



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

Newsletter

April 2021

Dates for your Diary

- Kindergarten photos - 13th and 14th from 9.30am. Rain date 15th April. Group photo Tuesday 13th April 11am
- Celebrating Songkran 13-15th April
- Tuesday 4th May Parent information evening— Supporting School Readiness and Transition 6.30-7.30pm followed by Mum's Night Out - 7.30pm



Important Messages

- Parent Information evening on supporting school preparation and transition 4th May
- Kindergarten photos 13th and 14th April. Group photo 13th April at 11am.
- Please let us know if you are going away over the April school holidays

Programme Highlights

St Patrick's Day Celebration

An important part of our curriculum is building our children's knowledge of other cultures so in March we celebrated Miss Reidy's Irish culture on St Patrick's Day. At that time the children learnt about the significance of this special day and were introduced to some Irish language, music and hurling, a native sport of Ireland.

The day was filled with lots of Irish inspired activities including a leprechaun house, green water with floating shamrocks, green shaving foam, playdough and four leaf clovers at the carpentry and collage tables alongside green accessories for decoration.

Protecting our Sea

We celebrated sea week with

lots of fun sea themed activities such as water play, arts and crafts, music, sensory play, sand collages, puzzles and books. During mat times the children discussed the importance of keeping our seas free of rubbish and the damage this can cause to our oceans and wildlife. To support this learning we created a recycling centre and the children were kept busy rescuing our sea creatures tangled in rubbish that had found its way into our ocean trough. Building an awareness of protecting our environment supports our sustainability review focus.

Emotional Competency

Our recent focus has been on supporting children to under-

stand, express and regulate their emotions which has a major impact on their ability to cope with everyday life. We have used books and made resources to support us in talking to children in ways that acknowledge their feelings and help them to name and explain what they are feeling. We have explored self-regulation, the ability to control our feelings, thoughts and behaviours. Managing emotions, especially heightened emotions, is important so that children can persist at tasks, solve problems and control impulses. Positive guidance in the moment helps children to recognise strong emotions and to calm down without feeling that the emotions themselves are wrong.

Mt Hobson Family Sports Day

In March we held our annual sports morning at Mt Hobson/ Ōhinerau. The sun was shining and the children and whanau enjoyed a morning of being active with lots of traditional fun activities including soccer, tag tails, rob the nest, egg and spoon races and an obstacle course. This was followed by a shared picnic morning tea, an enthusiastic climb up Mt Hobson and some music and fun with the giant parachute. The children loved the extra

space to run around and enjoyed spending time with their family and friends. By participating in these activities the children are strengthening many skills including balance, hand eye coordination, gross motor, listening, communication, patience and persistence. Thank you to all whanau who came along and participated in their children's learning, for helping, getting involved and joining in the fun.





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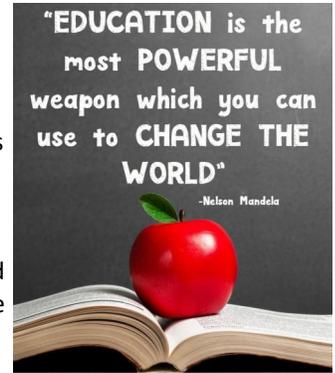
CHILDS VOICE

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 identified that a photo on a display board included an image of a child who had recently gone to school. This child pointed this out to his friend saying 'He has gone to school already. He must be about 100 years old now.' His friend responded 'If he was 100 years old already he would be dead or have lots of wrinkles.'

Communication Corner

Parent Information Evening: Following our centre wide self review on supporting transitions in 2020 we would like to share with our kindergarten community what we do at Little Treehouse Kindergarten to support our children's readiness and transition to school. This will include insights into the expectations of new entrant teachers at our local schools, what we do in our day to day and Wise Owls programmes and what parents can do to support this at home. We believe that this information is valuable for our children of 4 year olds or soon to be 4 year olds.



Publication supporting school readiness and transition to school: We have created a resource to support our families with knowledge on supporting their children as they prepare for and transition to school. This publication will be available to families at our parent information evening and will be provided to families as children turn 4 on an ongoing basis. Feedback welcome.

Holidays: Please let us know of any holidays plans over the upcoming April school holiday so that we can manage our staffing requirements.

Yoga Professional Development: All staff attended professional learning on children's yoga in March. Yoga has been an enjoyable part of our programme over the last few months and we are looking forward to extending this further.

Signing in and out each day: Children must be signed in and out each day by someone over 14 years of age. This is frequently forgotten so we ask that parents help us with this administrative requirement by reliably signing in and out each day and supporting us to maintain our government funding.

Blog: Inspired by our nature explorations at Mt Hobson and the enthusiasm that our Wise Owls share about this experience we have created a blog on Nature Play to share with our families. This is now available on our website and as part of this newsletter. May you be as inspired as we are!

Upcoming Events

Kindergarten Photos: Photos will be taken during our morning sessions on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th April with a rain date on Thursday 15th April. A group kindergarten photo will be taken on Tuesday at 11am. If your child does not attend kindergarten on these days or you would like them to be included in our group photo we would love you to bring them along.

Celebrating our cultures: We will be celebrating Easter early in April, the Thai celebration of Songkran from 13th-15th April and Anzac Day later in April with some fun activities planned for the children.

Parent Information Evening - Tuesday 4th May 6.30-7.30pm: At this parent information evening we will be sharing knowledge on how we support children readiness and transition to school at Little Treehouse Kindergarten. All families are welcome to attend. Information is particularly valuable for families of 4 year olds or nearly 4 year olds. See further information above. Come and join us for the evening and Mum can stay to enjoy our Mum's night immediately afterwards.

Mum's Night Out: All Mum's are invited to come along and enjoy an evening of wine, cheese and conversation on Tuesday 4th May from 7.30pm following our parent information evening. Leave Dad at home with the children for the night and come out and enjoy the company.

Welcome

Oscar Bent
Annan Jeyanathan
Maisie O'Brien

Family News

Congratulations to the Logan family on the arrival of a son and little brother for Cooper and Hudson. Leo Logan was born on 13th March 2021 weighing 3.3kg

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

APRIL 2021