

2015 Czech Playgroup annual report

Although both of our teachers (Dana and Kamila) had have lots of experience with toddlers, we started the Czech playgroup not really knowing what we are going to do. Since the the first session on the 1st of February 2015, there are 9 children enrolled and attending regularly with one of their parents. There are all younger than 3 years.

Our aim is to get our children used to the Czech language the natural way. Each of our sessions have a certain topic. We sing a lot, talk, dance, read and play. We use traditional and modern poems together with actions and vibrant pictures. It is a steady process of repetition with those young children, and we already see some results in talking and understanding. Our children are coming “out of their shells”.

We moved from the Sandpiper room to the bigger Penguin room in Arataki community centre, which suits us better. After some necessary paperwork, we received a Full playgroup certificate as Česká školka from the New Zealand Ministry of Education (MoE). We also received NZ\$330 for this school semester (until the end of June) as a running cost support. This amount was counted at \$1,48 per child/per hour. This money is being spent mostly on paying the rent and some stationary. We are waiting for a special one off starting grant from MoE of NZ\$2000, which we should recieve any day now. We are planning to use it for little tables with chairs, order lots of learning materials from the Czech republic, have a 'baby corner' and have many 'typical Czech' puppets.

To conclude, I think, that the Czech Playschool is doing rather well. We have many happy children and parents and we can't wait for more tiny additions to our group next year.

Playschool teacher
Kamila Lyons

10th May 2015
in Tauranga