

Photo Fun!!

Country Kidz



Address: 1452 Forest Road, Atiamuri RD1 3078

Open 8.30am - 3.30pm.

Phone: 07 333 9111/ mobile 0276 291892

Email: countrykidz@xtra.co.nz

Website: www.countrykidz.co.nz

January/February 2021

We will be having our annual welcome back to Country Kidz swim at Marotiri School on 11th February starting at 6pm.

Please come along bring your siblings and a picnic. We would love to see you there.

Please remember you will be responsible for your child.

Its great to welcome you all back and look forward to an exciting year ahead let's hope we remain free of Covid 19.

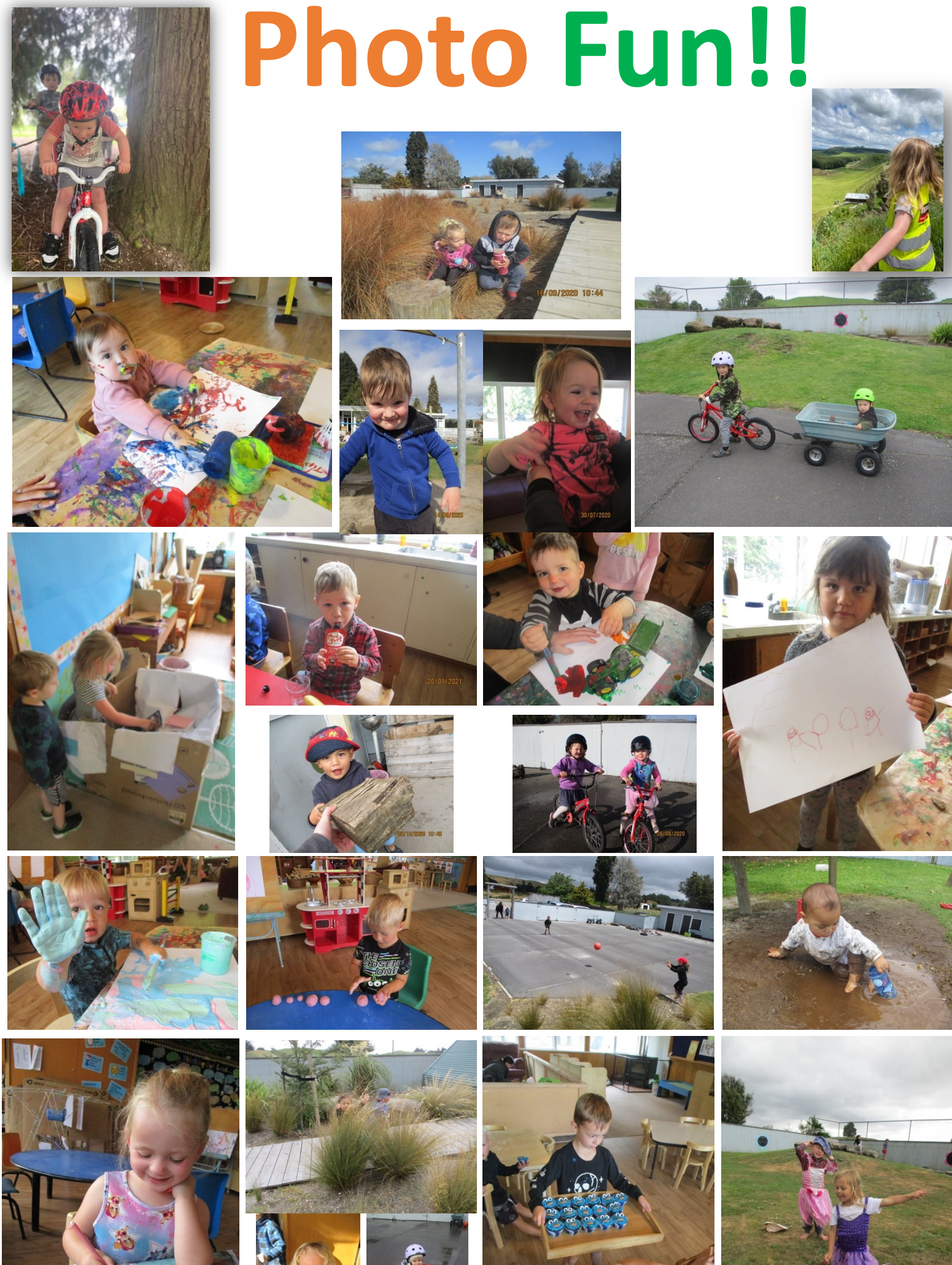
We have many events planned and of course our Nature Kidz for our over 4's will be starting again in February.



