



Newsletter

May 2022

- Dates for your Diary**
- Mother's Night Out - Tuesday 3rd May from 7pm
 - Sign language week 10th-15th May
 - Kindergarten photos - 11th & 12th May. Group photo Wednesday 11th May 11am
 - Jammies in June - Pyjama day Tuesday 14th June
 - Celebrating Matariki from 20th June—1st July followed by our Matariki Disco on Friday 1st July 5.30-7pm

Programme Highlights

Sign Language

As part of our review of oral literacy in the later part of 2021 we decided as a teaching team to start learning New Zealand Sign Language alongside our children. We have been introducing new words slowly over time and some children are really embracing this challenge. Signs that you may start seeing children use at home include greetings such as good morning, please, thank you, food or drink.

Ms Bloem has introduced the children to the familiar nursery rhyme incy wincy spider in NZ sign language and the children have been practicing this frequently. We will extend this learning further during sign language week in May and as the year progresses.

Bug Hotel

As part of our ongoing focus on sustainability we have been slowly establishing a bug hotel with the children at kindergarten. We have been learning about different bug habitats and what is needed in our bug hotel to attract different types of insects. Our Wise Owls have been collecting twigs, pine cones, leaves and acorns during their Mt Hobson nature exploration and some children have been collecting resources at home to include in our wooden bug house.

As a result of this learning, we are seeing a lot of bug exploration and bug play alongside our natural resources. We will look forward to seeing this

interest evolve and sharing our bug hotel with our kindergarten community.

Teacher Role Play

A developing interest at kindy is children role playing the role of a teacher in their play. On a daily basis we are seeing small groups of children being led by one child (teacher) as they read stories, lead mat times and instruct each other to say the karakia and wash their hands.

Role play allows children the opportunity to develop story telling and listening skills as well as opportunities to explore the wider world using creativity and imagination, all important life skills. We will look forward to supporting this learning further in the coming weeks.



Important Messages

We are seeking parent feedback on supporting children's wellbeing as part of our planned self review on Wellbeing

8.30am early drop off spaces available

Cultural Celebrations

Many cultural celebrations have been explored this month as we have celebrated Easter, Songkran, St Georges Day and Anzac Day. Exploring different cultures, beliefs and perspectives is an important part of our curriculum. Through these experiences our children are developing a respect for different cultures and learning about the costumes, traditions and beliefs that are important to

their friends. We have celebrated with fun activities, crafts, the sharing of stories and traditions and the baking of traditional foods. Thank you for those families who have been involved in these celebrations and shared knowledge and resources with us. We encourage all of our families to share their cultures with us to continue to build our knowledge together as a community.





130 Remuera Road
Remuera 1050
Phone: 520 0114

e-mail: admin@littletreehouse.co.nz
www.littletreehouse.co.nz

We are also on Facebook

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 our interest in bugs and insects our children were exploring the properties of some bugs and animals. One child enquired "How do frogs snore?" to which one of our children eagerly demonstrated with a "ribbit snort, ribbit snort".

You really had to be there for this one as we cannot adequately reflect this moment in words alone!

Wellbeing

Each year as a teaching team we choose an area of focus to review to support the continuous improvement of teaching and learning within the kindergarten. With the completion of our review on sustainability we have commenced our 2022 review on supporting Wellbeing. With the disruption caused by the pandemic over the last two years and the ongoing impacts in 2022 we felt that it is important to focus our teaching and learning on ways that we can better support our children's and teacher's wellbeing.

We have looked at ways that we currently support wellbeing at Little Treehouse Kindergarten, brainstormed some ideas as a team with reference to supporting research and literature and we have been talking to our children about what makes them feel 'happy' and 'sad'. To help guide our review further we would like to seek feedback from our parent community on how you support your child's wellbeing at home and how you feel we can better support children's wellbeing at kindy.

If our parent community have any expertise in the area of wellbeing we would love you to share your knowledge and learning with us to support this review.

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

Communication Corner

- **Early drop off at 8.30am:** If you are interested in our earlier drop off time of 8.30am spaces are available. Subject to availability requests for one off early drop offs are also welcome. We request that parents who have not booked or notified us of an early drop off respect our starting time of 8.45am.

Upcoming Events

- **Mum's Night Out:** All Mum's are invited to come along and enjoy an evening of wine, cheese and conversation on Tuesday 3rd May from 7pm. This is a great opportunity to get to know other kindergarten Mum's in a relaxed informal setting. Leave Dad at home with the children and come and enjoy the company.
- **Kindergarten Photos:** Kindergarten photos will be taken during our morning sessions on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th May with our group kindergarten photo being taken on Wednesday 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 them to come into kindergarten to have their photo taken.
- **Jammies in June:** We will be supporting the Jammies in June appeal again this year. This is an initiative by the Middlemore Foundation to provide support to children in NZ who do not have warm clothing over winter to help prevent respiratory illness. Donations of new or good quality second hand pyjamas, hats, socks or blankets are appreciated. We will host a pyjama day on Tuesday 14th June to support our learning at kindy.
- **Children's Disco—Friday 1st July 5.30pm-7pm:** Our annual Matariki disco will be held on Friday 1st July. This will be a fun night of celebration for all our families so please book this date in your diaries now. Please bring a plate to share for dinner.



Welcome

Sylvester Marsic

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Van Sambeek family who welcomed a baby boy, Billy on Friday 1st April 2022. A little brother for Leo.