



Cambridge Early Learning Centre

July to September 2026

Kia Ora & Welcome!

Winter is here ... brrrr it has been quite a bit cooler.

We're starting July off with two special celebrations ...

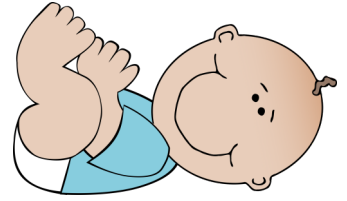
Wilson's birthday and our Matariki Centre family evening

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STAFF NEWS:

- Congratulations Emily and Rob on the arrival of your totally adorable wee guy, Spencer. Perfect gift for Mother's Day.
- Farewell to Maddi, who headed off to commence studies at the end of June. We look forward to seeing you back on semester breaks in a relieving capacity. ☺
- Welcome back to Carla, and welcome to wee Marley, who join us at the end of July. We are looking forward to having you both at The Castle.



THANK YOU:

- Our grateful thanks to the Cambridge Lions Club for their grant of \$3,000 towards some new shade sails for the Toddler playground. We appreciate your ongoing support. ☺
- A huge thank you to Nick Timms, Ink Architecture for your kind donation of \$1,000 towards a new garden shed for the Toddlers playground, and for helping us to secure a heavily reduced price on the garden shed. ☺
- Thank you to Cambridge Mitre10 for your kind reduction with the pricing of the new Toddler garden shed. ☺
- Thank you to Greenscapes Landscape & Garden Supplies for the additional product required to finalise the wee issue that had arisen with the grass area. We love your work. ☺



WILSON'S BIRTHDAY:



Wilson is the Pagoda teddy bear who switches between turning 3 or 4 each year. This year Wilson is 3 years old. Wilson is a much loved and well travelled teddy bear, who has his own passport and goes for overnight and sometimes overseas trips with the Pagoda children.

We look forward to celebrating Wilson on Thursday 2nd July—so come in your PJ's, bring your own teddy for a teddy bears picnic and we can share some of Wilson's birthday cake.

MATARIKI FAMILY EVENING:



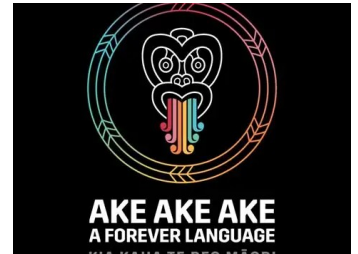
This has become a favourite event at the Centre each year for our tamariki, their whaanau and our kaiako.

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.

TE WIKI O TE REO MAORI— MAORI LANGUAGE WEEK:

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori— Māori Language Week in 2026 will be celebrated from 14th to 20th September. This is an annual celebration aimed at promoting the use of **te reo Māori**, New Zealand's indigenous language, and encouraging New Zealanders to speak it proudly.



DAFFODIL DAY—YELLOW DAY:



We will have our **YELLOW** buckets out ready to collect your gold coins and small change leading up to Daffodil Day on Friday 28th August.

The Kaiako and Tamariki can wear **YELLOW**, play **YELLOW** and eat **YELLOW** on Daffodil Day.

At the end of the day the money collected will be donated to the Cancer Society.

BLOKE'S DAY:



We will be celebrating the special blokes of our Centre children on Friday 4th September.

Please keep an eye out in your child's unit news or Storypark for further details.

The Nursery

0-18 months



NAU MAI, HAERE MAI-WELCOME...

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

NOAH

NAIA

BLAKE

MARLEY

HARPER

JOEY

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

WINTER IS HERE...

Winter is among us. We have plenty of wet
weather gear that tamariki can wear over top
of their clothes. A jacket or extra jersey and/or
a hat is handy to have at the moment, we
have hooks outside for those who wish to keep
them here for the duration of winter. Ngaa
mihi nui

MATARIKI...

We hope you are all able to join us for
our Matariki evening on Thursday 9th
July 6pm-7pm. The Nursery room will
be open to all tamariki and whaanau.
We will have hot soup & bread rolls as
well as a small activity for those who
wish to participate. We are looking
forward to seeing you all.

HAERE RAA-FAREWELL...

