

Baby Mobility

The Under Twos' room has been full of activity! with James walking, Jessie crawling, Lachlan standing by himself and Damian eager to run to the Over Twos' side, it is important to understand the benefits of these early stages of mobility. This month, the focus is on **crawling**.

Why Crawling is important

- As well as exercising those leg, arm and back muscles, your baby is learning about the space around them and where they are, in relation to it.
- Their eyes are learning to work together, focusing on one hand at the same time, seeing one image, not two.
- Just as the brain uses the eyes to judge space, it learns to evaluate information received through the ears. This stimulates the *vestibular system* in the ears, a system which greatly coordinates your child's speech centre. The under-development of the vestibular centre has been linked to dyslexia: many children with dyslexia have never moved through the crawling stage of development.
- Interestingly, scientists have also found that cultures where children are not encouraged to move on the floor (eg. Eskimo tribes), do not have a written language of their own.

So crawling is not just a stage that leads to walking. It plays a fundamental part in your child's spatial awareness as well as their visual and auditory development.

Encourage your baby to crawl by promoting "tummy time," and introducing different areas and textures to explore.

Article by: Ines and Jacqui

TOY DONATION FROM PAST PUPILS

Big boys Liam left and Ollie, right, decided our small children could have some of their old toys now that they are "big school kids" – looking so grown up in their uniforms - thanks boys!!



Next Baby Master Chef : And the winner is..... Alexis - with her original Irish green cookies!!



Puzzles are fun and easy peasy to Caleb



"I've seen the big kids do it" says Damian, "no sweat – you just stand on one end and the ball flies into the air...ohh"



Bright Minds "Big City Planners"

Every city should have a balance of high rises, ground level buildings & a beehive like Wellington. A city should be compact, like New York, not spread out and sprawling like Auckland. It's more efficient; easier and cheaper to get around.....



BIRTHDAY CHILDREN THIS MONTH

Lachlan turns one year old on 17th August –here he is practising his crawling and climbing skills.



Luke (below) and Cameron –rhs (mixing the gingerbread dough) - turn the magic age of 3yrs old on 5th August and 31st August respectively. Happy birthday to all three of these darling little boys.



THAT'S A SWITCH – DAUGHTER PROUD OF MUM!!



Congratulations Kertena on your graduation! All that hard work has finally paid off. We are all very proud of you, especially Mikayla

"House keeping"

Fees – a reminder that fees are to be paid weekly in advance, unless you have a special arrangement with Lynn or Noel. Otherwise 10% late fees will apply on overdue accounts

Further reminders: (1) Please ring us if your child will be away due to illness, or for any other reason. (2) Late child collection fee -for up to 10 minutes \$20.00 (this goes to the teacher caring for child)

HERE'S A WIN WIN FOR EVERYONE

Tamaki Sports Academy are collecting old metal of any kind for a fund raiser for their sports group. They will take computers, whiteware, roofing iron, pipes, batteries, cars, lawnmowers, etc etc. Just give them a call on (09) 276-0328 and they'll collect your junk for free and you'll have space to get the car in the garage again – easy & everyone's happy!!

GINGERBREAD DAY AT BRIGHTMINDS

We sang the song with great gusto, drew pictures of what they should look like, made the gingerbread dough, cooked and ate them all - Fun & delicious!!



He may be young but he's a competent driver - James takes the boys on a joy ride around the yard much to their delight

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