



Newsletter

**November
2020**

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



Important Messages

Please note the key dates for our Christmas show and rehearsal

Greeting of the month is Namastē

Programme Highlights

Cultural Day

This month we celebrated cultural diversity by coming together as a community and celebrating our cultures. The children wore traditional costumes and participated in singing and dancing from around the world. We all enjoyed traditional cultural activities such as making Māori poi's and Chinese fans, building Thai stupas, creating famous landmarks out of loose parts, flag drawing, playing toss the can, a traditional Dutch game and hurling, a traditional Irish game. We also tasted some delicious new flavours through the sharing of cultural food. It was a true celebration of all cultures.

Friendships

We have continued our focus on building emotional and

social competency by supporting children with making and maintaining friendships. Every day our children are learning how to engage with others by playing together. They build closer connections through developing friendships and strengthen these relationships through actively listening to their friends needs and requests, taking turns, negotiating, problem solving, compromising and helping each other. Friendships are built organically through shared interests and experiences, and it's not something that we can force, but can be encouraged. Teachers draw the attention of nearby children to things that others are doing. We place resources in ways that encourage interaction and

sharing. We prompt children to help one another if need be, often redirect their questions to nearby peers and support them with role modelling appropriate language when required. This learning is linked to the Maori value of Whaahoahoa - making friends and being friendly, polite, sociable and pleasant towards others.

Christmas Show Rehearsals

We have been busy in the last few weeks preparing for our children's Christmas show. The children are learning new songs, have chosen roles and started rehearsals in the church. This is a big focus this term as we continue with our practices and begin making props. We will look forward to sharing our children's talents with you in our Christmas show soon.

Transitions - Engaging with Schools

We have visited local schools to support our planned self review on transitions and found that most new entrant environments have introduced some form of play-based learning over the last 2 years but remain traditional with formal structured learning expected of children. Feedback from discussions with new entrant teachers and leaders was variable with general agreement that

important skills to support an effective transition to school included social competency, independence and self-help skills, basic literacy skills such as name recognition and writing their name, an established pencil grip, cutting skills and the ability to sit on the mat and concentrate for a short period of time. The recognition of other letters and sounds was considered useful by some schools only.

Schools also valued support from ECE in encouraging longer days at kindy to build stamina for school, ensuring children are taught correctly especially with avoiding the use of upper case letters when writing their name and providing opportunities for children to spend time concentrating for short periods of time and following simple instructions.



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.

One of our children was enjoying a game of eye spy with Ms Bloem.

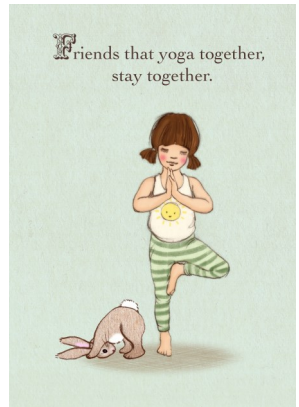
Child: "Eye spy with my little eye, something starting with orange. It's really tricky ... do you give up, do you give up?"

Ms Bloem: "Ok, I give up"

Child: "Your hair!"

Communication Corner

- **Storybook Yoga:** Mrs Clayton attended a professional learning course on children's yoga with a focus on learning how to guide children in active storytelling using yoga role-play, songs, breathing awareness and relaxation. This professional learning draws inspiration from favourite children's picture books and transforms these into a magical world of movement. This supports us in extending this wellness initiative at kindergarten following the introduction of yoga earlier in the year. We will look forward to exploring many of our favourite story books with movement at kindergarten.



- **Greeting of the Month:** This month's greeting of the month is the Hindi greeting Namastē. The children will be learning about and using this greeting in November so we encourage you to support your child's learning by using and talking about this greeting at home.

- **Blog:** We have added a new blog to our website which shares information about when you would expect your children to make friends. This blog shares the 'stages of play' and how we support children to make friends at kindy.

- **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 2021: Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like any changes to your child's kindergarten attendance in 2021. We have a waitlist for all days so planning in advance for changes will be required.

Upcoming Events

Father's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 10th 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 our Dad's 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

Dress Rehearsal—Thursday 10th 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 11th December at 9.30am in St Lukes Church. We will hold a full dress rehearsal for the children on Thursday 10th 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 - Monday 21st December 2020

Our children's Christmas party will be held on Monday 21st 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 Monday will need a parent to stay at kindy. We are planning a fun morning with a bouncy castle, face painting and Christmas activities.

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

Welcome

Catherine Cashen
Stella Firth
Hugo Hickey

Farewell

Qays Singh
Frank Walton