



PRESCHOOL

Preschoolers Farewell Dr Hastie

In their own inimitable way, the whole Preschool turned out on stage to farewell Dr Hastie and encourage her to 'Reach for the Stars' when she left Saint Kentigern to make her way to England to take up a new role as Headmistress of Tavistock & Summerhill School in Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

Preschoolers, parents and invited guests gathered in the Girls' School hall to hear the children sing three of Dr Hastie's favourite songs before launching into the action packed 'Reach for the Stars.' No sooner had they finished than they sang it all over again – this time with Dr Hastie joining in all the actions in her own equally inimitable style!

Director of the Preschool, Mrs Nash, said that as their 'number one Preschool fan,' Dr Hastie was a passionate, professional, fun and enthusiastic educator who would be missed; she will always have a place in the heart and foundations of the Preschool!



No Look, No Talk, No Touch

With stories of children being attacked by dogs; it was an opportune time for our preschoolers to learn about how to be safe around dogs. Annie and her gorgeous dog Sam visited and talked about the three golden rules when first meeting a dog.

1. NO LOOK - Don't look directly at a dog
2. NO TOUCH - Do not to touch the dog
3. NO TALK - Only use quiet voices

Once the dog is comfortable, then they can be approached. For children who were unsure of dogs – Annie told them to put on their 'super hero suit' and every child happily patted Sam.



Police, Fire, Ambulance!

Who do you call when you need help? !!! and ask for help!

The preschoolers learnt about what to do in an emergency during a week that saw visits from the police, fire department and St John's ambulance. The children learned a great deal about what each service does in the community and really enjoyed seeing the fire truck in action, police dog Iso being put through his paces, having a chance to feel oxygen from an oxygen mask and see how to bandage an injury. The most important thing they learnt was to seek help from a grownup – this might mean ringing !!! themselves.



Bubbling with excitement

What better way to get our Preschool children excited about science than with a giant bubble floating above their heads! The Preschool was bubbling with wonder when the Science in a Van team arrived with its Bubbles Roadshow.

Every good bubble-blowing session starts with getting the mixture right, which was also the first learning point for the children. The effervescent scientists, Alan and Emily showed how water and washing liquid combine in order for the bubbles to form. Alan created small bubbles, then larger ones, then bubbles inside bubbles! Emily demonstrated how some mixtures don't

combine, such as the separation of oil and water, while others like baking soda and vinegar spark a reaction.

Underpinning the show was the scientific method of hypothesise, test, observe and refine. The children were asked to imagine what will happen when blue solution is mixed with water; watch the two combine, and revisit their guess if it differed from the result. Words such as mixture, separation and reaction are now part of their vocabulary. This was a great initiation to exploring the physical and material world and learning ways to understand how things work.



Celebrating Red Nose Day

The blue and white of Saint Kentigern was put aside on Red Nose Day in August when the Preschool helped celebrate Red Nose Day with a dress in red mufti day. Everyone dressed the part and brought a donation to add to our Red Nose wall. By the end of the day, \$745.00 had been raised for Cure Kids. Tiff, whose daughter Eva is the face of Cure Kids, came to collect the donation and said she was really grateful for our contribution.

This is the fifth year in a row that the Preschool has donated to this cause. Red Nose Day enables Cure Kids to raise vital funds for research into serious illnesses that affect many of New Zealand's children. Conditions such as childhood cancers, heart diseases, Cystic Fibrosis, Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI) asthma, and many more serious illnesses that mean the children affected often miss out on normal childhood. Cure Kids was delighted that we were prepared to get 'REDiculous' to help to cure kids.





Let It Snow!

The Preschool snow day was a double scoop of ice delight for the youngsters who were snuggled up in the warmest clothing for the special occasion - six tonnes of snow delivered in two truckloads was greeted with much enthusiasm by the children and teachers alike!

Wearing wellingtons, jackets, gloves and beanies, everyone was super keen to get amongst the snowflakes, which had transformed the sandpit area into a snowy knoll. After the fun of making snow angels and snow balls, some special guests arrived - Elsa, the star of hit Disney movie 'Frozen', and her snowman, Olaf. The life-size characters played in their natural snowy habitat with the children, making it one of the best Preschool days of the year!



The Clowns are in Town!

Following on from the visit by Cornflake the Clown at our Mother's Day, the children were keen to have a dress up day. What a sight it was as fifty preschoolers and nine staff arrived for the day dressed as clowns! The costumes were amazing as our parents had made a great effort to ensure their children were looking the part! Colourful clown suits, mismatched shoes, stripes, wigs of every colour and awesome hats made for a day of very excited, happy children!



Cross Country Fun

Fun and determination was in plentiful abundance during the Preschool cross country running races. The preschoolers travelled to the Boys' School to take on the challenging running track! Our youngest boys and girls had their first cross country experience over 2.5 lengths of the rugby field, with our four-year-olds running 3.5 lengths. There was plenty of support from many parents on the side line as all of the boys and girls dug deep to run their fastest! Congratulations to everyone involved for doing their best, and especially to those who came in the top three.



3 year old girls
1st – Ninsi Finn
2nd – Millie Peters
3rd – Willow Carnegie



3 year old boys
1st – Matthew Lamb
2nd – Mark Bai
3rd – Henry Hewes



4 year old girls
1st – Amelia Hardie
2nd – Olivia Lidstone
3rd – Ella Mace



4 year old boys
1st = Ben Robertson
Boston Chester
2nd – Will Paris
3rd – Nico Paravicini

Fathers' Day

It was a fabulous morning at Preschool when Dads and other special male role models were invited to celebrate Father's Day with the children. There was a special treat organised for the day – a visit from Old McDonald's Travelling Farmyard! Both the children and the adults were keen

to get up close and enjoy a hands-on experience of farm life. Undoubtedly the highlight was getting to have a ride on the ponies! There was unbridled delight on the students' faces as they saddled up on top of ponies Bert and Ernie. It was a Father's Day to remember for the students and fathers alike!



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Mothers' Day

There was a fabulous turn out of Mums and other special ladies when the Preschool opened its doors for this year's 'Mother's Day' event. The morning started with a shared morning tea before the highlight of the morning – a visit from Cornflake the Clown who was very funny and just a little bit silly!

At the end of the show, Cornflake made a flower balloon for each child and then the children presented their Mums with a present; a jar of potting mix and a small bag of flower seeds that they can plant together.



Colour Explosion

What better way to learn their colours than to have a fortnight of colour immersion. Each day the staff wore the colour of the day – while the children added something of the colour to their uniform! Art of every colour of the rainbow was soon displayed on the walls – and it looked amazing! Not only did the children learn the colour names in English but also in Maori and French. Great learning for all!

