

Opawa St Martins Plunket Toy Library

Winter/Spring Newsletter

September 2008

Welcome to the latest edition of the Toy Library newsletter - I'm just waiting for the weather to cheer up! The boys have been enjoying a variety of indoor toys from the toy library which has helped keep my patience on these cold wet days. Hope the new session times will make the toy library a less busy place to visit!

Karen

NEW SATURDAY SESSION

You may have noticed the toy library getting busier - our membership is larger than ever so a new session will be trialled on **SATURDAY AFTERNOONS** - 1.30 pm to 3.00pm. This starts on Sat 13th September. A new roster for Saturday afternoons will be put up, please fill out and get in early!

WATCH OUT FOR GLIDING BIKES

Look out for the new 'gliding' bikes - see photo below. As they do not have pedals they are easy to use. The bike is moved forward by moving the feet in a running motion. Kids rapidly discover this for themselves and quickly progress, learning balance and control much earlier than on a conventional bike. When the time comes to progress to a pedal bike, stabilisers will not be necessary. In fact the speed at which the transition takes place is amazing. Suitable for children from 2 to 2 1/2 years up to 6 yrs.



FUNDRAISING SPENDING

Have you seen our beautiful new computers - these were bought thanks to the recent raffle and we hope these will enable our toy hire sessions to run more smoothly as the old computers were causing more and more delays during sessions.

CHALK CATALOGUES HAVE ARRIVED

A fabulous opportunity to buy and put away toys for Christmas - most of the toys in these catalogues are not available in our shops and are of good quality. We had great feedback from those who used Chalk last year and 20% of sales goes straight into vouchers for toys for the toy library! Another no-obligation fundraiser which counts as one of your fundraising efforts - Orders to the Toy Librarians by Saturday 4th October to ensure you get your toys for Christmas!

NEW TOYS AND DVDS

Several committee members went up to Auckland to the recent TLFNZ Conference and bought LOTS of great new toys. Some of them are already on the shelves but look out for loads more coming soon, too many to mention here, but there are castles, dolls houses, baby toys, puzzles, scooters and bicycles, Thomas sets, puppet theatres and much more. New DVDs include Veggie Tales, as recommended by Ian & Mary Grant of Parents Inc.

Toddler Taming by Dr Christopher Green - This set of 3 DVDs is now available, at a rate of \$3 per fortnightly hire.

SPARC DVDS

Active Movement for under-fives dvds series 1 and 2 from SPARC are available for hire FREE for two weeks. There are some great ideas here to have fun with your little ones and they

are an informative resource for getting the under-fives active!

ARE YOU SIGNED UP FOR DUTIES?

Please ensure that you get in early with putting your name down on the roster because come next June if you haven't completed your duties a \$10.00 charge per uncompleted duty will be added to your account. First in on the roster gets their duties completed!

REMEMBER END OF SESSION TIMES

Please respect the session times and ensure that you arrive with plenty of time to get your toys returned and new toys issued as no toys can be issued to those who arrive in last 5 minutes of the session (to allow librarians to get home on time).

HELPER DUTY REMINDER

Helpers must be at the library at least 5 minutes before opening time as we need to let you know what to do - the library will not open until at least 2 helpers have arrived.

Please do not change duties less than 2 weeks prior to your booked duty date, otherwise an instant fine of \$10 is payable. A \$10 charge will also apply if you fail to turn up for your duty on the day.

Lately we have had problems with helpers changing duties with no notice and not turning up. This causes extra work and frustration as it is very hard to find replacement helpers at short notice.

IF YOU HAVE PROBLEMS ATTENDING A DUTY, PLEASE RING MELODY ON 9806949 TO ARRANGE A REPLACEMENT.

WE REALLY APPRECIATE ALL HELPERS AND YOU PLAY AN ESSENTIAL PART OF RUNNING OUR GREAT TOY LIBRARY. WE CAN'T RUN THIS LIBRARY WITHOUT YOUR HELP SO IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS OR PROBLEMS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE LIBRARIANS -

ZOË (3316276), MELODY (9806949) OR RACHAEL (9425740)

If you have any comments or suggestions for the newsletter, e-mail me at scottishkaren@gmail.com

Disclaimer: Opinions expressed or events described in this newsletter do not necessarily represent Plunket policy.

*****SUBSCRIPTION DRAW RESULTS*****

Congratulations to Heather Fraser who won a \$30 credit for toy hire in our membership renewal draw!

ANYONE AN ELECTRICIAN?

Can you spare some time to test electrical safety of our appliances and tag them? To help please ring Anna on 3257577, thanks.

ARE YOU HANDY WITH A BRUSH?

We have some wooden toys that need brightening up with a lick of fresh paint - do you have some time, patience and a steady hand? Please contact the toy librarians to find out more.

COOKIE TIME

Our Main Fundraiser for 2008/9: We have bags of 20 'Smart' cookies from Cookie Time for members to sell. These sell for \$1 a cookie (of which 49 cents goes to the Toy Library) and have the Heart Foundation Tick. Cookie Monsters and bags up for grabs for those who sell the most cookies!



More new toys: Haba Wooden Blocks (above) and Little Tikes Bee Bop Band (below)

