



Newsletter

**November
2019**

Dates for your Diary

- Father's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 12th November 5.30-7pm
- Children's Christmas Show - Friday 6th December 9.30am and Dress Rehearsal - Thursday 5th December 9-11am
- Children's Christmas Party - Thursday 19th December 2019
- Closedown period 23rd December 2019 to 7th January 2020 inclusive

Casey



The Caterpillar

Important Messages

Please note the key dates for our Christmas show and rehearsal

Welcome to Miss Ashling Reidy

Programme Highlights

Cultural Celebrations

This month we have celebrated the Indian cultural celebration of Diwali with the making of clay diyas and reading of stories. We also celebrated Halloween with our very popular dress up day at kindy. This month we will celebrate the American Thanksgiving and Ms Bloem will be sharing with us a celebration important to her culture of St Maarten's Day, celebrated in the Netherlands on 11th November each year.

Christmas Show Rehearsals

We have been very busy in October preparing for our annual children's Christmas show. Our kindergarten is rich in culture and we have all thoroughly enjoyed learning about different cultures, customs, language and song during this year as part of our

multicultural self-review so we have decided to incorporate our learning into our Christmas show. More communications about this show will follow shortly and we will look forward to sharing what we have learnt with our families.

Water Explorations

Some encouraging warmer days at kindergarten has prompted the return of water explorations especially in the water trough and sandpit. The children have wasted no time in getting engaged in some self made muddy puddles, an activity that has been revisited frequently. Spontaneous activities like this are truly valuable in early childhood with skill development and learning in areas such as gross motor development,

hand-eye coordination, maths concepts such as measurement and volume and social skill development through problem solving, negotiation and turn taking. A classic example of the benefits of learning through play. Its lots of fun too!

We will look forward to more water explorations and fun as the summer approaches!



Wise Owls - Casey Caterpillar

During Wise Owls this term the children are engaging in the 'Casey Caterpillar Building Blocks to Literacy and Numeracy Programme'. This programme is designed to build on children's letter recognition knowledge and support them in developing correct letter formation in a playful, relaxed and meaningful way. Our day to day programme at Little Treehouse is rich in literacy

opportunities and our intention is to scaffold the children with these resources further to support their seamless transition to school. The resources that accompany the 'Casey' book are varied and interesting. Each 'treasure box' is filled with an array of items that the teachers will be using to support concepts such as association, rhyming, story telling, memory, matching,

sounds and syllables. The New Zealand early childhood curriculum is evident in these interactions as we turn take, actively listen to each other and participate as part of a group.

Parents can support this programme by providing consistent guidance and language in letter formation at home, details to support this are attached to this newsletter.



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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 of our children made a very important observation about spacial awareness in the playground. "You know Mrs Millar, if you don't duck your head down you will get your head chopped off!"

Communication Corner

- **Know Me, Eat Me programme:** An internal teaching review on healthy eating and nutrition at kindergarten has resulted in Little Treehouse Kindergarten investing in a food education programme for early childhood centres called Know Me Eat Me where the children will be exploring the food they eat, where it comes from, why it is good for us and what it tastes like. This programme starts on 1st November and sees us investigating one fruit or vegetable each month in detail for a year. This will include growing fruits and vegetables in our garden where possible, cooking, science experiments and reading stories and watching videos of where these foods come from. Parents can become involved too so take a look at their website www.knowmееatme.com to find out more.



- **Welcome to Miss Ashling Reidy:** We welcomed Miss Ashling Reidy to our teaching team in October. Ashling is a fully qualified teacher with 6 years experience as an early childhood teacher. She qualified in Ireland with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Degree in Early Childhood Education and has spent the last 4 years working in London before following a childhood dream of living in New Zealand. We are very pleased she has chosen to spend time with us at Little Treehouse Kindergarten.

- **Parent Portal:** Just a reminder that parents are able to access copies of children's learning stories electronically through our parent portal system or in hard copy in their child's manual copy of their portfolio at kindergarten. If you have lost your parent portal password please contact Allanah for your password to be reset.

- **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 2020: Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like any changes to your child's kindergarten attendance in 2020. We have a waitlist for some days so planning in advance for changes will be required.

Upcoming Events

Father's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 12th November 5.30-7pm

The children are invited to bring their Dad or other significant person 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 6th December 9.30am

Dress Rehearsal—Thursday 5th December 9-11am

A tradition at Little Treehouse Kindergarten is to celebrate Christmas with the children performing a Christmas show. This show will be held on Friday 6th December at 9.30am in St Lukes Church. 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 if possible. 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 19th December

Our children's Christmas party will be held on Thursday 19th 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 a bouncy castle, face painting and Christmas activities.

Welcome

Reuben Lee

Farewell

Wilson Kirkham

We would love your feedback on our newsletter. Please email us at [littletreehouse.co.nz](mailto:admin@littletreehouse.co.nz)

NOVEMBER 2019