



Newsletter

**November
2024**

- ### Dates for your Diary
- Dad's Sausage Sizzle
Tuesday 12th November
5.30-7pm
 - Kindness Collective gift giving - Monday 18th November
 - Children's Christmas Show - Friday 6th December 9.30am and Dress Rehearsal Thursday 5th December 9-11am
 - Children's Christmas Party - Wednesday 18th December
 - Closedown period 23rd December 2024 to 3rd January 2025 inclusive



Important Messages

Please apply sunscreen in the mornings on warmer days

Thank you for supporting our Kindness Collective Christmas gift giving. Final delivery date for gifts is Monday 18th November.

Programme Highlights

Scissor Skills

As a teaching team we have been focusing on supporting tamariki in developing their scissor skills at kindy with lots of opportunities to practice these skills at different skill levels. Cutting play dough is a great activity to support the development of early scissor skills and learn the movement of opening and closing scissors. Children then progress to making single cuts using smaller strips of paper or by cutting around the edges of paper. It is not until this skill is mastered that children are able to cut along a page using multiple cutting actions, using their non dominant hand to hold and manipulate the paper.

This is a great skill for parents to support at home also. Children often need to be supported initially to have the correct hand placement for using scissors. This

requires the thumb to go into the smaller loop with the thumb pointing upwards. The index finger wraps around the outside of the bottom loop. The middle finger should grip inside the bottom loop. Gentle reminders are often required to ensure their thumb is always facing up and that their elbow remains at the side of their body.

We have been enjoying lots of cutting activities at kindy, our most popular being making people and cutting their hair and cutting the mane on a lion's face.

Leadership

Following our focus over the last two months on fostering leadership skills we have introduced two new leadership roles with our 4 year old children. Our Kaiāwhina Leader has the daily responsibility of assisting the teacher at mat time, running our 'news

sharing' session, ringing the bell to signal the start of music or our Wise Owls programme and selecting a table activity of their choice for the day. Our Kaitiaki Leader has the responsibility of caring for our environment by looking after our garden, feeding our worms and managing our composting requirements. The children are embracing these new responsibilities and leadership opportunities with enthusiasm.

Christmas Show Rehearsals

We have been busy preparing for our children's Christmas show. The children are learning new songs, getting involved in making props and have started rehearsals in the Church. This will continue to be a focus this term. We will look forward to sharing our children's talents with you in our Christmas show soon.

Farmyard visit

We experienced the joy of animals with the visit of a mobile farmyard this month. Farmer Fleur arrived in her farmyard truck with lots of animals for us to see and pat including goats, lambs, hens, rats, ponies and a friendly fluffy rabbit. Farmer Fleur explained how to care for

each of the animals ensuring that the animals enjoyed the experience just as much as we did. This supported the children in learning to show empathy and take responsibility for caring for the animals.

After spending time in the truck, we also had the

opportunity to have a pony ride on one of the two miniature ponies, Cricket and Bert. A few children found this opportunity a little overwhelming, however most children embraced this new experience and enjoyed a gentle guided walk around the kindy carpark.



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CHILD'S VOICE

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

Some children were enjoying one of our sunny days outside on the monkey bars. When climbing on the top of the monkey bars one of our children stopped to share 'When I am 22 years old I am going to clean the toilet just like my Mum.'

Communication Corner

- **Kindness Collective Christmas gift giving:** Thank you to all of our families who have indicated their intention to provide a gift for a child(ren) through our Kindness Collective gift giving initiative this Christmas. Your generosity has enabled us to support 60 children attending two centres - Homai and Eden. For those families who would still like to get involved we still have a few children available to provide gifts for and the Christmas Joy Store would appreciate gifts for children 0-16 years. The final date for receiving gifts is Monday 18th November 2024.
- Sharing the message of kindness towards others with our children is an important part of our kindergarten and home values. Thank you for your support.
- **Therese Rasmussen:** Therese is returning to Denmark to complete her studies with her last day being Monday 18th November. We will welcome a new Danish student Marie Dahlgard on Monday 2nd December.
- **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.
- **Emergency exit:** Just a reminder that our emergency exit from the playground into the carpark should only be used for emergency situations and not as an entry or exit from kindy. Thank you for your supporting us with keeping this exit clear.
- **Cutlery:** Please ensure that children have any cutlery required to support them in eating their lunch independently at kindy. When kindy cutlery is used please return it if it accidentally ends up at home.
- **Greeting of the Month:** This month's greeting of the month is the Hindu greeting of Namaste. This greeting supports us in our learning about Diwali in November.
- **Policies:** Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Medicines Policy and Food Provision and Recording Policy. Changes to our Medicines Policy was shared on the parent portal. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.



Upcoming Events

Dad's Sausage Sizzle - Tuesday 12th November 5.30-7pm:

Children are invited to bring along their Dad or other significant person (Grandad, Uncle etc) to our annual Dad's night for an evening of fun at kindergarten. This is a great opportunity for our Dads to see what their children love about kindergarten and to meet other Dads. Sausages and drinks provided.

Children's Christmas Show - Friday 6th December 9.30am

Dress Rehearsal—Thursday 5th 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 6th December at 9.30am in St Lukes Church. We will hold a full dress rehearsal for the children on Thursday 5th 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 parents, siblings, extended family members and friends are welcome.

Children's Christmas Party - Wednesday 18th December

Our children's Christmas party will be held on Wednesday 18th December during our morning session. Families are welcome to join us for the morning. Due to our licensing requirements children who do not attend kindergarten on a Wednesday will need a parent to stay at kindy.

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

Welcome

Max Chu

Farewell

Georgia Harman
Nadia Barzendah
Eric Chen

NOVEMBER 2024