



Newsletter

March 2025

- Dates for your Diary**
- St Patrick's Day - Monday 17th March
 - Down Syndrome Rock your Socks Day- Friday 21st March
 - Autism Awareness Day- Wednesday 2nd April
 - Sinhalese New Year Friday 11th April
 - Songkran - Thai New Year - Monday 14th April
 - Easter - Thursday 17th April
 - World Book Day - Wednesday 23rd April

Programme Highlights

Tuakana Teina
 This month we have been exploring the tikanga value of tuakana teina and observing lots of children sharing knowledge and supporting each other. We have been welcoming new children into kindergarten and our children have been supporting these children to learn our routines, including them in lots of play opportunities and helping them to learn new skills.

We have also seen our older children supporting younger children as they progress from our younger children's mat time to our older children's mat time or as new 4 year olds have joined our Wise Owls programme.

Fostering tuakana teina relationships is important in a mixed aged early child setting

as children have so much to learn from each other and it supports an overall sense of wellbeing. The older child can take care, guide and nurture while developing their communication skills and patience. Younger children enjoy observing, mimicking and feel supported in building confidence and learning.

Communication
 Following our team training in December on speech and language development we have introduced activities to support children in learning positional and comparative language. Understanding the position of objects such as under, over, beside and being able to compare objects and identify what is smaller and bigger are key concepts that children learn in their

preschool years. Therefore it is important that teachers and parents are intentional in using these terms within our conversations and play with children. There are also some good books and songs that support this learning.

Other Interests
 With lots of sunny days the children have continued to enjoy time in the outdoors engaging in lots of sandpit and water play and building strength on the monkey bars. Our glue gun table is always busy with lots of children engaging in a variety of resources and making some amazing creations to take home or use in their play. We have also seen a lot of construction with our blocks and loose parts resources which we will continue to support over the next month.



Mt Hobson Sports Day

This month we enjoyed another beautiful sunny day at our annual family Mt Hobson / Ōhinerau sports day. With the support of lots of our amazing families we all walked to Mt Hobson reserve for a morning full of fun sports activities.

Coordination skills were tested in our game of 'tag tails' as children raced to steal each others polar bear and cheetah tails. Our potato

and spoon races saw the children practicing their hand-eye co-ordination and balancing skills. The children tested their strength in our tug of war, embraced the gross motor challenges presented in the obstacle course, and worked on their kicking skills during a game of 'Penalty Shoot Out'.

With the sun shining brightly we were all ready for a rest and a shared morning tea

before we ventured up the mountain. After some songs with our parachute we returned to kindy where we all enjoyed a refreshing iceblock after a hot, busy morning.



Important Messages

If you have any shorts or leggings that your child has outgrown we would appreciate any donations to increase our stock of spare clothing at kindy.



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

130 Remuera Road
Remuera 1050
Phone: 520 0114

e-mail: admin@littletreehouse.co.nz

www.littletreehouse.co.nz

CHILDS 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 showing a teacher a 'tattoo' that she had on her leg when she shared that the 'tattoo' had been on her leg for 'a million and one hundred days'.

When you convert that to years its equivalent to 2,740 years!

Communication Corner

Philosophy: Our teaching team have completed the annual review of our centre philosophy to ensure that it aligns with our current values and teaching. This was shared with our kindergarten community through our parent portal.

Kindy Clothing: Please ensure children wear appropriate clothing to kindy that allows them to fully participate in our environment including clothing they can climb in, get dirty in, get paint on and that allows them to toilet independently where possible. Watch out for missing unnamed items in our lost property basket. We are in need of more shorts or leggings so if your child has outgrown clothing we would really appreciate any donations to increase our kindy stock.

Greeting of the month: This months greeting of the month is *Diadhuit*, the Irish greeting for Hello. This supports our cultural celebration of St Patrick's Day.

Policies: Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Culture and Identity Policy and Supervision Guidelines. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

Upcoming Events

Down Syndrome Rock Your Socks Day - Friday 21st March: We will be supporting this day within our curriculum by inviting everyone to wearing your favourite socks, odd socks or your craziest or most colourful socks to kindy.

Autism Awareness Day - Wednesday 2nd April : We will support Autism Awareness Day by sharing some sensory activities that support the wellbeing of children with autism.

Cultural celebrations: We will be celebrating a number of cultural celebrations in March and April including St Patrick's Day, Easter, the Thai New Year celebration Songkran, the Sinhalese New Year and Anzac Day.

World Book Day - Wednesday 23rd April: Nurturing a love of books is an important part of our curriculum so we will celebrate World Book day on 23rd April with a book day at kindy. Children can bring along their favourite book and dress up as their favourite book character.

Planned Self-Review Diverse Needs

Our teaching team has recently completed our planned self-review on supporting children with diverse needs. We believe that the changes in our practices have improved learning outcomes for children by:

- Improving our assessment processes which allows us to capture more information and be more responsive to the changing needs of children's development and learning
- Introducing more effective and timely communication with parents
- Providing a wider range of resources and environment set up to support children's unique needs
- Building teaching capability to support children with diverse needs through professional learning and research
- Providing more flexibility within our routines and programme to support children with diverse needs

We will continue to work on some additional outcomes from this review throughout 2025 especially in areas of further professional learning we would like to engage in as a team and additional resources and spaces we would like to invest in over time.

Welcome

Navy Barzandeh
Ariana MacIndoe
Evie Heffernan
Jim Liu

Farewell

Mila Van Oijen
James Wrait

Baby News

Congratulations to the Horrocks family on the arrival of a little boy, Henry Irwin, born on 6th February 2025 weighing 4.24kg