



Newsletter

October 2020

- ### Dates for your Diary
- Cultural Day— Wednesday 21st October 9-11am
 - Father's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 10th November 5.30-7pm
 - Children's Christmas Show - Friday 11th December 9.30am
 - Children's Christmas Party—Monday 21st December 2020
 - Closedown period 24th December 2020 to 8th January 2020 inclusive



Programme Highlights

Police Visit

This month we have fostered our children's interest in emergency vehicles through an educational visit with the NZ Police. Constable Paul and Constable Gordon shared with us how the Police help to keep people and their property safe.

We got to see all of the things they have hiding in their vests including a police phone, torch, taser, pepper spray, police radio and a magic stick. The children then had the opportunity to dress up as police officers, hear the lights and sirens and spend some time in the police car. It was a very exciting morning!

How our garden has grown

Our garden has been thriving with lots of tender loving care from our children. We have harvested lots of broccoli and cauliflower and enjoyed eating these at morning tea. Through our Know Me Eat Me programme we have been learning about cauliflower, where it comes from and why it is so good for us. We have also just started learning about cabbage, another vegetable growing in our garden which we are looking forward to harvesting soon.

Māori Language Week

This month we celebrated Maori language week with the children extending their

knowledge of Te Reo Maori at mat times with our Maori days of the week, counting, colours, greetings and sharing books in Te Reo. We also enjoyed Maori legends, waiata and exploring Maori inspired art provocations. At kindy we regularly and actively use Te Reo in our daily practice alongside and with the children. We also use waiata 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.

Social Competency

On a day to day basis at kindergarten teachers are nurturing children's social and emotional well-being and supporting them to become more successful with using their communication skills to appropriately navigate social situations within the context of play. This is an important part of our curriculum and enables our children to relate to others in ways that enrich and extend their learning.

An important part of supporting children's social development is providing a learning environment that is calm and unhurried to allow time for teachers to work

alongside children and support their interactions with others. On a daily basis we are building children's confidence in relating to others, initiating conversations, taking turns, respecting the views and opinions of others, caring for our younger children, negotiating desired outcomes and becoming independent problem solvers. This competence supports dispositions such as resilience, persevering with a task and showing empathy for others.

In a practical sense these skills are being developed through every day social interactions with children and teachers,

support with providing appropriate language in social situations, role modelling positive interactions, discussions about feelings and the use of puppets and role play at mat times. It is important that children learn to identify and analyse different options to overcome problems and develop the language necessary to communicate their needs, feelings and ideas with others to solve conflicts. When children can solve their own problems they can feel empowered and confident socially which ultimately enhances their self-esteem.





Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

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.

Mrs Hensby-Bennett was sharing with the children that one day she lost her diamond ring in the sandpit so you never know what you might find when you are digging in the sand. One of our children responded 'If I find a diamond ring I would buy all the toys and lollies in the world.'

Communication Corner

Parent Teacher Meetings: We hope that you all enjoyed the opportunity to spend some time with Allanah and Rachel discussing your child's progress at kindergarten. We enjoyed the opportunity to get additional insights into your children's lives and look forward to supporting them further with their learning and development at kindergarten.

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 parents and whanau 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 your child is doing at home. Please use the 'feedback' option on the parent portal to do this in an efficient way. Parent teacher meetings are another good way to share your views. By providing feedback we can ensure that we best support your child's development at kindergarten.

Professional Learning: During the recent lockdown period teachers engaged in some self directed professional learning on social competency as a team utilising a Ministry of Education publication and self assessment tool called 'He Māpuna te Tamaiti - Supporting Social and Emotional Competence in Early Learning'.

This resource provides a range of strategies to support effective practices that enhance children's social and emotional competence, engagement and learning in respectful ways. Although it has confirmed and reinforced our existing practice, it also provides support for further strengthening our practice with new strategies that we are utilising in our day to day practice with really positive results. Our current team focus is on providing positive affirmation to children.

We intend to continue to review this resource over time to build on our learning. These are universal strategies therefore parents and whanau seeking support with social and emotional development at home would also benefit from its

"History will judge us by the difference we make in the everyday lives of children."
—Nelson Mandela



Upcoming Events

Cultural Day - Wednesday 21st October 2020: We are very excited to be hosting our rescheduled Cultural Day on Wednesday 21st October. Children can come to kindy dressed in traditional cultural dress and we would love you to share a traditional food dish, game, song or craft activity on the day. Children who do not attend kindergarten on a Wednesday can attend with a parent or caregiver. Parents and siblings are welcome to join us between 9am - 11am.

Father's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 10th November 5.30-7pm: 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 11th December 9.30am: Our Children's Christmas Show will be held on Friday 11th 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 - Monday 21st December: Our Children's Christmas party will be held during our morning session on Monday 21st December. We are planning a fun morning of activities. Please book this date in your calendar and join us for a morning of Christmas fun!

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

Welcome

Indi Bowring

OCTOBER 2020