

# NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025



## PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

### Supporting our Younger Learners

With a number of new younger learners joining our kindergarten community this year our teaching team has been focusing on ensuring that our environment set ups and activities offered each day intentionally consider the needs and interests of this younger group of children. We spent time observing what our younger learners enjoyed engaging in at kindy and have intentionally set up different activities that have supported and extended these interests. The most popular activities were puzzles, messy play, the sandpit and any activity involving cars and trains. We have been enjoying lots of different messy play activities which always draws a lot of interest and have been setting up lots of provocations with our trains and cars.

One area where we have seen less engagement of our younger learners is gross motor activities so this is an area we will focus on next.

### New Zealand Sign Language

This month we have celebrated NZSL week and commenced a new learning focus at kindy to teach the children some NZSL. It has been amazing to see how quickly the children have been learning new signs. We have introduced the children to the signs for common colours and new words such as yes, no, stop, go, fast, slow, happy, sad, good, bad, first and last. Our next focus is learning days of the week.

We will keep reinforcing this learning within our day to day programme and extend this over the coming months. Families could support this learning at home by encouraging your children to share their knowledge with you over time. They may even be able to teach you some sign language.

### Manawarora

This month we have also been exploring the Maori value of Manawarora – to show strength and resilience to persist at things even when it is difficult. We have been taking observations of children showing manwarora within their play and interactions at kindy.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

**3-6** Samoan Language Week

**27** Matariki Disco 5.30-7pm  
Celebrating Matariki 23-27th June

AUGUST

**6** Cultural Day



## IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Please ensure that the entrance gate and door are secured when entering and exiting kindy

Please let us know if you have any holiday plans for the upcoming school holidays

## PYJAMA DAY

We hosted a pyjama day in May to support the Kindness Collective's Pyjama Appeal, an initiative to support the health and wellness of NZ children. The children learnt about families that do not always have the means to buy warm clothing for winter and how lucky we are to be able to help these families. We enjoyed a cosy day wearing our pyjamas to kindy and sharing the day with our bedtime friends who were invited to spend the day with us. We had lots of snuggly spaces for children to retreat to with storytime in our big tent outside, in the treehouse and in our reading space and we enjoyed spending time toasting pretend marshmallows on the "campfire".

Thank you to all our families who have supported this learning. As a result of your kindness and generosity we were able to donate a total of 87 pairs of pyjamas to children in need this winter.





**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.

Following one of our Wise Owls sessions one of our 4 year old children announced 'We didn't do any learning, we just played'.

The perfect response when the goal is to learn through play – children are enjoying 'playing' and don't even know they are learning!



## COMMUNICATION CORNER

**Matariki aspirations:** In the month of June we will be celebrating the Maori new year, Matariki. As part of this celebration we invite our families to share your hopes and aspirations for your child. What goals, dreams, or milestones would you love to see them achieve in 2025? Stars will be provided for you to capture your wishes – let's fill our space with dreams and inspiration!

**Lost property:** We are collecting a lot of lost property (especially socks!) at kindy and would appreciate the support of families to ensure that all children's clothing is collected each day. Naming clothing would also help us to return clothing to you. Please check our lost property basket regularly and watch out for extra socks and hair accessories on the stairs each day.

**Entrance gate and door:** To support us in keeping our children safe please ensure that the entrance gate and door are closed on arrival and when leaving kindy unless a teacher is present at the entrance. Please also ensure that children do not follow you out the gate without their parent. We would appreciate it if you could reinforce this message with siblings who come into kindy to collect younger siblings too.

**Holidays:** Please let us know if you are taking any holidays in the upcoming school holiday period so that we can manage our staffing effectively during this time. Thank you for your support.

**Policies:** Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we reviewed our Philosophy and Self Review and Positive Child Guidance 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 Kia Ora, the Maori greeting for hello, to support our learning on the Maori new year.

## UPCOMING EVENT

**Children's Matariki Disco – Friday 27th June 5.30pm–7pm:** We will be learning about Matariki at kindergarten from 23rd–27th 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.

## CHILDREN'S SIGN IN

An important part of our kindergarten programme is to provide a literacy rich learning environment to support children's pre literacy learning. Our children's sign in space is an important part of this with independent name recognition supporting early reading and writing skills. Accomplishment of name writing is a beginning step in developing awareness of alphabetic principles (i.e. matching sounds with letters). Children learn that there is a difference between 'mark making' and 'letters' grouped together and that words and letters have meaning. Developmentally, children will be able to recognise their name before they can write it. In supporting your child to 'sign in' each morning it is important that they have the opportunity to try this on their own with your encouragement and guidance. In supporting name writing please ensure that you support the formation of lower case letters except for the first letter of their name and correct letter formation. Teachers are available to support both you and your child with this.

## WELCOME

Sayuri Shastri  
Eugene Wing  
Ethan Coutts

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the Franks family who welcomed a baby boy to their family on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 4.48am, weighing 3.55kg.