



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

Newsletter

**January /
February 2024**

Dates for your Diary

- Waitangi Day celebrations
Monday 5th February
- Chinese New Year
Celebrations 12th-16th
February
- Games Day at Mt Hobson
Thursday 22nd February
9-11.30am
- Easter celebrations
25th - 28th March



Important Messages

- We currently have some availability at kindy for additional days or if you have friends looking for kindergarten options.
- Our planned self review focus in 2024 is building knowledge to support children with diverse needs

Welcome Back

We hope that everyone had a fantastic summer break and enjoyed lots of family time together over the holiday period. We are all very excited to welcome you back to kindergarten for 2024. We have been busy farewelling a number of children who are about to begin their school journey as well as welcoming new children into the kindergarten. We look forward to supporting all of our new children in building relationships within our kindergarten community over the coming weeks.

Programme Highlights

Christmas Celebrations

December was filled with lots of Christmas celebrations and activities and was a fun time for everyone. The highlights were our Christmas Show and Christmas party. The children worked really hard learning their songs and prompts and loved sharing this with their families. Involvement in an event like this is instrumental in building confidence, self-esteem and a sense of belonging. We are so proud of what the children achieved.

Thank you to our families for sharing in our Christmas celebrations and supporting their child/ren.

Holidays

Since returning from holiday the children have been sharing with us what they enjoyed doing with their families over the holidays. We have been enjoying listening to their stories and capturing what has been important to them which we are sharing in their portfolios.

Water play

It has been the perfect weather for having fun exploring in the outdoors. Our sandpit and water play are a strong feature of every day. There's nothing more fun than spending time splashing and frolicking in the water on a hot day! While helping us cool there are so many amazing benefits for children's social, emotional and physical development and learning.

Hand-eye coordination is developed as children learn to pour, squeeze and stir water with increasing control. Gross and fine motor skills are strengthened through lifting, pouring and carrying while actions such as squeezing help to develop the small muscles

in a child's hands. Water is perfect for demonstrating mathematical and scientific concepts such as volume and weight. There are also opportunities to explore our senses. Adding materials like sand, ice, soap or slime allows children to explore different textures and experience different temperatures.

Since returning to kindy we have explored water in many ways. We have made ice and gloop to support our sensory play, added water to the sandpit to create volcanoes, lakes, potions and wombat stew and had fun in our mud kitchen. We have enjoyed pouring water between containers and jugs, transferring water using droppers, splashing water with our sprinkler and watering our gardens.





Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

130 Remuera Road

admin@littletreehouse.co.nz

www.littletreehouse.co.nz

CHILDS VOICE

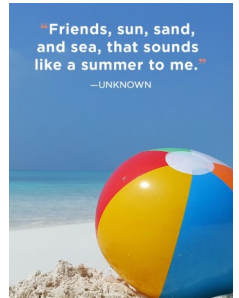
Immersing ourselves in the world of children every day means that we have the privilege of experiencing some magical moments that make us laugh...

One of our children was painting with dye and they were gently guided by a teacher to ensure the paint went onto the paper when the child announced 'it okay, my Mummy said I can get as much mess on my clothes as I want when I'm at kindy. She will clean them.'

Communication Corner

- **Thank you:** All teachers would like to thank parents and children for all the lovely gifts and gift vouchers that we all received at the end of 2023. We were truly spoiled and your generosity and kindness is much appreciated by us all.
- **Availability:** With so many children leaving us to head to school, for the first time in 5 years we have immediate spaces available. If you would like any additional days please let us know or if you have friends considering kindergarten options then please let them know so they can get in touch. Thank you for your support.
- **Library:** Children who attend kindergarten on a Friday have the opportunity to select a library book to take home each week. This supports them in preparing for school as the book bags are similar to what the children will have when they go to school and they have the responsibility of returning these each week to have the opportunity to choose a new book. We would like to ask parents to support their children with this responsibility. We have a number of books that were not returned last year so if you have any books at home with a Little Treehouse stamp on the inside cover please return these to kindy.
- **Resources:** Thank you to our families for collecting resources for us to use in our collage and glue gun learning spaces. We would love to get more shells for this area so if you are spending time at the beach over the summer the children may like to collect some shells for us to use. We are also currently wanting to replace some of our plumbing pipes and spouting at kindy so if anyone is renovating or works in the plumbing or building industry and has access to used pipes or spouting that could be donated to kindy please let us know.
- **Greeting of the Month:** This month's greeting is the Chinese greeting Ni hao to connect to our teaching on the Chinese New Year.
- **Policies:** Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Human Resource Management and Human Rights Policy and our Centre Exclusion - Substance Policy with no notable changes. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

"Friends, sun, sand,
and sea, that sounds
like a summer to me."
—UNKNOWN



Upcoming Events

Games Day at Mt Hobson: We will host our annual games morning at Mt Hobson on Thursday 22nd February from 9-11.30am. All children and parents are welcome to join us for the morning so please book this morning into your diary.

Cultural celebrations: We have a number of upcoming cultural celebrations that we will be celebrating at kindy. The children will learn about the significance of Waitangi Day on Monday 5th February followed by learning about the Chinese and Korean cultures through our Chinese and Korean New Year celebrations during the week 12-16th February. This year it is the year of the Dragon. In March we will then celebrate Easter with lots of fun Easter activities.

Planned Self-Review Focus for 2024

Our planned self review focus in 2024 will be building our teaching knowledge on supporting children with diverse needs. Building knowledge and strategies to support children with diverse needs builds our teaching capability to maximise the support that we can provide to all children. We will look forward to seeking parent input and feedback throughout the year.

Welcome

Dulya Ratnayake
Charlie Robinson

Farewells

Jack Johns
Louisa Coe
Noori Ebbett

Birth Announcements

Sophia Hanson and her family welcomed a little boy, Hunter Edward Peter on 3rd January 2024, weighing 2.89kg

Matilda Johnston and her family welcomed a little boy, George Arthur on 5th January 2024, weighing 4.68kg.