



4. HOLIDAY PROGRAMME REPORT

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Corporate Plan Output: Recreation Plans and Promotions	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Community Board of school holiday programmes delivered by the Recreation and Arts Team of the Leisure Unit in the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board area over the January 2000 school holidays.

Benefits of School Holiday Programmes

School holiday programmes provide quality, safe recreation experiences for children and above all a chance to relax and enjoy themselves after the long school term. Longer term, school holiday programmes teach children good leisure habits and help them to learn about the activities and groups in their local communities. Holiday programmes are also an important community service to Christchurch families, particularly working families who require care for their children. This issue has been exacerbated by the introduction of the four term year, and by government moves to encourage single parents back into the workforce.

Names, Venues and Dates of Programmes

The Recreation and Arts Team, Leisure Unit, delivered four Riccarton/Wigram Community Board area programmes in the January school holidays. Two of the four holiday programmes were Board funded with the remaining two programmes subsidised by the Leisure Unit. Details of all programmes are as follows:

‘Sockburn Supersonics’

Sockburn Primary School

One week programme catering for 36 children aged 5 – 10 years.

All children attending came *from* the local community with 22% of children coming from the host school. The majority of children were from South Hornby School (44%). Other schools represented were Hornby, St Bernadette’s and Our Lady of Victories. This programme was planned and managed by the Recreation and Arts Team’s Holiday Programme Manager, Vanessa Taylor.

‘Riccarton Rippers’

Riccarton Primary School.

One week programme catering for 37 children aged 5 – 10 years.

All children attending came from the local community, with 32% of children coming from the host school. Other schools represented were St Bernadette’s, Templeton, Our Lady of Victories and Gilberthorpes.

Riccarton Rippers was a YMCA programme, subsidised by the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board. The YMCA had full responsibility for the management and planning of the programme in consultation with the Community Recreation Adviser.

'Hei Hei Hawks'

Hei Hei Community Centre.

One week programme catering for 45 children aged 5 – 10 years.

All children attending came from the local community, with the highest percentage of children coming from South Hornby School (22%). Other schools represented were Hornby, Templeton, Our Lady of Victories, Gilberthorpes and Ilam.

Hei Hei Hawks was a YMCA programme, subsidised by the Leisure Unit. The YMCA had full responsibility for the management and planning of the programme in consultation with the Community Recreation Adviser.

'Summer Splash'

Hornby Primary School.

One week programme that catered for 15 children aged 10 – 14 years. Children came from Hornby and South Hornby Primary Schools. Summer Splash was a Hornby After School Programme (HASP) holiday programme, subsidised by the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board. HASP had full responsibility for the management and planning of the programme, including taking all enrolments.

Comments from Parents and Children

Evaluation forms were distributed to parents and children on the holiday programmes, with overwhelmingly positive feedback. Parents were especially positive regarding the programme supervisors, staff, the activities provided for their children and the excellent care which their children received.

Some examples of the many comments received from parents are as follows:

"Both boys are looking forward to going again"

"My kids really enjoyed the week"

"I think the holiday programmes are excellent"

The majority of children enjoyed the activities. Again, some felt that they would like to be involved in more trips away. However there are some budget constraints to providing this.

Comments

The January 2000 holiday programmes did not show the normal high demand in terms of both the number of enrolments and the short timeframe in which these programmes usually fill up. Normally in the Riccarton/Wigram area each holiday programme fills within hours of registrations opening. However in January there were still places available and some programmes did not reach their capacity. This was a pattern that was evident over the whole of Christchurch both with Christchurch City Council programmes and those of other providers such as the YMCA. As a result of this, the Recreation and Arts Team is currently examining the issues causing this decrease in demand and the need to provide the current number of summer holiday programmes. As a result, funding may be diverted to providing additional programmes in the April, July and September school holiday periods. Recommendations for future summer programmes in Riccarton/Wigram will be brought to the Community Affairs Committee for discussion and comment.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson's

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