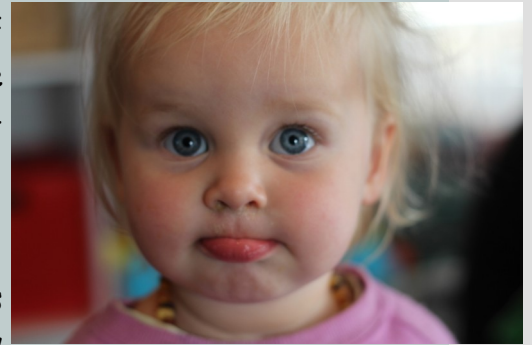


## *Rory the superstar!*

Rory my name is Michela Homer and I work as a Professional Services Manager for BestStart. Every month I come and visit your wonderful centre to work alongside your teachers and to see what exciting things are happening at First Steps Papamoa. Today was different, today I came in with my big camera to take some photos of your teachers.

When you noticed me taking photos, your eyes lit up with interest and you came and stood right alongside me to see what I was doing. I made sure I showed you the pictures and you diligently told me each and every name. I wondered what you'd do if I took a picture of you. I told you to stand still so I could take one, but you were just so excited to see the result, you could hardly wait. I tried lots of catch phrases like, "Say cheese," or 'Smile," but you were having none of it in your anticipation of what you'd see behind the camera lens!

Finally I was able to be quick enough to get some pictures of you. You came straight over to inspect. When you saw yourself in the camera, your face beamed. "Rory!" you told me pointing at the camera with delight. You bent your knees and moved in closer making sure you could see yourself clearly. I could tell you were pleased by your expression and small chuckle. Your delight made me and your teachers laugh too. We thought your enthusiasm was contagious.



### What learning was happening?

Rory you displayed such curiosity and interest with what was happening today. Your teachers tell me that this is one of your main dispositions. This curiosity in making sense of your world is fantastic. It enables you to explore with confidence, understand your world and learn lots of new things every day. Today through your exploration, you learnt more about your own identity. You delighted in expressing who you



are and telling me all about your friends. I loved learning alongside you!

### What next?

We live in a print rich environment and we know that children learn when they have lots of opportunities to revisit their own learning. I know that your teachers will ensure that there are lots of photos available of you in your learning environments placed around the room and in your book for you to revisit and share with your friends, your whanau and your teachers. I wonder what stories you'll start to share as you continue to explore your own world?

*"When you know yourself you are empowered, when you accept yourself you are invincible." Tina Lifford.*

