

## Dates for your Diary

- Father's Sausage Sizzle and brand launch  
Wednesday 7th  
November 5.30-7pm
- Children's Christmas Show - Friday 7th  
December 9.30am. Dress rehearsal Thursday 6th  
December 9-11am
- Children's Christmas Party - Thursday 20th  
December
- Last day for year - Friday 21st December 2018.  
Reopening Wednesday 9th January 2019



## Programme Highlights

### Book character day

The children love to share stories with us, both on paper and verbally. As teachers, we have an important role in encouraging and supporting all children to participate in and contribute to a wide range of enriching experiences that expand their competence and confidence and, over time, enable them to direct their own lives.

The children's love of stories and storytelling has been very prominent over the last few months and with this in mind we thought it would be special to invite them to dress up as their favourite storybook character or to bring their favourite book to Kindy to share.

When the day arrived, we were so excited to see all the children with their books and dressed up as characters such as Moana, a lion, storm trooper, shark and super

hero's just to name a few and the children really enjoyed sharing their books with their teachers and peers

There are many wonderful leaning opportunities that come from reading and sharing stories. Reading enhances a child's language development, vocabulary, supports understanding of the world and every-day life, strengthens their imagination, tests their memory, develops empathy and helps with relaxation. For children who speak more than one language, reading develops their language skills and is important for fluency. Research supports the positive effect on brain development when young children have reading exposure at home from an early age.

We encourage you all to keep reading to your children on a daily basis.

### Diwali

An important part of our curriculum is to build children's knowledge of other cultures and the importance of celebration so this month we have introduced the children to the Indian cultural festival of Diwali.

We have been investigating traditions around this colourful celebration and the children have had a lot of questions about the characters in the stories which shows us that they are really interested in the mythical magical world!

We have begun to create diyas (to light the way home) and Rangoli patterns. These are always a fun way to look at patterns, shapes and colours while the children learn about something new. We are looking forward to extending this learning further in November.

## Dispositions for learning

When we document children's learning we often make reference to children's learning dispositions. Learning dispositions and working theories are closely connected to ideas about identity. It's important for us as teachers to share some examples with you so you can start to recognise and acknowledge these at home.

"Dispositions are combinations of children's emerging knowledge, skills and attitudes to learning. Positive dispositions for learning include courage and curiosity, trust and playfulness, perseverance, confidence and responsibility. Dispositions for learning also include the way children approach learning, for



example taking an interest, being involved, persisting with difficulty, challenge and uncertainty, and expressing a point of view."

## Important Messages

We invite families to join us for the launch of our new name and brand on Wednesday 7th November. We are excited to share our new identity with our kindergarten community.



130 Remuera Road  
Remuera 1050  
Phone: 520 0114

e-mail: [stlukeskindy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stlukeskindy@xtra.co.nz)

[www.stlukeskindergarten.co.nz](http://www.stlukeskindergarten.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.

Leading up to our book day Mrs Hensby-Bennett told our children that she did not know who she was going to dress up as. One of our children suggested that she dressed up as an elephant. When is made the observation that this was tricky the child said "It's alright, you are big enough!"

## Communication Corner

- **Evaluation of our bi-cultural self review:** Becoming authentically bi-cultural can be a challenge and since January 2017 we have been undertaking this challenge through our bi-cultural self review. Throughout this journey of learning and discovery we have extended our knowledge and use of Te Reo within the kindergarten and developed a deeper understanding of Maori values and tikanga through the support of professional development, involvement of families, independent research and collaborative team discussions and shared experiences. We believe that we have evolved our bicultural practice and woven Maori values and tikanga organically and authentically into several areas of our day to day practice and planning processes. In completing this review we have reflected on what we have achieved however we have also acknowledged that we still have a lot to learn and our thinking, research and knowledge will continue to evolve over time. We would like to thank all of our kindergarten community who have supported us through this review process.
- **Sun safety:** With summer approaching we have been talking to the children about sun safety and in particular wearing our kindy hats outdoors and using sunscreen. Please ensure children have sunscreen applied each morning on our warmer days. Sunscreen is available at the entrance to the kindergarten.
- **Changes in timetable for 2019:** Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like any changes to your child's kindergarten attendance in 2019. Recent growth in our roll has reduced our flexibility and resulted in a waitlist for some days so planning in advance for changes will be required.

Our environment is rich in signs, symbols, words, numbers, song, dance, drama and art experiences that give expression to and extend children's understandings of their own and other languages and cultures. (Te Whāriki 2017)

## Upcoming Events

### Father's Sausage Sizzle and Brand Launch — Wednesday 7th November 5.30-7pm

Children are invited to bring 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. Other family members are then welcome to join us at 6.30pm for the launch of our new name and brand.

### Children's Christmas Show — Friday 7th December morning session. Show starts at 9.30am. Dress rehearsal on Thursday 6th December 9-11am.

A tradition at St Lukes Kindergarten is to celebrate Christmas with the children performing a Christmas show. This show will be held on Friday 7th December at 9.30am. We will hold a full dress rehearsal for the children on Thursday 6th December and would appreciate all children being available between 9-11am to attend this rehearsal. Please book these dates in your diaries. Our Christmas show will be followed by morning tea in the kindergarten and all guests are welcome.

### Children's Christmas Party — Thursday 20th December

Our children's Christmas show will be held on Thursday 20th December during our morning session. Families are welcome to join us for the morning. Due to our licensing requirements children who do not normally attend kindergarten on a Thursday will need a parent to stay at kindy. We are planning a fun morning with an entertainer, face painting and Christmas activities.

## Welcome

Eliza Blair  
Hugo Blair  
Harry Cross  
Mila Claudatos