

Ōrākei Montessori Preschool

“Let us inspire your child to be a life-long learner through nurturing care and Montessori teaching guidance”

Visit our website for more information and to download our application form:
www.omp.school.nz

Mauri tū Mauri ora
An active soul is a healthy soul



About us:

A Montessori Preschool has been operating on this site since 1993. Our trained and experienced Montessori teachers are committed to provide quality Montessori Education for children from 20 months to 5 years of age. Our warm and friendly environment includes two purpose built and fully equipped Montessori classrooms and an outdoor area set among mature native trees. We are licensed for 40 children per session and offer 20 hours of ECE subsidy from 3 years of age. We are a MANZ (Montessori Association of New Zealand) member school, our teachers attend MANZ conference each year to keep abreast of current best practice.

Our Philosophy:

We believe in creating an environment to foster a love of learning by enhancing freedom with responsibility, valuing creativity and appreciating individuality.

We endeavour to nurture the human spirit by respecting self, others and the environment through connection, communication and collaboration.

We educate for peace by embracing diversity, celebrating the joy of discovery and practicing honesty and humility.

We support the child to make their own discoveries by directing the child's natural energies towards purposeful engagement in an environment containing everything necessary for self-construction.

We uphold the Principals of Tiriti O Waitangi and strive to achieve meaningful bi-cultural practice.

We understand the importance of having a respectful, responsive and reciprocal relationship with parents/whānau because we educate the child as a cohesive team.

Our Programme:

The Fantail Class is designed to meet the very specific needs of children from the age of 20 months to 3 years. The classroom environment is set up to allow the children as much independence as possible, which is supported by consistent rules and caring supervision. Fully trained and experienced teachers introduce the children to simple, engaging, fun Montessori activities which stimulate their language and intellectual growth. Morning sessions begin with a short period in class then children are able to choose inside or outside activities, ending with a short mat-time with singing, stories and music. Afternoon sessions are available all week to those children who have dropped their afternoon sleep and have a stronger emphasis on introductory language and mathematics activities, together with small group learning games. The Fantail Class gives children a gentle, fun introduction to Montessori before moving to the Tui Class around 3 years of age.

The Tui Class is a fully equipped Montessori classroom catering for children from 3 to 6 years of age. Montessori trained teachers guide children through individual planning schedules that ensure they are kept stimulated, productive and engaged. Morning sessions begin in the classroom environment until 9.30am when we open the outside area, children can then choose to participate in activities inside or outside the classroom, they have complete freedom of movement. Our outdoor environment has a variety of activities for the children to take part in such as art, craft, carpentry, gardening, care of Guinea Pigs, sandpit, water play (weather permitting), ball skills and gross motor activities. Inside activities are listed over the page under curriculum areas. The morning session ends with a mat-time and all children stay for lunch until 12.45pm. The afternoon sessions have a focus on project work, this relates to the child's individual interest which are explored using various media and ends with outside play.

Montessori Philosophy:

In the Montessori classroom from the beginning the child carries out a progression of tasks in an orderly fashion, and is stimulated and challenged by the materials.

The child becomes aware that it is their own initiative that leads to accomplishments. The child develops habits of concentration, perseverance and thoroughness.

The inner challenges, established in early childhood makes each child a confident and competent learner. It is essential to "help the child to help themselves".

Montessori Curriculum areas:

Practical Life: Here children are given opportunities to develop independence, concentration and co-ordination. Relevant situations taken from everyday life are provided for children to take responsibility for themselves, others and the environment. Activities are meaningful and have real importance for the children.

Sensorial: Young children learn through all of their senses. Through the exploration and experience with carefully designed materials children use their sense of sight, hearing, smell, touch and taste to learn about the world they live in. Hands on experience with concepts such as size, shape, colour, intensity of sound.

Language: A 'total approach' to language is taken in the Montessori classroom. Opportunities for listening and communicating are provided, and children are gradually introduced to different ways of communicating – orally, through writing and through reading. Letters (by sound) are introduced and children gradually become aware that words are made up of sounds.

Mathematics: All mathematical concepts such as 1 to 1 correspondence and the introduction of numerals are introduced with materials which the children can feel, touch, manipulate and move around. Concepts are gradually built upon and the decimal system is introduced.

Cultural: The cultural area includes experiences with music, poetry, stories, artwork and items from the child's community, society and cultural background. The areas of geography, zoology and botany are all included here. Globes, a map of the World, animal and botany puzzles and objects from other countries help children make their own cultural discoveries.

Our hours:

Fantail Class – from 20 months to 3 years of age
Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 11.45am (half day)

Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 2.45pm (full day)

Tui Class – from 3 years to 5 years of age

Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 12.45pm (half day)

Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 2.45pm (full day)

(We allow 15 minutes 'grace' period at drop off and pick-up)

Our fees:

\$13.80 including GST per hour.

Fantail Class children require a minimum of 2 sessions per week. Tui Class children require a minimum of 3 sessions per week. Orakei Montessori Preschool offers the 20 hours ECE subsidy for our 3, 4 and 5 year olds. To enable us to do this without comprising the quality of the service provided, additional resource charges are invoiced as part of the Fees Policy.



Our teaching team:

Pauline Roberts - Owner/Manager/Head Teacher. Bachelor of Education (Early childhood teaching) (2004), Post Graduate Diploma Montessori Early Childhood Education (2010). I have been Head Teacher in the Fantail Class for past 8 years and in December 2015 I became the new owner.

Monica Ashari - Master of Education (2011), Bachelor of Education (Montessori Early Childhood Teaching) (2006). I have been teaching at our Montessori for a total of 9 years.

Rachael Hobbs - I am currently studying for my Bachelor of Teaching and Learning through Canterbury University's distance program and have been teaching at our Montessori for 5 years.

Mio Kawai - Deputy Head Teacher. Bachelor of Education (Montessori Early Childhood Teaching) (2006), I am currently studying for a postgraduate diploma in Specialist Teaching (Early Intervention). I have been teaching at our Montessori for a total of 5 years.

Yi (Saori) Zhang - Bachelor of Education (Montessori Early Childhood Teaching) (2013). I have been teaching at our Montessori for the past 3 years.

Visit us:

We welcome you to come and observe our learning environment, call to book an appointment. Please phone Pauline Roberts on (09) 529-2518 or email pauline@omp.school.nz to make an appointment.

Before your child starts we welcome you and your child to visit as often as you like, this helps the settling-in process and allows you both to become familiar with our routines and methods of teaching.