



Newsletter

**September
2024**

- ### Dates for your Diary
- Grandparent's Day - Thursday 12th September 9-11am
 - Maori Language Week 16th - 20th September
 - Dad's Sausage Sizzle Tuesday 12th November 5.30-7pm
 - Christmas Show— Friday 6th December 9.30am



Important Messages

Please notify us of any sickness or absence so we can support families with additional availability where possible

Please plan in advance for changes to timetables

Please check out our kindy music playlist on Spotify

Programme Highlights

Our Kindy Pepeha

We are continuing our efforts in increasing the use of Te Reo Maori at kindy and one of the ways we have been doing this over the last few months is by supporting our tamariki in learning our kindy Pepeha. A Pepeha is a Māori way of introducing yourself by sharing your connections with people and places.

Learning our kindy Pepeha allows tamariki to build on their sense of belonging and to learn more about themselves as tangata whenua or tangata tiriti. Learning the Pepeha is also a great way for tamariki to learn and share more about their own culture and heritage. Tamariki have been very interested in learning our kindy Pepeha

along with the actions and are becoming more and more confident in getting up in front of their peers at mat time to lead this. Consistent with sharing our karakia at meal times we hope that all children over time will develop the confidence and ability to do lead our Pepeha.

Drawing

We have some very talented artists at kindy so as a team we have been focusing on providing children with lots of opportunities to engage in drawing activities and to extend this interest. We are offering opportunities for drawing in lots of different areas throughout the kindergarten and setting up different provocations to draw children's attention and

interest.

The children have been making treasure maps using tea stained paper, drawing faces, their families, fairies and dragons, flags, insects, animals and even full body drawings in our Wise Owls programme. We have set up drawing spaces outside in the playground and collaborative drawing opportunities on the concrete. We have also provided a variety of drawing mediums such as colouring pens, felts, white board markers, chalk, charcoal and even our fingers for our Dad's Father's Day cards. Difference drawing platforms have also been used such as paper, whiteboards, chalk boards, chalkboards and glass.

Cultural Day

This month we celebrated our annual Cultural Day and were very lucky to have a wonderful sunny day to share with our families. We celebrated the many cultures within our kindergarten community by wearing some wonderful traditional costumes and participating in singing and dancing from around the world.

We enjoyed some traditional cultural activities such as Māori weaving, building Thai stupas, making play dough flags and creating Indian mandela patterns with recycled bottle tops. We were creative by enjoying tapa cloth painting, Sri Lankan earthy mandela paintings, decorating Irish clovers at the collage table and making All Blacks jerseys and English swords and shields. Miss Rasmussen shared her Danish culture by introducing us to a game of Slå katten af tønden, a barrel filled with treasures to retrieve. We also tasted some delicious new flavours through the sharing of cultural food. It was a true celebration and learning of all our cultures at kindy.





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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.

A group of children were playing in the café area using our 'pretend' money to make purchases at the café. This led to a discussion about paying money for things you buy when you are at the café or shops. One of our children then went up to Mrs Johns and shared 'I have a million dollars at home. I can go and get it for you if you like.'

A very generous offer indeed!

Communication Corner

Happy Fathers Day: We would like to wish all of our Dad's a wonderful Father's Day on Sunday 1st September.

Availability: Please ensure that you plan ahead for changes in your child's attendance as there are now time delays for securing some days. Notification of absence for holiday or sickness would be appreciated so that we can continue to support families with one off additional days as required.

Holidays: Please let us know if you have any holiday plans over the upcoming school holiday period so that we can manage our staffing requirements.

Parent Teacher Meetings: We hope that families enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with Allanah and Teresa discussing your child's learning at kindergarten. We enjoyed the opportunity to get additional insights into your children's lives and look forward to supporting them further with their learning and development at kindergarten.

Music Playlist: We have received a number of requests for information about songs our children sing and enjoy at kindy so we have created a public playlist on Spotify with a collection of our favourite songs. If you have a Spotify account please search Little Treehouse Kits to access this playlist at home.

Sharing News: As discussed with a number of families during our parent teacher meetings we welcome and encourage children to share news with their peers at Kindergarten. Sharing news helps children build confidence and develop oral language. Children signal that they have news by leaving any news items and their name shell in the 'News' basket located under the children's sign in desk. Ideas for news items that you could support include ticket stubs from events, tangible printed photographs, items from nature or the beach, something your child has made or created, a book, postcards from holidays, cultural items and extra curricular activity awards or certificates.

Greeting of the Month: As it was Tongan language week recently we will be sharing the Tongan greeting Mālō e lelei with the children in September.

Policies: Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Child Protection Policy and shared this with families. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.



Upcoming Events

Grandparents day - Thursday 12th September 9-11am: All grandparents are invited to spend the morning with us at kindergarten. This is a lovely opportunity for the children to show these special family members all the wonderful things that they love to do at kindergarten and to share morning tea with us. Children who do not normally attend kindergarten on Thursday are welcome to join us with their grandparent(s).

Dad's Night - Tuesday 12th November 5.30-7pm: Our annual Dad's sausage sizzle evening will be held on Tuesday 12th November. Children are invited to bring along their Dad or other significant person (Grandad, Uncle etc) for an evening of fun at kindergarten. This is a great opportunity for Dad's to see what their children love about kindergarten and to meet other Dads.

Christmas Show - Friday 6th December 9.30am: Please book this important date in your diary. This will be held in the St Lukes Church and all family, grandparents and extended family are welcome to attend.

Welcome

Francis Wang
Harper Hopkirk

Baby News

Congratulations to the Ahmed family and big brother Omar on the arrival of a baby girl, Minha Juair, born on 25th July 2024 weighing 2.7kgs.