



Pearl of the Islands Foundation



Welcome to a new and updated edition of the Pearl of the Islands newsletter!

Our Red Cross earthquake appeal raised over \$1080 and we handed the cheque over to Red Cross.

In this issue we will share what we have achieved over the past several months. We had a Family Whanau Day at our educare centre. As usual, this was a great hit with parents and children. It was also a great day to interact and engage with one another. We were also present at a number of food festivals. The annual International Cultural Festival was a great success having sold out of all food by 3pm!

Please read on for more information and photos regarding our events and activities.

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Christchurch Earthquake Fundraiser Statement

Pearl of the Islands Foundation organised a fundraiser to contribute and help assist Red Cross' efforts in providing New Zealanders impacted most by the recent Kaikoura Earthquake and severe aftershocks. The \$1080 raised was handed over from PIF to Red Cross.

Robyn Brady from Red Cross welcomed the donation, "You are helping to make a big difference to the lives of many people and we really appreciate that you have organised this fundraiser!"

The money raised for our fundraiser came from members and the wider community of our organisation. 100% of all donations will go directly to relief efforts. We wish to thank all our generous members that have contributed and supported our efforts in this fundraiser.

You can read a recent news release regarding how funds are designated:

<https://www.redcross.org.nz/stories/new-zealand/red-cross-announces-grant-earthquake-damaged-homes/>



Thank you

THIS CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION IS PRESENTED TO

Pearl of the Islands Foundation

FOR

Fundraising for November Earthquake Appeal

Robyn Brady

Date: 20/12/2016



0800 RED CROSS (0800 733 276) | redcross.org.nz

Otahuhu Food Festival

Over the weekend we were present at the Otahuhu Food Festival to sell Turkish foods. Our stands included kebabs, desserts and Turkish coffee.

Hundreds visited our stalls and we were able to share a taste of Turkey with them.



Pearl of the Islands Foundation Inc. was present at the Auckland International Cultural Festival with several food and cultural stalls.

The annual festival held in Mount Roskill saw PIF setup a kebab stall, baklava and sweets stall, Turkish coffee and an 'Ottoman' corner.

Our homemade savoury and desserts were popular once again and were sold out by 2pm. We appreciate everyone that supported our fundraising and thank all guests and people who visited us on the day.



Family Whanau Day

A Family Whanau Day was held in at the Little Pearls Educare Centre with students, staff, and teachers. Attendees contributed to the shared lunch by adding their own foods or dessert to the table.

Despite the weather conditions, many of the children's families were present. We thank everyone for their attendance. It is events and programs like this which allow communities and individuals to interact, engage in dialogue and eventually form 'peace bridges' with one another.



Diwali Cultural Night

A Diwali cultural night was held with friends and family as part of a 'Cultural Nights' series. The Pearl of the Island's (PIF) Intercultural Dialogue platform hosted the event.

The Diwali night allowed us to experience first hand the Hindu culture and tradition under the same roof. A large gathering turned up to the event, which included many valued guests. Diwali signifies a cultural, religious and seasonal holiday for many Hindus in Asia and beyond.

MP Kanwaljit Bakshi made an appearance to meet and greet with guests. The MP made a short speech appreciating PIF's efforts to undertake intercultural activities that bring diverse groups of people together.

Our organisation works to form and reinforce bonds with communities within Auckland and the greater New Zealand. We aim to promote dialogue and education through our established institutions and platforms. Many of our well-known events include Ramadan Iftar dinners, food festivals, cultural nights, holiday school programmes and study tours.



Extension of Little Pearls Educare Centre

The extension of our current Childcare Centre is almost complete! The construction has been continuing for several months and will increase the capacity from 40 to 60 pupils.

See photos of the extension below.

The extension was complete in early April and the building opened its doors to the parents and children in the Family Whanau Day. The Education Department will approve the building in May and have it officially recognised.



2016 Christmas Food Parcels

As part of our tradition of organising and raising funds for humanitarian aid campaigns, we ran another batch of food parcel deliveries during the 2016 Christmas period. 20 parcels were packed and delivered to those in need.

We thank our generous donees in making this possible. Please get in touch if you wish to fund any food parcels.



Little & Ardern visit Little Pearls

Labour MP Jacinda Ardern visited our Little Pearls educare centre located in Mount Albert with party leader Andrew Little.

They were welcomed by director Mr Basar and introduced to the staff, parents and children. The politicians chatted to parents and young children.

Little and Ardern were greeted by friendly faces with four-year-old Safiyye fast befriending Ardern.

The early childhood centre provides children from three months of age to five years old education and is now undergoing extensive extension to expand the capacity of the facility.

We thank both Jacinda and Andrew for visiting our cheerful centre.



Little Pearls Extension COMPLETE

Our Educare centre has gone through an extension to its current building over the past year and we are pleased to say that it is finally complete! The new extension will feature a new staff room, bathroom for children and a new playing area. The capacity is set to increase from 40 to approximately 65.

We thank all our stakeholders for their continued support over this duration and the families of our valued children for bearing with us over this period.



Contact Us

If you have any questions or comments, please send us an email or give us a call.

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