



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

Newsletter

March 2022

Dates for your Diary

- ERO Review—15th-17th March
- St Patrick's Day - Thursday 17th March
- Easter 15th-18th April
- Songkran—Thai New Year celebrations 13th-15th April



Programme Highlights

Hot days and water play

We have had some wonderful sunny days with lots of opportunities to engage in different water experiences outdoors. Every day the water trough offers something different to draw children's attention such as coloured water, ice, sea creatures, dinosaurs, squishy beads or shaving foam. The addition of our mud kitchen has also extended the opportunities for water play in the sandpit as the children fill their kitchen sinks with water, make mud pies and have more ready access to water in their sandpit play.

Time in the garden

We have all been enjoying time in the garden recently following the replacement of

our vegetable garden and the opportunity to invest in a bigger garden. Ms Bloem has been busy extending our teaching of our Know Me Eat Me programme and supporting the children with planting our garden with cabbage, broccoli, silverbeet, spinach, potato and kumara.

We have been continuing with our composting and will soon be able to use this composted product to nourish our garden. We will look forward to caring for our garden and watching it grow in the coming weeks.

Celebrating culture

Exploring different cultures, beliefs and perspectives is an important part of our curriculum. This month the children have celebrated

Waitangi Day and the Chinese and Korean New Year, the year of the Tiger. They learnt about Chinese and Korean traditions and customs through discussions at mat time, sharing stories and engaging in activities such as making Chinese lanterns, fans, blossom and firework paintings, dragons and musical instruments. We also practiced our fine motor skills using chopsticks and tasted steamed Chinese dumplings for morning tea.



Important Messages

Our ERO review is confirmed for 15th-17th March 2022

Our waitlist has extended to March 2023 so please plan ahead for changes to timetables, enrolment of siblings and recommend friends to enrol early.

Little Heart Day



Thank you to all our families for supporting our Heart Kids fundraiser by wearing red or heart clothing on Little Heart Day. The children enjoyed learning about their hearts, our heart inspired activities including heart painting and collage, reading stories and singing songs about our hearts. They also enjoyed spending time in our much loved Heart Hospital. This event raised \$195 for Heart Kids.



Little Treehouse
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130 Remuera Road
Remuera 1050
Phone: 520 0114

e-mail: admin@littletreehouse.co.nz

www.littletreehouse.co.nz

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.

With the days being so hot one of our children shared "It's a good thing that I get thirsty because then I know that I won't get dehydrated."

Communication Corner

Education Review Office (ERO) review: ERO is the government agency that evaluates and reports on the quality of care of children in schools and early childhood centres. They evaluate how well learning conditions and organisational conditions within a centre promote positive outcomes for all children. This will include exploring how well governance, management, leadership, partnership with parents and whānau, curriculum design and teaching practices are contributing to children's learning and wellbeing. ERO representatives will talk to adults and children, look at documents and observe aspects of our programme. They will also be interested in how parents and whanau are supported to contribute to their child's learning and how teachers, parents and whanau are involved in the decision making in the centre. Our onsite review is scheduled for 15th-17th March and we appreciate your support during this process.

Waitlists: We are experiencing high levels of enquiries and enrolments and our waitlist for new enrolments has now extended to March 2023 and beyond for some days. Thank you to all our families who have been recommending us. Given the lead time for additional days please ensure you plan ahead for changes in timetable, the enrolment of siblings or the extension of your child's leaving date if your child will not be starting school when they turn 5 so that we can meet your needs. Please recommend that your friends plan ahead and enrol early too!

Water safety: The children participated in a fun, interactive water safety education session with Drowning Prevention New Zealand in February. They learnt important water safety messages such as always having an adult close to them when in, on and around water, and wearing a correctly fitted lifejacket when in a boat or on any watercraft such as a jet ski and kayak, and when fishing from land.

Greeting of the month: This month's greeting of the month is *Diadhuit*, the Irish greeting for Hello. This supports our cultural celebration of St Patrick's Day in March where Miss Reidy will be sharing her culture with us.

Upcoming Events

Vision and hearing testing - Wednesday 9th March 9.30am:

Vision and hearing testing will be available for our 4 year old children at kindy on Wednesday 9th March. Permission slips will be available for signing shortly. If your child does not attend kindy on a Wednesday please bring them along otherwise testing will need to be organised independently.

Education Review Office (ERO) review 15th-17th March: Representatives will be onsite for three days to review our learning and organisational conditions.

St Patrick's Day—Thursday 17th March: We will be celebrating Miss Reidy's Irish culture at kindergarten on St Patrick's day with lots of fun Irish inspired activities. Children are encouraged to wear green in support of this celebration.

Songkran 13th - 15th April and Easter 15th-18th April: We will be celebrating these cultural events in April with some fun activities planned.

"Teaching children about the natural world should be seen as one of the most important events in their lives."
~ Thomas Berry



Welcome

Rocco Carter
Lucinda Mamo
Violet Kenny
Tommy Armstrong
Sophia Pringle
Ivaan Desai
Lyanna You
Leo van Sambeek
Mila van Oijen