We had a very busy time at the end of last year and are delighted to welcome two new teachers to Country Kidz.

Riley Knight who lives in Tokoroa joined us just before Christmas and has already become a firm favourite with some of our children.

We also are excited to welcome Avis back to the teaching team, we are sure many of you will remember Avis from before. We know she will slot straight back into her role.



Teachers Blog:

Written by Sarndra

PLAY.....

Children learn by:

- Tasting, touching, seeing, hearing and smelling
- Watching and copying

Playing and practicing

Play is one of the main ways children learn and build their skills - especially social and self-control skills. And, because it's fun, children often become very absorbed in what they're doing, which helps them hone their ability to concentrate.

Children need time to play alone, they need time to play with other children (without adult interference) and they need to spend time playing with adults.

When playing, children will often want to do something over and over and over again, because they're wired to practice a skill until they get it right. So, it's important to keep playing the same games with your children. Don't play from a sense of duty; play should always be done for fun (if you play with your child without wanting to you're not really playing, are you?).

Set aside all other distractions if you can. Put the phone away and be fully present. And if you feel you need to, give yourself a time limit so you don't become stressed over other matters or feel trapped in an endless play-loop. At the chosen time give the child some sort of "once more then we stop" and then stop. (If the child cries and complains, that's OK. High energy play, in particular, stirs up emotions. Let the child know you understand that they're upset but that the play needs to finish.) Obviously, if the child starts hurting you or destroying things, end the play then too.

Don't leave out high energy activities that make you both laugh. Most children love chasing and rough-and-tumble games with older children and adults. Typically, the adult and the child take turns at being the dominant player which teaches turn-taking, patience, problem-solving, creativity and social skills. And, it refills the child's 'physical contact quota'. Younger children, and especially babies, need lots of physical contact.

Research is constantly emerging about the positive correlation between physical activity and academic performance. So, time playing is time well spent!

There's no way of knowing exactly how much time any particular child needs you to play with them - but it's always more than none!

Make it fun, and play will forge deep bonds between you and your children and help them grow into wonderful adults.



Minimising food related choking in ECE

In 2019, the Ministry of Education initiated a review of the licensing criteria around food safety. Certain foods and the way some foods are prepared and served presents a higher choking risk to children under 5 years of age. It was determined that changes were required to remove all doubt and make the guidance mandatory, only where services are providing food to children. However, we are not required to check and exclude any high choking risk food parents provide under these changes.

We are not required to follow the guidelines as you as parents provide the food for your children. We will promote best practice as set out in the Ministry of Health Guidance - Reducing food related choking for babies and young children at early learning services.

For more information, please visit health.govt.nz

Farewell— Ka kite ano.

Cooper Dudley who heads off to Marotiri School.

Declyn McAsey who has headed off to Reporoa School.

Candice Leach who is also heading to Marotiri School.

We wish you all the best on your next learning journey.

Thank you to:

All the parents, whanau and helpers who supported us last year to make the Centre such a part of the local community.

Everyone's time is precious but we could not exist without your support so thank you.

To Sam Dudley who has been in and fixed our mural and other little projects during the holidays.

To Tanya and Matt Wood for supplying us again this year with firewood.



There has been plenty of birthday celebrations in January. Some of you will have seen the wonderful cake made by

Holly for Ayla Rain on her 4th birthday.

Also celebrating their birthdays in January were:

Stella Smith turned 4

Skylah Kavermann turned 3

Austin Styles turned 3.

We hope you had a wonderful time with your family and friends.

Celebrating birthdays in February are:

Alex Wood turns 4

Hunter Lindsay turns 4

Candice Leach turns 5.

Up coming events:

- * 9th February - Committee meeting 7pm at the Centre. Everyone welcome.
- * 11th February—Swimming at Marotiri School. 6pm

Any updates.

We need to keep our enrolment forms updated with relevant contact phone numbers, emergency and pick-up information. If your circumstances have changed over the new year break please come in and change the details on your enrolment forms. Thank