



### **Bird of the Month**

Welcoming in the new year is the warou, also known as the welcome swallow.



#### **Word of the month:**

**Putiputi**

- A. flowers
- B. fish colony
- C. computer

#### **Last-month's word:**

**Taihoa**

- B. be patient

### **Community BBQ Update**

Advertised in our December issue, unfortunately the Community BBQ has been cancelled. After considerations of COVID guidelines, it was felt that the spirit of the BBQ could not go ahead with current restrictions.

## **AT LAST, NEW BUILDS IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD!**

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# **NORMANDALE TIMES**

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## **Normandale turns on just the weather Santa likes**

Christmas Day 2021 again gave perfect weather for Santa's mid-morning public return to Normandale. It was cloudy with a light southerly breeze, just what Santa and his helpers like to stay comfortable.

Presents were delivered to about 35 families. There were sweets provided by the Normandale Residents' Association for everyone waiting to watch Santa ride by on his sleigh after negotiating the various requirements of the new Covid traffic light system. Thanks go to David and Elanor Capel, Göran Persson, Alex Whitton, Malcolm Cameron, Aaron Gough, Ian and Eliza Bloodworth, the Glover family, and Rosemary McLennan.



*Locals in Stratton Street await Santa's visit. (top)*

*Santa offers a gift to Oakley, (20 months), held by dad Alex, as helper Eliza Bloodworth looks on. (bottom)*

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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Note: Copy deadline 25th of preceding month.

The next NRA meeting will be held on Thursday 17th February 7:30pm - all association members welcome. (Location TBA)



## Normandale Playcentre

Despite disruption to routines brought about by Covid-19, Normandale Playcentre continues to provide our tamariki with a fun and supportive learning environment. With the support of our community we have finished upgrading our playground retaining wall and have put in the new bark. The outdoor area is looking bright and inviting with the back fence sporting a new rainbow paint job and an interactive music zone, and now that the tamariki are back they are having fun planting out the gardens!

We run four sessions per week for tamariki aged 0-6 years. A focus on child-led learning means that each session is designed to offer a variety of learning and play experiences, such as building, sand and water, baking/science, painting, dressing up, singing and of course messy play. Being able to get messy with play outside of the house is one of the great things about Normandale Playcentre!

Normandale Playcentre is parent-run, so we work together to create an environment where we can learn and grow alongside our children while providing each other with invaluable support, understanding, and encouragement in our parenting journeys. It's amazing how much of a difference it can make when you're having a hard day (or week) and you know that at playcentre, you and your children can take the time to play, learn, and unwind in the company of your extended village.

We have protocols in place to manage Covid risk, so pop along to a session or email us at [Normandale@playcentre.org.nz](mailto:Normandale@playcentre.org.nz). We would love to welcome some more new faces in 2022!



*Normandale Playcentre in action*



## Beautifying Normandale 2022

A January Saturday morning saw NRA committee members gather at the corner of Normandale and Miromiro Rd to continue development work on the new garden. It now includes a grassed area and edging material, together with native plants, shrubs, and associated mulch cover.

*Pictured: Normandale Residents' Association members overlooking the updated garden.*



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