



Berhampore's moment in time

LYDIA ANDERSON Last updated 09:40 11/06/2012

Berhampore kindergarten buried a little piece of history last Saturday, cheered on by excited children and their families.

Two time capsules were buried in a corner of the playground at the kindergarten's annual fundraising garage sale to mark the five-year countdown until its 100th anniversary.

In 2017, Berhampore will become the first kindergarten in the Wellington area to reach its 100th birthday.

It started in 1917 in a local masonic hall and moved to its current premises in Stanley St in 1928.

Head teacher Margaret Jamieson said the time capsule idea was prompted by the high level of interest in the April 2017 celebration, when the capsules will be dug up.

"All sorts of stuff has gone in as a reflection of who we are," she said. Among the items were children's drawings, current class rolls and teachers' names, records of recent kindergarten projects and even a copy of The Wellingtonian.

Pupil Lucien Fordyce, 4, said he thought a time capsule was like "a pie - you put pictures in it".

The capsules were made of waterproof plumbing piping, donated by local business Straightflush Plumbing and were covered in rubbish bags for extra protection.

Former pupil Steve Wallace, whose granddaughter attends the kindergarten, lent a hand shovelling dirt to cover the capsules.

Mr Wallace attended Berhampore Kindergarten in the late 1950s and has lived in and around Berhampore all his life.

He said he "felt privileged" to be a part of Saturday's festivities and was willing to come back in 2017 to help unearth the capsules.

This year's garage sale has so far raised \$3504, which will go towards installing soundproofing ceiling tiles.

- The Wellingtonian