



# December 2011

*Merry Christmas!*



We have made it through another eventful year here at Lollipops Educare Glen Eden! Time is flying by as we approach the beginning of our 6<sup>th</sup> year. Our foundation babies have just finished their first year of school and we are about to send off another group of grown up 5 year olds who have been with us since they were tiny. We love being a part of your children's lives and be assured that it is always hard saying goodbye to children we have seen almost every day for the past few years. We are at a stage now where we are seeing the younger siblings growing into mature preschoolers which is always special! Christmas is a great reminder of the importance of family, and how fast our children grow up. So after you have taken the time to read this amazing newsletter – take the time to hang out with your family!

## Emails

Thank you to all of you who have provided us with your email addresses. We are waiting for the final few before we can start emailing you account information and newsletters. If you have not yet provided us with your email address, please talk to your child's teacher so we can get this exciting tool up and running as soon as possible.

## Christmas Party

Thank you so much to everyone who came to our fun Christmas party. The weather always manages to redeem itself at the last minute creating a beautiful environment for our celebrations. It was great chatting to all of you outside of Lollipops. The children all had a lot of fun, and we all did too!

## City Mission

We are currently collecting food, gifts, and money donations for the city mission. Christmas is a particularly hard time for some of Auckland's less fortunate families so please help us help the city mission to take the burden off families in need. We have a huge box for non-perishable food items and unwrapped gifts, as well as a piggy bank for all money donations. The City Mission is an amazing charity organisation that helps people in our own city. While we are pondering about what gifts we would like, there are people in our own city who are wondering where they are going to sleep or where their next meal is coming from. Please help us help them!

## New Graduates

We have had a busy year with several of our amazing teachers finishing their studies! A huge phewwww and congratulations to Crystal, Michelle, Jane Owens, and Sally. A degree in Early Childhood is a lengthy and challenging qualification which involves the participants to be extremely dedicated and passionate. Not only must educators complete a 3 year degree or diploma programme, but then go on to complete a registration process which is a minimum of 2 further years of study. We have a mix of educators who are still in training, qualified and going through the registration process; and those who are qualified and fully registered. – we take our hats off to each and every one of you!

### Our Sad Farewells...

Over the last month we have regrettably said goodbye to two of our much loved team members. Donna our cook has left to concentrate on her studies to become an Early Childhood Teacher and is now working with children in a centre in Ponsonby. We are proud of her for doing what she loves, and although our waistlines will benefit from her departure, we will all miss her very much. We will be welcoming Brodie to the team as our kitchen assistant – you will see her around shortly!

We have also said a sad goodbye to Geraldine from the Infants Room in Centre Two. Due to other family commitments, Geraldine has decided to resign from Lollipops Educare, and would like to thank all the parents for allowing her to be a part of them and their children's lives. Geraldine has thoroughly enjoyed her time at Lollipops and appreciates all that the children and teachers have taught her. We wish Geraldine all the best in her future endeavours.

### Our Relieving Team

Here at Lollipops we are lucky to have a set relieving team. This makes sure that our relievers get to know all the children, routines, and staff which allows them to slip seamlessly into any role. At the moment we have Kaveeta, Liz and Stephanie as our qualified relievers, Candice who is in training, and Emily and Sam who are just awesome. You will see their faces around so make sure you introduce yourselves and your children.

### Congratulations Janey!

For those of you who weren't aware, Jane's baby boy Zak was born very early and quickly on the 31<sup>st</sup> October. Both Jane and Zak are doing amazingly well and we are all hoping that Zak will be home in time for Christmas. He is a very scrumptious little dude and we send our love and best wishes to the whole Fallaver-Jones Family.



### Last Clothing Rant of the Year

Our final reminder of the year to name your child's clothing. No doubt they will get lots of new flash threads for Christmas and we would hate for them to end up in the charity bin. A simple name on the tag with a marker will do the trick or for a flasher option head to the Identity Direct website.

### Christmas Hours

We will be closed only on the Statutory Holidays over the Christmas and New Year period – 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> January. We will be having reduced hours through to the 9<sup>th</sup> of January where we will be open from 8am to 5pm excluding December 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> where we will be open from 7am – 3pm.

Due to reduced numbers over this period we often combine rooms throughout the two centres and have lots of fun holiday experiences going on. We will let you know how we will be running once we have finished collaborating all the holiday forms.

### Dr. Seuss

And the Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. And he puzzled and puzzled 'till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more?

**Merry Christmas from the Team at  
Lollipops Educare Glen Eden**