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

ISABELLA

MASON

MACKENZIE

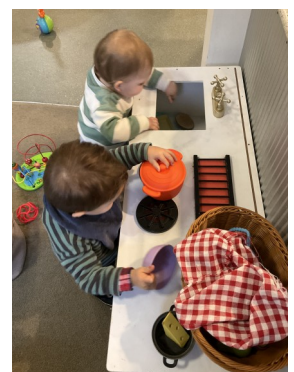
CHLOE

DELTA

FELIX

LINCOLN

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



The Toddlers

18 months-3 Years



Matariki Celebrations

We have been working hard over the last month or so practicing lots of waiata, which you may have heard some of your tamariki sing at home. And lots of art and crafts and storytelling related to Matariki the Māori new year.

We are excited to celebrate and come together for this special evening on Thursday 9th July from 6pm-7pm



I am a toddler.

I am not built to sit still, keep my hands to myself, take turns, be patient, stand in line or keep quiet. I need motion, novelty, adventure and to engage the world with my whole body.

Let me play.
Trust me, I am learning.

nourishingourchildren.org

Closer to the time we would love if you are able to supply any vegetable for our annual soup for the evening.

The weather is in full winter mode, time to bring in those rain jackets and gumboots, and lots of spare named clothing for those messy times we have during our day.

A big warm welcome to the Toddler Unit,

Mac, William, Rafi, Stella, TeHine-arikura, Zita, Walter & Cooper

Off on their new adventure to the Pagoda

Isabella, Lily and Angus



We are excited to have Carla back in the Toddler unit, from the end of July and her little daughter Marley in the Nursery.

The Pagoda 3-5 years



We recently went to Leamington School's discovery morning where we experienced aspects of school life, like hearing the school bell, art and science classes and meeting the teachers.

We have also visited Cambridge Middle School to watch their 'Sponge Bob Squarepants' production. This was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Thank you for inviting us. 😊

- **Wilson's Birthday:** Thursday 2nd July, come in your PJ's, bring your teddy and we will be enjoying a Centre shared morning tea to celebrate Wilson.
- **Matariki evening:** Come and enjoy an evening of soup and whaanau time. All rooms will be open for you to explore. Thursday 9th July from 6.00-7.00pm.
- **Schoolies morning:** During the school holidays we will be welcoming back our schoolies who have recently gone to school. They come back and share their school experiences with us.

HAPPY SCHOOL DAYS

Benjamin, Jack and George

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

WELCOME TO THE PAGODA

Lily, Isabella and Angus

who join us this term, we look forward to getting to know you and your families over the coming weeks.

Teachers News

Farewell to Anna who has returned to her home and passion of kindergarten. Although her time was short with us at The Pagoda we will miss her kind, gentle approach and guitar sessions. We wish her all the best.

You may have seen Elaine's familiar face at The Pagoda lately. She has been doing some relieving and it is great to have her back. 😊

Keryn's Corner

HASH BROWN COTTAGE PIE

Serves 6-8 Prep Time 10 mins Cooking Time 55 mins

Ingredients:

Olive Oil	1 Onion, finely diced
750g beef mince	1 carrot, grated
1 Tbsp dried mixed herbs	1/4 cup plain flour
1/4 cup tomato paste	2 cups beef stock
1 cup frozen peas & corn (or vegetables of your choice)	
500g frozen hash bites or potato balls	

Method:

- ♦ **Preheat oven to 200 degrees Celsius fan bake. Bring a heavy based pan to a medium heat with a drizzle of olive oil then saute the onion until softened.**
- ♦ **Add the mince to the pan, and cook while stirring until the meat has broken up and browned. Once cooked, add the grated carrot and mixed herbs and cook while stirring for 2-3 minutes or until the carrot begins to soften.**
- ♦ **Stir the flour through the mince mixture, followed by the tomato paste. Season with salt and pepper, then add the beef stock and stir to combine. Simmer for 10-15 minutes or until the cottage pie mixture the liquid has reduced and thickened. Stir through the frozen peas.**
- ♦ **Transfer the mince mixture to a baking dish, then use a spoon to spread evenly across the dish. Top the cottage pie mince with the hash bites or potato balls, covering the surface of the mince entirely.**
- ♦ **Bake the cottage pie for 25-30 minutes or until the hash browns are golden and crispy. Leave to cool for 5 minutes, then serve.**

ENJOY 😊

Credit to : New World recipes





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.**

