



Newsletter

October 2018

- Dates for your Diary**
- Book Day—Tuesday 16th October
 - Father’s Sausage Sizzle - Wednesday 7th November 5.30-7pm
 - Children’s Christmas Show - Friday 7th December 9.30am
 - Children’s Christmas Party—Thursday 20th December 2018
 - Closedown period 24th December 2018 to 8th January 2019 inclusive



Important Messages

Opportunity to contribute of our updated philosophy

Thank you for providing feedback on our recent parent survey

Please let us know if you would like any timetable changes in advance as we have limited availability

Programme Highlights

Māori Language Week
 Māori Language Week gives us a chance to celebrate something truly unique to our country. The theme this year was 'Kia Kaha te Reo Māori'. 'Kia Kaha' means 'be strong' so when we say 'Kia Kaha Te Reo Māori' we're saying 'Let's make the Māori language strong'.

Māori language isn't just about teaching Māori words or sentence structures. At kindy we regularly and actively use Te Reo in our daily practice alongside and with the children. We also use waiata (songs) as a valuable way for our children to learn the language. We recognise the importance and traditions that are connected to the Treaty of Waitangi and incorporate these into our programme. During Maori language week the children shared their favourite Māori waiata and started learning a new karakia to say before our meal times.

Grandparent’s day
 The children spent a lovely morning at kindy with their grandparents or other special person in their lives recently. They loved showing them their kindy, introducing them to all their friends and showing them some of the special resources that we have here at kindy. The children shared with us their favourite things about the morning and they enjoyed playing and reading with their grandparents and eating chocolate cake!

It is a privilege to host Grandparent’s morning and to meet extended family that have a special place in our children’s hearts.

Democracy at kindy
 Last month we introduced the concept of democracy in early childhood and our vision of ensuring all our children feel empowered throughout the day. We have been looking at opportunities where children can be active

leaders and conscious decision makers by inviting children to lead us in our music sessions, decide on what resources they would like available and voting on what books we read or games we play.

It has been interesting seeing the children’s reactions to their peers taking the lead and being part of decision making by voting. Listening to our children’s theories enhances the possibilities of discovering how children think, how they question and how they develop a relationship with reality. It’s important that children are involved in shaping their own environment and influencing the conditions for learning and play.



New name and brand

We are very excited to announce to our kindergarten community that St Lukes Kindergarten is getting a fresh new name and brand. After 50 years in the Remuera community it is time for a new look that reflects our unique kindergarten and its values. Although this announcement

comes with some sadness in losing our long standing name it also brings with it new possibilities and a vision for the future. The primary driver for this change is the misconception that our kindergarten is located in the suburb of St Lukes. We are planning to launch

our new name and brand in November. A date will be announced soon. This will coincide with a new website and a few changes to our kindergarten environment. We will look forward to sharing this excitement with you all soon.



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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.

One foggy morning one of our children went out into our playground space and announced "It is sooo frogie!"

Communication Corner

Philosophy: As a teaching team we have been reflecting on our centre philosophy over the last few weeks and have made some changes to reflect our current practice and values. A copy of our philosophy is attached to this newsletter for parent review. If you would like to contribute to our centre philosophy your feedback would be welcome and appreciated. Please contact us by email and we will share this collectively as a team.

Parent Survey: A big thank you to all the families who completed our website parent survey. We really appreciate you taking the time to share with us what is important to you and what you value. All feedback is valuable for us in developing our new website and for improving our centre and practice to reflect what is important to our families.

Session availability: Growth in our roll numbers has reduced our flexibility in accommodating increases / changes to children's enrolled days. We are restricted by our licensed numbers and some days now have a waitlist. If you are considering any changes for term 4 or next year please let us know as soon as possible so that we can accommodate your requests.

Staff Leave: Rachel Lennox will be away for three weeks from Monday 1st October on an overseas holiday. Esther Hensby-Bennett will be working for Rachel in her absence.

Parking: On busy days at the community centre car parking can be more difficult for families. When this is known in advance an allocated kindy drop off / pick up car park will be provided and this will be identified by signage. Parking is also available to the left of the church when entering from Remuera Road and in the turning circle in front of the Church for prompt drop off or collection.



Upcoming Events

Book Day - Tuesday 16th October: as the children have been enjoying lots of opportunities for storytelling over the last few months we are having a book day at kindergarten. We ask that children bring their favourite book to kindy to share and if they would like they can dress up as their favourite book character.

Father's Sausage Sizzle - Wednesday 7th November 5.30-7pm: Our annual Dad's sausage sizzle will be held on Wednesday 7th November. The children are invited to bring along their Dad or other significant male (Grandad, Uncle etc) to enjoy an evening of fun at kindergarten. This is a great opportunity for Dads to see what their children love about their kindergarten and to meet other Dads. Sausages and drinks will be provided.

Children's Christmas Show - Friday 7th December 9.30am: Our Children's Christmas Show will be held on Friday 7th 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 fun and celebration at kindergarten.

Children's Christmas Party - Thursday 20th December: Our Children's Christmas party will be held during our morning session on Thursday 20th December. We are planning a fun morning of activities for all of our children. Please book this date in your calendar and join us for a morning of Christmas fun!

Welcome

Vinnie Brown
Emily Yeoman

Farewell

Liam Larkin
Will Xu

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

OCTOBER 2018