

# NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025



## PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

### Animals

A love of animals is common among younger children and our recent focus on construction has seen an increase in the use of our animals at kindy as children have made animal enclosures, farmyards and jungles. We have added some larger animals to our resources which have been perfect in supporting children's larger construction play.

We had a wonderful opportunity to extend this interest by having one of our families scottish vallhund, Herbie, visit us at kindy. Research shows that children who are supported in their love for animals tend to extend this love and care to other living things and are more likely to be kinder, more empathetic and sensitive towards other people.

### Cultural Celebrations

We have enjoyed a month rich in cultural celebrations, sharing together Mrs Hesh's Sinhalese New Year, Songkran, Easter 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 offering traditional foods to try. Thank you to Mrs Hesh and our families who have shared knowledge with us. We encourage all of our families to share their cultures with us to continue to build our knowledge together as a community.

### World Book Day

Books are an important part of daily life at kindy with children engaging in books in lots of different ways. Whether it is sitting quietly on their own looking at the pictures, sharing a favourite story alongside a friend or listening to a teacher reading a story, our children's love of books is evident in every day. We celebrated World Book Day at kindergarten on 30<sup>th</sup> April by bringing in our favourite books from home and dressing up as our favourite book characters. We enjoyed sharing our favourite books with each other and reading lots of new stories.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

6

Mum's Night Out  
7pm

MAY

13

Pyjama Day

MAY

5-11

NZ Sign Language  
Week

MAY

26-30

Samoan Language  
Week

JUNE

27

Matariki Disco 5.30-7pm  
Celebrating Matariki 20-24 June

## IMPORTANT MESSAGES

We are a nut free kindergarten therefore please ensure there are no nut products in your child's lunchbox

We would love for families to support our Pyjama Appeal for the Kindness Collective in May

## KINDY VALUES AND OUR NEW VALUES STONE INITIATIVE

We have continued our teaching of our kindy values within our programme this month reinforcing during mat times and through our day to day interactions with children the meaning of our values - Kindness, Respect and Ako. We are beginning to see the children's understanding of our values developing. We are starting to hear our older children reference these values within their play and interactions with their peers and teachers at kindy.

With the introduction of our new kindy values we have also introduced an update to our current 'Empathy Stone' initiative. This initiative has been replaced by our 'Values Stone' where we will be acknowledging and celebrating our children for demonstrating our kindy values of Kindness, Respect and Ako. Take note of our update signage on the office door next time you are at kindy.



**Little Treehouse**  
KINDERGARTEN

## 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 wanted to jump into a muddy puddle. When told that they might need gumboots the child replied 'BUT, my Dad rolls in the mud on the grass ... at the pitch.'

*The Influence of a mother in the lives of her children is beyond calculation*

James E. Faust

## COMMUNICATION CORNER

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**Danish Student Internship:** Miss Daulgaard's six month student internship is in its final month, with her last day being Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May. We would like to wish Marie well for her travel home and the completion of her studies. Unfortunately due personal circumstances our next student will no longer be joining us so we are currently exploring other opportunities.

**The Kindness Collective:** We are continuing to support the Kindness Collective to help others in need in our wider community. Our Pyjama Appeal this month will be supporting the children from Homai Early Learning Centre and their siblings. To fully support these families we will need approximately 80 pairs of pyjamas.

**Building Resilience:** Resilience is the ability to cope and thrive in the face of negative events, challenges or adversity. Key attributes of resilience in children include social competence, a sense of agency or responsibility, attachment to family, to kindy and to learning, optimism and positive self-esteem. When children are resilient, they are braver, more curious, more adaptable, and more able to extend their reach into the world. Resilience is something that can be nurtured in all children so one of our roles as teachers is to nurture resilience in our children. We do this by building a child's sense of belonging at kindergarten, valuing their contribution to the kindergarten community, respecting their views and opinions, fostering a positive self-image and supporting social competence.

**Policies:** Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Accident and Illness and Sleep Monitoring policies with minimal change. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

**Greeting of the Month:** Our greeting of the month is Talofa Lava, the Samoan greeting for hello. We will also be learning greetings in sign language during New Zealand sign language week.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Kindness Collective Pyjama Appeal:** We are 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 can be made at kindy. We will host a pyjama day on Tuesday 13th May to support our learning at kindy.

**Sign language week:** During the week of 5th-11th May we will be focusing on reinforcing our prior learning of New Zealand sign language within our curriculum.

**Samoan Language week:** During the week of 26th-30th May we will be celebrating Samoan language week incorporating the Samoan language and print media into our community curriculum.

**Children's Matariki Disco - Friday 27th June 5.30pm-7pm:** We will be learning about Matariki at kindergarten from 20-23rd June. This learning will be followed by our annual children's disco on Friday 27th June which is a fun night of celebration for all our families and a favourite event for our children. All parents, children and siblings welcome. Please bring a plate to share for dinner.

## WELCOME

Charles Numan  
Banny Zhou

## FAREWELLS

Darius Liew  
Leo Logan  
Brodie Francis  
Archie Love  
Jude Fenwick