

To whom it may Concern,

We had the pleasure of meeting Ed Stanford when our twins Taylor and Jake started at Titoki Montessori in 2010 aged 3 ½ years. Our children responded to his warm, caring nature instantly. He encouraged our children to ask questions and how to find answers. They love learning not for a reward but because they are truly interested.

Ed had a major influence on our family. Along with following the Montessori philosophies we often spoke to Ed to seek extra guidance on the best way to deal with situations involving Taylor and Jake at home. Ed helped guide us to ensure that we kept a constant between what Taylor and Jake were learning at school and home. He made us realise it is best to gear a child's learning to things that they are interested in.

Ed always showed a commitment and dedication to his teaching and the school. He was the driving force behind thinking of new and imaginative teaching aids to create for the school and children, making tool tables and other mechanical contraptions, to name but a few.

He organised many "working bees" encouraging the school community to come together for the benefit of the school and children. He was also influential in hosting "parent evenings" where he and the other Montessori teachers would show and explain the teaching philosophies and learning resources to the parents and answer any questions.

At the time Taylor and Jake started Montessori I was working as a professional artist and enjoyed the conversations I had with Ed about Art in general. He has a wealth of information and it was great to get an alternative perspective.

Currently I am working as a Visual Arts Teacher. Often when I am dealing with challenging situations I remember conversations that I have had with Ed and find myself approaching it with greater positivity and successfully resolving the situation.

We are very grateful for the contribution that Ed has made to our family personally and although it is sad to hear that he is leaving Titoki Montessori, where he has been such an incredible asset, we wish him well on his future endeavours.

Sincerely

Sarah and Adam Bicknell