

January 2012

**Annie's Nannies
Bucket Hats**

\$10 each



**Annie's Nannies
Picnic Rugs**

\$24 each



Family Fun Picnic Evening

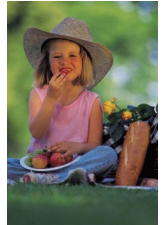
Thursday 26th January

4.30pm-7.00pm

Edgar MacIntosh Park (Jennifer Street, Bryndwr)

Bouncy Castle, sausage sizzle, fun games and activities for the children

Come and join us for a belated family Christmas event (minus Santa who is back at the North Pole)



Beach Activities

Who doesn't love a day at the beach? These ideas will help you have fun at the beach.

Dig a channel to the sea. Make a dam and use sand, pebbles and other beach finds. Dig a hole and fill it up with water! Have a go at sand sculpture. What about making a turtle or a mermaid? Search for driftwood, shells, seaweed, crabs, sea glass, etc. See if you can find a pebble or shell with a ready-made hole in it, to string on a cord for a necklace. Collect other objects and make them into pictures on the beach. Award a prize—real or honorary—for the person who can bring back the most interesting "find". Build a boat or a car in the sand big enough to sit in. Great for imaginary journeys. Draw pictures, words and puzzles in the sand with a stick. Design pictures using pebbles, rocks, seaweeds and shells—whatever you can gather. There's always room on the beach for another sandcastle! Build a city—not just a sandcastle. Paint seashells. Organize a scavenger hunt. When you plan your day at the beach don't forget the inflatable balls, buckets and spades and sun block.

If you don't live near the beach, create your own "beach" in your back yard or neighborhood park. All you need is a water (anything from a child's paddling pool to a swimming pool) and a container or tarp with some sand. Don't forget the picnic blanket, picnic and sand toys.



Christmas Grotto

December was a busy month, with lots of fun Christmas themed activities. The highlight of our outings was our trip to the Christmas Grotto in Sydenham. All the children had a look of wonderment on their faces as they entered through the curtains. It was lovely to hear the excitement in the children's voices as they pointed to all the different scenes. One of the favorites being the village with lights and trains.



Welcome

This month we would like to welcome Sarah Rusbridge, who is joining the Christchurch team as a Programme Coordinator. She is a qualified Early Childhood Teacher with over ten years experience in the Early Childhood sector. She will be working on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It is lovely to have her on board.



What's Happening

Tothill's Mazes Family fun for all ages. Wooden Maze and Corn Maze open Boxing day. School holiday hours; Open 7 days 10am-5pm. Come and get lost at 493 Shands Road, Hornby.
www.tothills.com

The Emperors's New Clothes Elmwood Players, Elmwood Auditorium, Aikmans Rd, Merivale. 19-29 Jan All seats \$7. Phone 3558874 or book online www.elmwood-plays.org.nz

Arion Farm Education Park 890 McLeans Island Road. The National Trade academy has a new on-site farm where children can see, touch, feed and learn about a variety of farm animals. Open Mon-Thu and Sun 10am-3pm. \$5 per person and available for parties. www.arionfarmpark.co.nz

Tip Top Kite Day Sat 28 Jan 1-4pm New Brighton Beach south of the pier. Bring along your own kite and watch it soar amongst hundreds of kites of all shapes and sizes. A free event.

Harlequin Players Present Sleeping Beauty and the Frog Prince Abberley Park Hall, stAlbans. Mon 23-Fri 27 Jan 6.30pm, Sat 28 and Sun 29 Jan 11am and 2pm. Gate sales only \$5 each

The Inaugural New Zealand Sandcastle

Competition New Brighton Beach Sat 21 and Sun 22 Jan 9-4pm

www.newzealandsandcastle.competition.co.nz



Policy:

We are currently reviewing our policy on outings and play dates.

Over the next month our Educators and Nannies will receive a 'risk management form' to service as a reminder of items to take to outings (eg, sun screen, first aid kits). If you can think of items that you believe should be considered for the list please contact the office via email with your ideas.

Sand Dough

Ever wanted to make a sandcastle that will last forever? Here's a recipe that will let you do just that.

1 part white glue
2 parts flour
2 parts sand
2 parts water



Mix together to create a dough. You may need to add water or flour depending on the consistency.

Stepping stones

Spray a character cake pan with cooking spray (or Vaseline), fill it with sand dough. Let it dry for 3 days. The children can then paint the stepping stones when they come out of the pan. You can varnish them for weather proofing purposes as well.

Cheesy Straws

Quick and easy to make, these delicious straws are best eaten while they are still warm from the oven!

Ingredients:

100g butter
150gm mature cheddar cheese or a mix cheddar & parmesan
100gm plain flour
1 egg yolk

Grease a baking tray with a little butter and cover it with a piece of baking parchment. Grate the cheese into a bowl and then sift in the flour with a sieve. Cut the butter into small cubes and rub them into the mixture with your fingers. When the mixture is crumbly and the butter has almost disappeared, stir in the egg yolk. Next, roll the pastry into a ball. Then, dust the work surface with plenty of flour and roll out the pastry into a rough square that is 5mm thick. Cut the square into strips and transfer them onto the baking tray. Ensure that you leave a small space between each one. Place the baking tray into a preheated oven and bake for about 7 minutes or until the cheesy straws are a pale golden brown. Cool on a wire rack.

Annie's Nannies Contacts

Office Hours
9.00am – 4.00pm
Monday to Friday

Ph 343 5536
info@anniesnannies.co.nz

Administration Manager

Sue Gibson

Accounts Officer

Kay Ebborn

Family Liaison Coordinator

Jo Freeborn-Jones

Program Coordinators

Charlotte Williamson

Shannon Inwood

Jennifer McBride

Anne McAuley

Sarah Rusbridge

Chipmunks Wigram
Wednesday
18 January
10am

Burwood Playgroup,
Burwood
Plunket Rooms
Wednesday 25
January
1pm-4pm

Edgar MacIntosh Park
Tuesday 31
January
Meet at 10.30am

Dates to Remember