



# Cambridge Early Learning Centre

April to June 2026

## Kia Ora & Welcome!

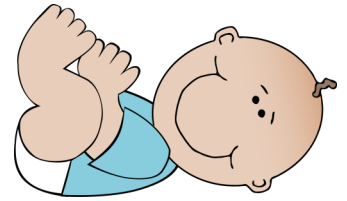
### Inside this issue:

Autumn is upon us and we will start to see the leaves falling, cooler days and darker nights. The coming months we enjoy Easter and Matariki celebrations.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April—Easter Bunny hops on in to the Centre to visit the Tamariki with a little Easter treat and Term 1 ends</li> <li>◆ Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April—Good Friday, the Centre will be closed for Easter long weekend</li> <li>◆ Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April—Daylight Savings ends, don't forget to put your clocks back one hour.</li> <li>◆ Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April—Easter Monday, the Centre will be closed today</li> <li>◆ Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April—Term 2 begins</li> <li>◆ Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April—ANZAC Day (observed) the Centre will be closed today</li> <li>◆ Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May—we will be celebrating our Centre Mum's today. Keep an eye out for individual room news.</li> <li>◆ Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May—Mother's Day, relax and enjoy</li> <li>◆ Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June—King's Birthday, the Centre will be closed today</li> </ul> | <p>Happenings 2</p> <p>More 3</p> <p>Happenings ...</p> <p>Nursery 4</p> <p>News...</p> <p>Toddlers 5</p> <p>News...</p> <p>Pagoda News 6</p> <p>Keryn's Corner 7</p> <p>Finally... 8</p> |
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## STAFF NEWS:

- We farewell Emily from the Nursery early May as she heads off to await the arrival of their 'not so wee' lad. Our love and best wishes, we look forward to meeting your treasure.
- Welcome to Anna who has joined us at The Pagoda. It's great to have you as part of the team. 😊



## THANK YOU:

- Huge thanks to Claire and Phil Ross for organising a day and time that the children could visit the Ross Bros. Car Museum. This was a fabulous outing enjoyed by all.
- A big thank you to the Rudling family who donated an expandable wagon. It has already had its first outing on a recent trip.
- Thank you to Aimee Jenkins for their donation of a double seated pram. This is much appreciated and will certainly be used well.
- Grateful thanks to Richard Boobyer for his handy-work putting together our new sandpit shed at The Pagoda. It looks great and we are so appreciative of your help.
- A big thank you to Josh from GT Civil who removed the tree stump and cleared the area in the Nursery ready for new bark to go down.



## TODDLERS PLAYGROUND:



This is almost complete ... the children are loving the new, larger sandpit surrounded by a bike track and their grassy area is proving to be a real hit. We have made an application for a grant from Cambridge Lions Club to replace the 3 older shade sails, so fingers crossed this comes together for us.

## MOTHER'S DAY:

We are celebrating all our wonderful Mum's early May, details to be confirmed. Please see your child's room news or Storypark community posts for updates on timeframes and how each age group will be celebrating.



# MATARIKI CELEBRATION:

This has become a favourite event at the Centre each year for our tamariki, their whaanau and our kaiako.

We will be coming together to share some yummy hot soup and bread rolls (with details of what this will look like closer to the time)

The Pagoda, Toddlers and Nursery will all be 'open door' so that families can visit and chat with the kaiako.

Here at CELC we celebrate Matariki by implementing the values, principles and theme of the maori new year! This is adapted differently through all rooms but our focus always remains around remembrance, celebrating the present, and looking towards the future, encouraging gathering with whānau, sharing food, and reflecting on the past while planning for the future.

Check out the Matariki website to learn more! The theme for Matariki 2026 is "**Matariki herenga waka**" (Matariki is a mooring place for all canoes ), and is all about inclusion and encouraging all people to celebrate Matariki together.

The three key principles for Matariki are: • Matariki Hunga Nui. Remembrance. Honouring those we have lost since the last rising of Matariki. • Matariki Ahunga Nui. Celebrating the Present. Gathering together to give thanks for what we have. • Matariki Manako Nui. Looking to the Future. Looking forward to the promise of a new year.



# ***The Nursery***

## ***0-18 months***



### ***NAU MAI, HAERE MAI- WELCOME...***

we warmly welcome our  
new tamariki and  
whaanau to the Nursery:

LACHIE  
MADDIE  
REUBEN  
CHLOE  
HEIDI  
LINCOLN  
ZITA

We look forward to having  
you all as part of the  
Nursery whaanau!



### ***KAIKO CHANGES...***

We welcome Kaiako Xin to the Nursery  
team as of the end of March. Xin joins  
us from the Toddler room and we are  
super excited to have her!

