



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

Newsletter

April 2025

Dates for your Diary

- Autism Awareness Day
Wednesday 2nd April
- Celebrating Culture
Sinhalese New Year 11th April
Songkran 14th April Easter 15th-17th April
Anzac Day 24th April
- World Book Day
Wednesday 23rd April
- Tuesday 6th May Mum's Night Out - 7pm
- Pyjama appeal - Pyjama day Tuesday 13th May



Important Messages

- Please support our Kindness Collective Pyjama Appeal this April
- Please utilise our 15min carparks for kindy drop off and collection only

Programme Highlights

Construction

We continue to see a strong interest in construction at kindy. The outdoor big blocks have turned into houses, trains, trucks and Paw Patrol vehicles. Wooden blocks have been used to make towers, road ways, farm yards and beds. Resources such as duplo magnatiles, megablocks, and mobilo are constantly in use making whatever the children's imagination feels appropriate on any given day. The glue gun table continues to be a popular space for children to enjoy constructing something to take home at the end of the day.

Throughout the month we have been moving our construction resources to different spaces within the environment and combining different resources together in our set ups to see how this impacts on the children's use and engagement with the resources. We are seeing a common theme of building houses, bedrooms and places for animals to live along with Paw Patrol or superhero vehicles or launchers.

Celebrations

This month we celebrated St Patrick's Day with a range of fun activities. We dressed up in green, made leprechaun

houses with magnets, collage Irish flags, decorated 4 leaf clovers at the glue gun table and searched for shamrocks in the water trough. We also enjoyed lots of Irish dancing as Sophie shared her skills and knowledge from taking Irish dancing lessons.

We also celebrated World Down Syndrome day by wearing crazy socks to kindy to support the Rock your Socks campaign and enjoying some craft activities with socks.

Our Kindy Values - Kindness, Respect and Ako

This month we introduced our new kindy values - KINDNESS, RESPECT and AKO. We have displayed these values at kindy with photos showing children demonstrating these values and each day we have been exploring what these values mean.

Last year, as part of our review of supporting children's social and emotional competency, a survey was completed by parents sharing the values that are most important to you as a family. The results shared that the values of most importance to

our kindergarten community were kindness and respect. These values have been incorporated into our kindy values and adapted to be relevant within our kindy environment. A third value of Ako has been included to reflect that our kindergarten is a learning environment where we learn with and from each other.

By referring to these values daily we hope over time to build an understanding of what these values mean and how we can reflect them in our day to day interactions

with each other at kindy.

This month we have also been exploring the Maori value of Manaakitanga which means showing hospitality, kindness, generosity, respect and caring toward others. This Maori value links perfectly to the introduction of our kindy values.





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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.

On one of our Wise Owls nature exploration walks the children were on their return to kindy when a child asked with a sigh 'Mrs Hesh, is this the short cut or the long cut?'

Communication Corner

Car parking: To support families with the reliability of carparking options at drop off and collection times two 15 minute carpark spaces were made available in 2024 for short term use. Please ensure that these carparks are only used for drop off and collections and not for longer periods of time. When the community centre is particularly busy we also add cones with RESERVED PARKING signs for kindergarten families to use. Please take note and utilise this available parking. Short term parking is also available by using the turning circle at the front of the church.

Early drop off: An early drop off option of 8.30am is available at kindy for a limited number of children at an additional cost of \$4 per day. Casual spaces are often available if needed. We politely request families who have not confirmed the early drop off option to wait until 8.45am to enter kindy as remaining teachers are supporting the kindergarten set up until this time.

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

Policies: Review of centre policies are carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Body Washing and Sun Protection policies with minimal change. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

Greeting of the Month: This month the children will be learning about the Thai greeting 'Sawatdee' and the Sinhalese greeting 'Ayubowan'. This will support our learning of the Thai and Sinhalese New Year celebrations.



Upcoming Events

Autism Awareness - Wednesday 2nd April: we will be participating in the Hoods Up Volume Down nationwide quiet hour on 2nd April for Autism Awareness month. We will adapt this initiative by having a low sensory morning tea with the children.

Celebrating our cultures: We will be celebrating a number of cultural events in April including the Sinhalese New Year, the Thai celebration of Songkran, Easter and Anzac day with some fun activities planned for the children.

International Book Day: Nurturing a love of books is an important part of our curriculum so we would like to celebrate International Book day on 23rd April with a book day at kindy. Children can bring along their favourite book and/or dress up as their favourite book character.

Kindness Collective Pyjama Appeal: We will be supporting the Kindness Collective Pyjama Appeal again this year to provide support to children in NZ who do not have warm clothing over winter to promote a good nights sleep and wellness. Donations of NEW pyjamas will be collected until Friday 16th May. We will host a pyjama day on Tuesday 13th May to support our learning at kindy.

Mum's Night Out: All Mum's are invited to come along and enjoy an evening of wine, nibbles and conversation on Tuesday 6th May from 7pm. Book the date in your diary and leave Dad at home with the children and enjoy a night out.

Welcome

Arabella Reid
Blair Reid
Sophia Reid
Hugo Malcolm
Isabel Batchelor

Baby News

Congratulations to the Wrait family on the arrival of a little boy, Alexander, born on 10th March 2025 weighing 3.39kg