days enrolled that fall on statutory holidays. Full payment for these days is required. There are no 'in lieu days'. If you do wish for your child to come in for a 'make up day' it is up to management to consider your request as our staffing levels may not comply. You will not be charged for our annual Christmas shut down period (this includes the statutory holidays over that period).

Sick Days: Full fees are required when your child is either sent home sick or is kept at home due to illness or any other reason. We require you to phone the centre asap to let staff know that your child will be absent and advise us the nature of their illness.

WINZ Subsidy: It is the **parents responsibility** to ensure all paper work is processed and delivered to WINZ on time. If there is a delay in your subsidy, it is the parents responsibility to pay your child's fees until the subsidy comes through. We will then credit your child's account upon receiving their subsidy.

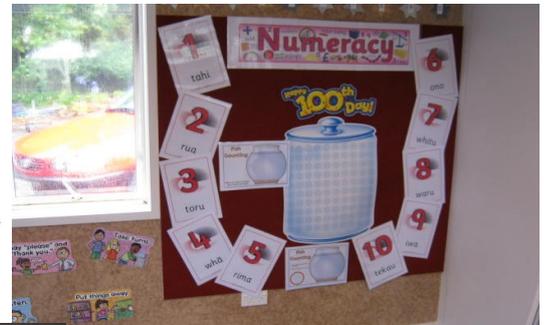
Payment: Our fee payment policy is weekly—please pay your child's fees weekly as stated in our policy.

We also have a few parents not adhering to the times that they have attested to in their enrolment form. This is especially important as this is what our staffing roster is guided by. For example if you have booked your child to start at 8.30am and finish at 4.30pm but you drop him/her off at 7.45 and don't collect them until 5.15, this causes a problem with our teacher/child ratios, so it is very important that you adhere to these times. If you need to change them that is no problem, just inform the staff.



Transitioning to School Room

Yay!!! Our school room is up and running. This room is for our four year olds to transition and get the feel of what it is going to be like when they start their schooling. The four year olds go out to the room for approx an hour after morning tea. Erica and Angelica run the programme which includes the basics Maths, Science, English and a little Information Technology. You are welcome to speak with Erica or Angelica if you would like to know more details.



KIWI ZONE (Under Two's)



Summertime is a great time to get into water play and all our children are certainly keen to join in any water activities we have available. Therefore this has become a focus for our programme planning. The children have been really enjoying recent activities such as watering the vegetable garden, pouring water through “pool noodles” and clear pipes, playing under the sprinkler, filling and emptying containers of water etc. If you have been having water

play fun as a family eg beach visits, we would love you to contribute photos or short story for your child’s portfolio. Another interest we have noticed recently is books. Even our youngest children are often seen exploring books they find and they are all very quick to notice any new ones on the shelf. We plan to expand on our book collection and look at different types eg touch and feel books, CD books, big shared books etc. If your child has a favourite book they would like to share at mat time, they are welcome to bring it along—we promise to take good care of it! Also, could parents please provide their child with rash cream if they think its needed.



Oscar @ The Ridge: Also, don't forget about our After School Programme and Holiday Programme—Oscar @ The Ridge. We have an information pamphlet here or just ask Lynne if you are interested or know of anyone that would be interested in our programme—the kids have a lot of fun and our one big advantage is that we have our daycare and Oscar all on the same property as well as transport directly from Keri Primary to our door.

Hope you have a happy and safe month

From The Team @ The Ridge
Childcare