With this change, we say bye to Kaiako  
Brooke who steps into a Toddler  
teaching role. We thank her for all the  
time and energy she put into the  
Nursery team and wish her well over the  
fence!

### ***NGAA MIHI-THANK YOU...***

We want to say a thank you to Aimee  
Jenkins who gifted us a double  
mountain buggy pram and also to the  
CELC Trust who purchased a brand new  
double buggy for us. We are really  
excited to be able to get out & about  
among the community and have some  
special walking excursions planned for  
this term!



### ***HAERE RAA-FAREWELL...***

Farewell to Daisy and Charlie who  
transitioned to the Toddlers during  
March.

We say farewell to the following  
tamariki who head over to the Toddler  
unit this term:

MAC  
WILLIAM  
RAFI  
TE HINE-ARIKURA  
STELLA  
ZITA  
WALTER

We wish them all the very best on their  
next part of their learning journey!

# The Toddlers

## 18 months-3 Years



A big warm  
welcome to the  
Toddler Unit,  
Daisy and Charlie

Off on their new  
adventure to the  
Pagoda

Beau, Addy, Brodie,  
Molly and Hugo

We are currently focusing on updating our mud kitchen area to make it a more usable, productive space.

This area will bring many benefits such as:

- Encouraging creativity and imagination
- Builds physical skills and co-ordination
- Supports sensory and motor development, and so much more

We look forward to you seeing the up coming changes



While we still have the warmer weather, we are having water or messy play each day, if you could please send in enough named extra clothing for your child.



We recently enjoyed a fabulous trip to The Ross Bros museum, thank you to the Ross family, all the children thoroughly enjoyed it, especially seeing the Dinosaur! We still talk about the bus everyday.



We would also like to welcome Brooke back to the Toddler team, with past experience in our room she will be a great addition to the team.

Xin is off to the Nursery Team. Her calm, warm presence will be a great fit with our under 2's



# The Pagoda 3-5 years



We recently enjoyed a trip to The Ross Bros Museum. We are lucky enough to have Brodie and his family here with us at the Castle and Pagoda and they helped to organise a trip for us. While we were there we got to check out their very cool museum filled with old cars, heavy machinery and even some dinosaurs.

A big thank you to the Ross family for making this happen for us, we really appreciated it.

Keep a look out for some special days approaching. We will have more information on these closer to the time. Keep a look out on Storypark, as well as the sign in desk for these.

- Easter
- Mother's Day
- Restaurant day
- Matariki

## HAPPY SCHOOL DAYS

Brooks, Frankie, Elsie, Jackson, Hazel & Marco

We wish them all the very best for their school adventures, we will miss them greatly.

## WELCOME TO THE PAGODA

Molly, Brodie, Adalyn, Beau, Hugo

We look forward to getting to know you and your families over the coming weeks.

## Teachers News

Welcome back to Jenny. We have enjoyed having her back and seeing little Heidi through the Nursery window.

We welcome Anna to our Pagoda team. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience.

# Keryn's Corner

## FAMILY FRIENDLY BUTTER CHICKEN

(This recipe is for a large family, NB: this recipe can be halved = 4 adult portions)

### Ingredients:

**1kg Chicken Breast or Thigh**

**1 Red Onion (or brown) - diced**

**2 Tbsps Butter**

**Dash of Olive oil**

**2-3 tsps. Crushed Garlic**

**400ml Can Coconut Cream**

**2/3 cup Tomato Paste**

**1/3–2/3 cup Water (for deglazing)**

**2 Tbsps Tomato Sauce**

**2 tsps. Nutmeg**

**2 tsps. Turmeric**

**2 tsps. Ground Cumin**

**2 tsps. Garam Masala**

**1 Tbsp Chicken stock powder**

**1 tsp Salt**

### Method:

- ♦ **Dice chicken and toss with the spices and chicken stock.**
- ♦ **Add your butter to a pan with a dash of olive oil, allow to heat up then add your chicken scraping in as many of the spices as possible. Cook until aromatic then add the diced onion and garlic.**
- ♦ **Cook until the chicken is just browned and the onion is translucent, if you find it sticking to the pan you can add some water to deglaze the pan. The chicken doesn't need to be cooked all the way through at this point.**
- ♦ **Add the tomato paste and tomato sauce and stir at a medium heat for a few minutes until the chicken is coated.**
- ♦ **Pour in the coconut cream and stir to thoroughly combine, add salt. Bring to a simmer.**
- ♦ **Simmer the sauce until the chicken is cooked and the sauce thickens.**
- ♦ **Once cooked you can serve with your choice of sides, e.g. rice and naan**

**ENJOY** 😊





# Finally...

**We hope you are all enjoying your time with us.**

**We are certainly enjoying having your children at the Centre and getting to know you all.**

