



Tēnā koutou & Greetings,

Term 1's newsletter release was interrupted, as we all were, by Covid-19, so we are releasing a joint Term 1 & 2 Newsletter - so you don't miss out! These have been very interesting times for us all. We are so delighted to now be in Level 1 and welcome your children back into our OSCAR House whanau.

Welcome to the programme Lucy Bourke, Lucas Arribas-Grecco, Athena Jenner, Rebecca Haigh, and welcome back Aleksey Baranovsky.

Emergency Drills: Each of our OSCAR House programmes run two emergency drills per term, a fire drill in week one and an earthquake drill in week six. The children also practise these in class, so they are no strangers to evacuations and Turtles. Doing drills at the programme helps to cement our emergency protocols so they become second nature. We discuss expected reactions, assembly points and safety instructions with the children at mat time in the week prior to the drill so they are well informed - the only part of the drill that should be a surprise is the timing. OSCAR House Trial Evacuation Plans are reviewed by the Fire Department. Your children have become very efficient at drills; we will see if we can improve our reaction times across the course of the year!

Spotlight on Staff: We welcome Danni to the Korokoro team this term!

Danni joined us at the very end of Term 1, and we're very glad to have her back with us in Term 2! She enjoys playing sport and running games with the children. She's with us while she completes her degree with Victoria University. She comes from a family filled with children and loves playing and crafting with her cousins. In her spare time, Danni enjoys exploring the local reserves and a good coffee with friends.



Planned Activities: So far over the last two terms your children have enjoyed a broad range of art and craft projects, we've learnt some new group games and we've stretched our free-fun creative brains with some child-led play. We made sludgy slime, tree forts, sherbet, origami boats and beautiful chalk mandalas. We painted faces, sculpted tiny charms for bracelets and calmed our souls with some yoga. We've made paper hats, chalk monsters, and gotten creative with some nail art. Please let us know if you've especially loved any of the crafts your children have brought home, or if you're interested in the instructions to a game they've played, we're happy to share these with you!



Sherbet Recipe:

- 1 cup Icing Sugar
 - 1 ½ tsp Citric Acid
 - 1 ½ tsp Tartaric Acid
 - 1 tsp Baking Soda
 - 4 Tbsp Powdered Drink Crystals (i.e. Raro)
 - (optional) 4 lollipops for dipping
- Simply sieve all ingredients into a bowl and split into 4 portions. So easy and so popular!*

Summer Sun Smarts during Term 1: Your children have been excellent at remembering to put on their sunblock and sunhats during the not-especially-scorching-but-still-hot Summer. Ka pai! We've also been lucky enough to be able to go swimming at the Korokoro school pool to cool off most Wednesdays and Fridays during Term 1, with the odd Thursday thrown in. The kids have a lot of fun splashing about with their friends, doing handstands and holding swimming races. The staff occasionally get an accidental splashing or two to help us cool off as well!



Winter Warm Layers: As the weather cools down in Term 2, we've shifted from sunblock and sunhats to raincoats and warm layers. Please ensure your children have something cosy in their bags to put on once the sun goes down, it can get extremely chilly in our hall, even with the heater going! We do our best to make sure your children return home with all the extra layers they went to school with in the morning. If you can't find a coat or scarf, please do ask one of our staff members as we keep an OSCAR lost property box and we're always more than happy to reunite your children with their lost jumpers.

Shoebox Christmas: We also came to the end of our Shoebox Christmas charity drive – massive THANK YOU to everyone for your kind donations. We managed to fill 30 shoeboxes and make a lot of children very happy this Christmas! Your children also shared in the joy of giving, developing more compassionate hearts through helping others.

Star Child: We awarded a Star Child prize each week in Term 1, according to our OSCAR House weekly focuses. This is a change from the stamp chart groups we did last year. Our new focuses are: kind helpers, respectful listening, manners, treating OH equipment with care, remembering to ask permission, including everyone, appropriate language, enthusiastic participation and quiet homework. These focuses are modelled off our OSCAR House Code of Conduct and are a great reason to reward not just our sparkling children but encourage our improving ones too!

As our numbers have been fluctuating a lot so far in Term 2 with the Covid-19 interruptions, we've put Star Child awards on hold, but we'll be picking this back up again in Term 3.

Annual contact details query:

Have you moved to a new house? Started a new job, got a new cell phone number? Please do let either the Supervisor or admin@oscarhouse.co.nz know if you have had any changes in your contact details. If you have already informed us – Thank you 😊.

Fee payment information:

Just a reminder, as previously advised, parents/caregivers will need to **stop** the payment for the school holiday period 6th -17th July. Please remember, depending when you started back, you may need to amend the final payment to cover one weeks attendance only (this is 50% of the usual fortnightly amount) as OSCAR House's Term 2 is 7 weeks long. If unsure, please contact kelsey@oscarhouse.co.nz.

We're looking forward to another fantastic Korokoro OSCAR House year!

Ngā mihi
The OSCAR House Korokoro Team,
Kelly, Nicola, Danni, Izzy, Liz & Shirley

