

NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Supporting our younger learners

We continued our focus on our younger learners this month by supporting them with a variety of gross motor activities to increase their engagement in these activities. Our afternoon session has become a popular time for us to engage in group activities supporting gross motor development. As a team we have decided to continue to support all children with group games with a new focus of supporting extending language use and development through these group experiences.

New Zealand Sign Language

Over the last month we have focused on learning the days of the week, adding NZSL to our days of the week song, along with reinforcing our prior learning. We have also seen a lot of our older children embracing this learning and using NZSL frequently, resulting in the awarding of a Values stones for showing Ako.

We will keep reinforcing this learning within our day to day programme and extend on this each month. Our focus for July is to learn some NZSL through popular songs. We encourage families to support this learning at home by encouraging your children to share their knowledge with you at home.

Samoan language week

Samoan language week was rich in Samoan culture as the children learnt about Samoan language (greetings, numbers, colours and sea creatures) and discovered traditional patterns and textures through making Samoan siapo cloth, tuiga head dresses and stencil paintings. They explored the meaning behind the Samoan flag, learning about the significance of each colour and the representation of the stars and they grooved to the rhythm of traditional Samoan drum beats.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY

14

Bastille Day Celebrations

AUGUST

4-7

Parent - Teacher Meetings

6

Cultural Day

18-23

Tongan Language Week
18th - 23rd August 2025

28

St John's Ambulance in ECE Programme

SEPTEMBER

17

Grandparent morning
9am-11am

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

A law change impacts the way we document our planning and assessment processes for children. We are building our understanding of these changes and will share the impact of these with families soon.

We have some spaces available so if you require additional days or know friends who are considering early childhood options please let them know. Recommendations through word of mouth are appreciated.

MATARIKI CELEBRATIONS

In June we celebrated the Māori New Year through reading books and enjoying arts and crafts, waiata and mat time discussions. We have read all about Māori traditions including Matariki and the seven stars known as the Pleiades star cluster. We have decorated stars, enjoyed screen printing, star stencil painting and making tealight lanterns, kites, twig stars and whares. We have also loved making and trying paraoa parai (Maori fry bread), weaving, enjoyed manipulating 'galaxy' play dough, poi dancing and lots of waiata (songs).

The highlight of our Matariki celebrations each year is coming together as a community for our annual Matariki disco where we enjoy an evening of celebration with music, lights, bubbles, face painting and feasting with a shared dinner. Thank you to all of our kindergarten whānau who joined us for our Matariki disco and for all the wonderful kai you shared.





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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.

Whilst in the bathroom one afternoon one of our children shared 'Look Miss Curtis, I have tradie undies on. Me and Daddy wear tradie undies as he's a tradie'



COMMUNICATION CORNER

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Changes to planning and assessment processes and documentation: Due to a law change our licensing requirements now prescribes that our curriculum must reflect Te Whāriki's 4 curriculum elements of principles, strands, goals and learning outcomes. This impacts the way that we document children's learning, how we intentionally plan for this learning and our engagement and requirements for whanau involvement to ensure your aspirations for your child's learning are captured as your child grows and develops during their time at Little Treehouse Kindergarten.

We have engaged a consultant to support us as teachers in understanding the requirements of this change and support teachers in documenting children's learning as they grow and develop. We are developing a process for capturing and documenting these requirements and are trialling these on a small number of children in June and July with the intention of implementing these new planning and assessment processes for all children from August. We will look forward to sharing more details with you soon.

Lost property: We are continuing to accumulate a lot of lost property at kindy so please check our lost property box for any missing clothes. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity from 8th July.

Emergency Information for Parents: As recommended by the Ministry of Education we maintain a document that provides information to parents about what happens if an emergency situation arises at kindy. This document is reviewed and updated annually and shared with our kindergarten community. Full details of our emergency management procedures are contained in our Emergency Management Plan and relevant Health and Safety policies which are reviewed regularly and available for parents to review.

Policies: Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Laundry and Pandemic policies. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

Greeting of the Month: Our greeting of the month is Bonjour, the French greeting for hello, to acknowledge Ms Henry's heritage and support our celebrations for Bastille Day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bastille Day - Monday 14th July: We will be learning about Ms Henry's French culture through our Bastille Day celebrations on Monday 14th July.

Parent teacher meetings 4th - 7th August: Each year we like to extend an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers to discuss the progress of their children at kindergarten. This year we will also take the opportunity to discuss parent aspirations to support our new documentation requirements. Meetings are 15 minutes long and a booking schedule will be available from 21st July.

Cultural Day - Wednesday 6th August: We will host our annual Cultural Day in August. Children have the opportunity to come to kindy dressed up in something from their culture or bring something into kindergarten that reflects their culture such as a traditional artefact or a cultural food to share for morning tea. All families are welcome to join us for the morning from 9am to 11am even if this is not your regular kindy day.

Tongan Language Week 18th to 23rd August: We will be celebrating the Tongan language and culture during Tongan language week in August.

St Johns in ECE Programme - Wednesday 28th August: A St Johns Ambulance educator will be joining us for the morning to share with us learning about emergency services and how the ambulance service supports us within the community.

Grandparent day - Wednesday 17th September 9-11am: Please pass on this date to all of our Grandparents so they can join us for the morning at kindy. All children are welcome to join us for the morning even if it is not your regular kindy day.

FAREWELL

Benjamin Paisankitjaroen
Cruz Carter
Lachie Liu

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Batchelor family on the arrival of a baby boy, Oliver (Ollie) on Sunday 1st June weighing 3.6kg.

Congratulations to the Berry family on the arrival of a baby boy, Brooklyn Peter, on Tuesday 3rd June weighing 7lb 14ozs.