



Newsletter

October 2024

- Dates for your Diary**
- Halloween dress up day - Thursday 31st October
 - Dad's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 12th November 5.30-7pm
 - Children's Christmas Show - Friday 6th December 9.30am
 - Closedown period 23rd December 2024 to 3rd January 2025 inclusive

Programme Highlights

Rangatiratanga

We have been exploring the Māori tikanga value of Rangatiratanga. This value explores the idea of chieftainship or leadership of a group. Leadership instils confidence and helps children solve problems creatively, work in a team and work collaboratively with others. Leadership gives children opportunities to take responsibility, which is an important skill in helping prepare children to become responsible adults.

We have looked at different ways within our kindy environment that we can provide opportunities for children to develop leadership skills. Children have been leading group games, given responsibly for supporting new children and our older children have been leading music times and mat times.

Each day children are given responsibility for saying our karakia, ringing the bell for morning tea and music time and leading children inside. Empowering children with these responsibilities has seen our children's mana flourish in a very positive way. As a result, we will be introducing a new leadership initiative into our programme which we will look forward to sharing with families soon.

Colour Monster

We have completed another collaborative art project drawing from one of our favourite books that support our teaching on emotional regulation and understanding our feelings. The book depicts our emotions using different coloured monsters. Children have created our colour monsters using different art mediums - paint, crayons,

dyes, beads, collage materials, feathers and glitter. It was an amazing collaboration of effort from a wide range of children each taking turns and offering ideas.

Māori Language Week

This month we celebrated Māori language week with a focus on the use of Māori language within our daily practice. This year we have been proactively increasing our use of Te Reo with our children and they are progressively extending their kite of knowledge of Te Reo. Māori language week was an opportunity for us to extend this further by exploring new songs, reading Te Reo books, introducing a new card game Takaro, exploring the Kupu app, playing Te Reo memory games, poi songs and revisiting language such as greetings, colours, days of the week and common phrases.



Important Messages

Please support our Christmas gift giving with the Kindness Collective this year

Please provide feedback to support our curriculum and planning

Grandparent Day

Grandparent day was a very special morning for the children to spend time with their grandparents sharing all the things that they enjoy doing at kindergarten. We all had the opportunity to spend time playing or creating together, reading our special portfolios, meeting friends

and sharing a few of the favourite songs we enjoy at music time. Our morning concluded with us all coming together to share a special morning tea. Thank you to all our amazing Grandparents for taking the time to spend the morning with us at kindy. We all



enjoyed creating special memories together for us all to treasure.



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.

One of our children was playing doctors with Mrs Johns. When placing the bandage around Mrs Johns' neck she was asked to remember to be gentle to which she responded 'You are not fragile!'

KINDNESS
is a gift
everyone can
afford to give.

Upcoming Events

Halloween Dress up Day - Thursday 31st October:

Dressing up is always a popular interest with our children so we are hosting a dress up day for Halloween and plan to enjoy some fun Halloween inspired activities.

Dad's Sausage Sizzle - 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 our Dads to see what their children love about kindergarten and to meet other Dads.

Children's Christmas Show - Friday 6th December 9.30am:

Our Christmas Show will be held on Friday 6th December at 9.30am in the St Lukes Church followed by morning tea at kindergarten. Please book this date in your calendar and join us for a morning of celebration at kindergarten. All family and extended family welcome.

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

Communication Corner

- **Parent Survey:** Thank you for all of our families that took the time to complete our survey, sharing the values that are important to you as a family. We received 37 which was an amazing contribution from. Kindness and respect were the values that were identified by the greatest number of families being selected by 64% and 54% of families respectively. These results will be used to shape our learning with the children on values at kindy.
- **Kindness Collective Christmas gift giving:** We would like to continue our support of the Kindness Collective again this year by providing Christmas gifts for children attending early childhood centres in under privileged Auckland this Christmas. We have supported these centres for the last 2 years with amazing support from our families. Sharing the message of kindness towards others with our children is an important part of our kindergarten values. We encourage families to get involved by donating a gift and reinforcing the message of kindness at home. More information about this initiative will be sent to families soon.
- **Jumping on stairs:** Recently there has been an increase in children jumping down our stairs. As we do not feel that this is safe practice we are reminding children to walk down the stairs. We would appreciate it if our parent community would support us in reinforcing this message at drop off and collection times.
- **Feedback:** An important part of our curriculum is obtaining parent / whanau voice on your child's development and what we are doing at kindergarten. We encourage families to provide feedback on our curriculum, self reviews and what is happening at kindergarten. Feedback on learning stories is a good way to acknowledge your child's development and share stories and links with what they are doing at home. Please use the 'feedback' option on the parent portal to do this in an efficient way. By providing feedback we can ensure that we best support your child's development at kindergarten.

Staff Professional Learning: This month all teachers attended professional learning on child protection and identifying and responding to child abuse. In addition we have all attended training on Casey the Caterpillar, the literacy programme we use in our Wise Owls programme.

Greeting of the Month: Our greeting this month is the Filipino greeting Kumusta.

Policies: Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Staff Safety Checking and Health and Safety Framework policies. Changes to our Staff Safety Checking policy has been shared with families. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

Welcome

Harper Hopkirk

Baby News

Congratulations to the Francis family and big brother Brodie on the arrival of a baby girl, Bree Anahera, born on 10th September 2024 weighing 3.5kgs.