



Newsletter

July 2024

Dates for your Diary

- Celebrating Matariki - 1st-5th July
- Bastille Day - Monday 15th July
- Cultural day- Wednesday 7th August
- Parent teacher meetings 12th-14th August
- Grandparent day - Thursday 19th September 9-11am



Important Messages

We have some spaces available so if you require additional days or know friends who are considering early childhood options please let them know.

Programme Highlights

Samoaan culture
 Samoan language week was a time to celebrate and reflect upon the rich Samoaan culture in NZ. The children engaged in a number of creative projects such as painting Samoaan patterns using stencils, adding to our collaborative siapo bark cloth started last year, making traditional ula lei necklaces made of flowers and shells and decorative tuiga or ceremonial crowns. We watched traditional Samoaan dancing and made our own drumming music. We enjoyed reading stories rich in Samoaan language and culture, collected natural 'treasures' in atu (baskets) and played in our fale (house).

Supporting diverse needs
 We have been exploring some new resources this month to support our self review on diverse needs. We have shared some books on neuro-diverse topics, introduced

Fire Service Visit

There was much excitement at kindergarten when the fire fighters from Remuera Fire Station visited to talk to the children about fire safety and their jobs and roles within the Fire Department. The children learnt all about the role of a fire fighter, how they save lives and the important work they do within our community. Firefighter Nick

some fidget and sensory toys and a weighted bunny which the children have named Mr Fluffy. These toys create a calming effect for children by easing stress and anxiety and supported them in managing over stimulated emotions and senses. The children have responded particularly well to our weighted bunny, Mr Fluffy, and have started seeking him out more in times of heightened emotions where they need support in calming themselves. The children are intrigued by his heavy body and arms and are often seen cuddling him tightly, patting him gently, flapping his ears or lifting his weighted arms up and down.

Matariki Disco
 One of the ways we celebrate Matariki as a kindergarten community is by coming together for our annual Matariki disco, a fun evening

of celebration, sharing music and kai together. Leading up to this event children were involved in the preparations by making our invitation, lots of decorations and practicing the songs shared with whanau on the evening. We all enjoyed dressing up and returning to kindy at night time with our whanau and friends to see the kindy transformed into a disco venue. The disco has always been a highlight in our kindy calendar and is a fun evening of dancing, face painting, bubbles, feasting and spending time together. A big thank you to all our kindergarten whanau for your wonderful contributions towards our shared dinner and joining in the fun and celebrations.



put on his uniform to show the children what firefighters wear and the equipment they use to keep themselves safe. He demonstrated how he gets fresh air from an oxygen tank through a special mask. Finally, the children learnt about the importance of a smoke alarm in alerting us to a fire and what we needed to do if our smoke alarm went

off at home or kindy. We all had the opportunity to climb aboard the fire truck and saw the flashing lights and siren as the fire engine made its way back to the station. Lots of imaginative fire play has followed as the children revisit this learning in their play. Thank you to our fire fighters for this wonderful opportunity.



130 Remuera Road
Remuera 1050

e-mail: admin@littletreehouse.co.nz
www.littletreehouse.co.nz

CHILD'S VOICE

Immersing ourselves in the world of children every day means that we have the privilege of experiencing some magical moments that make us laugh.

Whilst enjoying some quiet time at the literacy table happily drawing the children were sharing the details of their drawings. One of our children shared that he had just drawn and sword. Another child enquired "Is it read" to which he responded casually "No it is just pretend because it is just a drawing".

Upcoming Events

Matariki Celebrations—1st-5th July: We will continue our Matariki celebrations following our long weekend.

Bastille Day - Monday 15th July: We will acknowledge Ms Henry's French culture by celebrating Bastille Day at kindy.

Cultural Day - Wednesday 7th August 2024: We will be hosting our annual Cultural Day in August. Children have the opportunity to come to kindy dressed up in something from their culture or they can bring something into kindergarten that reflects their culture such as a traditional artefact or a cultural food to share for morning tea. All families are welcome to join us even if this is not your regular kindy day.

Parent Teacher Meetings 12th—14th August 2024: Each year we extend an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers to discuss the progress of their children at kindergarten. Meeting times are 15 minutes long and will be held in August. For those interested a booking schedule will be available later in July.

Grandparents day - Thursday 19th September 2024 9-11am: We will be hosting our annual grandparent morning in September. Please pass on this date to all of our lovely grandparents so they can come and join us for a wonderful morning at kindergarten. All children are welcome to join us for the morning even if it is not your regular kindy day.

We would love your feedback on our newsletter. Please email us at admin@littletreehouse.co.nz

Communication Corner

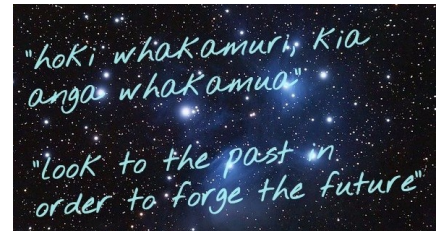
Connections with home: An important part of our early childhood curriculum is making connections with our children's home life. We do this in many ways including sharing news from home, celebrating birthdays, sharing our cultures, bringing pets in to visit and welcoming family into kindergarten through events such as our Dad's sausage sizzle, grandparents day and our family disco. We encourage families to share significant milestones, events and people in your child's life with us at kindy.

Building Independence: Our kindergarten programme supports children to build independence as an important skill in preparing them for school and becoming active and valued members of our community. There are many ways in which we foster this independence such as encouraging our children to name their art work, taking their shoes on and off and teaching them to go to the toilet and eat their lunch independently. Parents can support this also by encouraging children to dress themselves, put their own shoes on, walking into kindergarten independently, putting their lunch box into the basket and ensuring that children wear clothing and shoes at kindergarten that they can manage independently.

Emergency Information for Parents: On the recommendation of the Ministry of Education we maintain a document that provides information to parents about what happens if an emergency situation arises at kindy. This document is reviewed and updated annually and shared with our kindergarten community. Full details of our emergency management procedures are contained in our Emergency Management Plan and relevant Health and Safety policies which are reviewed regularly and available for parents to review.

Policies: Review of centre policies are carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Body Washing, Hand Washing and Parental Involvement with minimal change. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

Greeting of the month: The greeting of the month for July is the French greeting Bonjour.



Farewells for July

Luey Chou
Violet Kenny