

NEW
LOOK!

ECE NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, 2026

Nau mai, haere mai!

I hope you've had an awesome summer break and start to 2026. We had a great finish to 2025 with Christmas in the Park. We were joined by the fire service, bringing Santa/Hana Kōkō, and many other community groups supporting our children. There was a big turnout and many happy faces. The feedback was great and continues to help us determine what services we can provide for families and tamariki in the region.



Mel Oliver

Education Support
Coordinator

This term our focus will be on 'Mana atua/ well being'. To support this focus, we are basing our activities around New Zealand sun safety. To engage little minds, there will be games, a story and a 'Be Sun Safe' colouring competition, with summer goodie bags up for grabs for the lucky winners.

Visits will be a bit different this term as I am busy running The Incredible Years Parenting Programme. I do hope to see most of you though, and I look forward to working with you all in 2026.

Ka kite anō,
Mel

TERM TOPIC

SUN SMART



SUNSHINE FUNTIME!

ACTIVITY

Get creative and tune those fine motor skills with fun in the sun activities! All you need are: Paper plates, paint and pegs!



SHADOW DRAWING

ACTIVITY

Make the most of bright sunny days with shadow drawing!
Make fun shapes with your bodies, or trace the shadows of toys or items from the garden.



Be Sun Safe

TERM ONE 2026 – DELIVERED BY MEL OLIVER



Scan QR Code
for Colouring
Competition!



This term, our focus is on sun safety!

This includes a storybook, a game and a craft/colouring competition.



Play Groups	Day	Date
Woodville Playcentre	Tuesday	24 February
Sprouts	Wednesday	Resource pack dropped off only
Building Blocks Dannevirke	Thursday	Resource pack dropped off only
Monday @ Ruahine	Monday	Resource pack dropped off only
Ti Tree Point Playgroup	Wednesday	Resource pack dropped off only
Kumeroa-Hopelands Playgroup	Monday	2 March
Ruahine Playgroup	Tuesday	10 March
Te Kōhanga Reo o Kaitoki	Tuesday	24 March
Takapau Playcentre	Wednesday	Resource pack dropped off only
Te Kōhanga Reo o Atawhai	Tuesday	14 April
Te Whare Koha Playgroup	Wednesday	Resource pack dropped off only

TE WHARIKI STRAND

Mana Atua
Wellbeing

GOAL

To promote healthy
habits.

LEARNING OUTCOME

Keeping themselves
healthy and caring for
themselves / te oranga nui.

TARARUA REAP

Rural Education Activities Programme

15 Gordon Street, Dannevirke

06 374 6565

mel@tararuareap.co.nz

www.tararuareap.co.nz



Be SunSmart

Being SunSmart is about protecting skin and eyes from damaging UV radiation – especially when outdoors from September to April.



Slip on clothing

Slip on clothing that covers as much skin as possible. Fabrics with a tighter weave and darker colours will give you better protection from the sun.



Slip into the shade

Slip into the shade of a leafy tree, building or shade sail.



Slop on sunscreen

Slop on plenty of broad-spectrum, water-resistant, sunscreen of at least SPF 30. Apply 20 minutes before going outside and reapply every two hours and especially after being in water or sweating.



Slap on a hat

Wear a hat with a wide brim or with flaps covering the ears and neck. More people are sunburnt on the face and neck than any other part of the body.



Wrap on sunglasses

Choose close fitting, wrap-around style sunglasses. Not all sunglasses protect against UV radiation, so always check the label for sun protection rating.

WHĀNAU DAY OUT

Celebrating Children's Day
Te rā o ngā Tamariki

Fun, free, interactive whānau day
connecting communities with
service providers in Tararua

SATURDAY

7 MARCH, 2026



10.00AM TO 2.00PM



**DANNEVIRKE A&P
SHOWGROUNDS
INDUSTRIES HALL**



BROUGHT TO YOU BY



**Strengthening
Families**

Te Huarahi ki te
Whakapiripiri i Ngā Whānau



**everyone active.
kia mātātoa tātou.**

**Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora**

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Picky Eating

LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR CHILD AND THEIR
FOOD PREFERENCES



“BEST THING EVER! Dinner times in our house have gone from battles, tears, time outs, bargaining, bribing, and tantrums, to legitimately pleasant experiences.”

Eating can be more challenging than we realise.



How food looks, smells and feels, both on the plate and in their mouths can all impact a child's experience with food.

Sensory processing, genetics and neurodiversity can also play a part in picky eating.

Join other parents over 3 weeks in a non-judgemental space to learn about the spectrum of picky eating.



Details

-  10.00 am - 12.00 pm
-  Monday 2, 9, 16 March
-  Tararua REAP,
15 Gordon Street
-  Koha Appreciated
-  Refreshments available

**To Register, contact
Tararua REAP, or visit
www.tararuareap.co.nz**

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Tackling Technology

KEEP
KIDS SAFE
ONLINE!



DATE
6pm, Thursday
19 February 2026

VENUE
The Hub
23 Gordon Street
Dannevirke

RSVP
Tararua REAP
Ph 06 374 6565

Light supper served

FREE EVENT

Raising kids in a *digital* world

Technology can be a helpful tool, but it's also a minefield – especially for our kids!

With the latest information on topics including cyberbullying, grooming and sextortion, as well as insights on parental controls, appropriate boundaries and healthy habits, this talk is your vital guide to keeping kids safer online.



Sheridan Eketone, Parent Coach

Sheridan Eketone is passionate about shaping the hearts of the next generation through great parenting. Mum of four teenagers, Sheridan is grateful to her own tamariki for teaching her the importance of connection when it comes to raising confident and resilient kids.

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