



# Hibiscus Coast Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren Inc.

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## Newsletter – November

Hello,

Spring has sprung and it is so nice to have some warm sunny weather in between the occasional rain. It was great to see those of you who could make it on Wednesday. It was a good time of sharing ideas for how you would like the group to be and suggestions for next year. I'll summarise what was suggested.

A reminder of our **Christmas Party**, Sunday 27 November, 11am – 1.30pm at the Whangaparaoa Play Centre, Stanmore Bay Road. We have a roast lunch together followed by dessert, Santa comes along with gifts for the children and for the adults, a \$5 Secret Santa if you would like to take part in that. There is no cost for the party. If you can make it, it would be great to have you and your grandchildren along. Please let me know by Friday, 11 November if you would like to attend.

**Raising Confident, Resilient Children** presented by John Cowan from Parents Inc is being held at Stanmore Bay School, Tuesday 8 November, John is presenting from 7.30 – 9.00pm. There is time prior to the presentation for tea and coffee for a gold coin donation. There is a group of us attending, if you would like to join us please let me know, as I will be buying the tickets on Monday after school.

**Special Children's Christmas Party** is being held on Saturday 10 December, 11am – 2.30pm at the ASB Showgrounds, Greenlane. This is a free party sponsored by NZME and SKY TV. Below is some information if you have not been before:

During this time the children will be treated to a star-studded show featuring TV celebrities, many local performers, face painting, jumping castles, loads of Sky TV activities, free giveaways plus the children get to meet our very special sporting celebrities. With all this fun to be had the children will need all the yummy party food that we can provide - and we have heaps!

The children will then be taken by age group through the huge Santa's cave, a room filled with thousands of high quality toys, and **every child will receive 2 or 3 each!!!** Then it's into Santa's cave to meet the main man of the day (for the kids anyway).

The party is an invitation only event and there is no distinguishing which group they have been invited through.

One invitation entitles one child plus parent / caregiver to attend the day, for this party to be a success we ask that only children with an invitation attend the day. (No siblings please) The age group attending will cover birth to (and including) 12 years.

If you would like to attend with your grandchildren please let me know before Wednesday, 9th November as I need to order the invitations.

We had a time of talking about ideas for next year as well as coming up with some rules for our group. I have listed the ideas and rules below. If you have anything you would like to suggest or discuss, please let me know.

### **Group Rules**

1. What is talked about in the group stays in the group
2. Keep discussions to the topic and if someone has raised an issue check back with them that they are happy with the feedback
3. Do not talk about anyone who is not there
4. Respectful of each other's thoughts/ideas
5. No offensive language
6. Remember "there is light at the end of the tunnel"

### **Group Ideas**

1. Opportunity for asking questions or advice
2. Go around the circle asking each person if they have anything they would like to bring up and have a "ask it basket" on the table
3. Invite local traders to show and sell their produce
4. Outings – movies; visit gardens, chocolate factory, Kaipara Sculpture Farm etc
5. WINZ and CYFS continue to visit
6. Presentation on devices and internet safety
7. Employment opportunities for teenagers – presentation by CYC maybe
8. Investigate Young NZers and possibly have them visit with us
9. Green prescriptions presentation
10. A teen's perspective – what it's like being a teenager today
11. Evening get together – picnic at the beach, pot luck dinner

Thank you for all of the great ideas and discussions, it was fantastic to be a part of it.

If you ever want to have a chat or are needing anything, please do not hesitate to contact me (ph 426 7595 or 0274 802 287).

Take care,

Sonia

