

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2026



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

WELCOME TO 2026

Welcome back to kindergarten for 2026. We hope that everyone had a fantastic summer break and enjoyed lots of family time together over the holiday period. We have been busy farewelling a number of children who are about to begin their school journey as well as welcoming new children into our kindergarten community. We look forward to getting to know our new families over the coming weeks and supporting all of our new children in building relationships with teachers and children within our kindergarten community.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Christmas celebrations

December was filled with lots of Christmas celebrations and activities and was a fun time for everyone. The highlights were our Christmas Show and Christmas party. The children worked really hard learning their songs and prompts and loved sharing this with their families. Involvement in an event like this is instrumental in building confidence, self-esteem and a sense of belonging. We are so proud of what the children achieved. Thank you to our families for sharing in our Christmas celebrations and supporting their child/ren.

Holidays

Since returning from holiday children have been sharing with us what they enjoyed doing with their families over the holidays. We have been enjoying listening to their stories and sharing lots of news time together.

Sunflowers

Lots of children experienced the joy of having their sunflowers bloom over the holiday period. We have been sharing lots of photos and news about how children have cared for their sunflower at home and how big they grew. We have been collecting some sunflower blooms to explore the extraction of seeds to complete this process in coming weeks.

Messy Play

Since returning from our holidays we have been having fun exploring different messy play and sensory experiences at kindy. We have been using lots of different materials such as shaving foam, slime, cloud dough, play dough, clay, bubbles, sand, water, bark, coffee grinds and paints. Sensory play experiences, especially messy ones, inspire children's curiosity, allowing them to explore the world around them enhancing language, creativity and imagination. Sensory play is also very good for a child's wellbeing as it calms and relaxes their mind. There is nothing like feeling paint or foam oozing through your fingers or exploring the different textures and smell from the different resources.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

5 Celebrating Waitangi day

16-20 Chinese and Korean New Year celebrations

MARCH

4 Holi Celebration

5 Mt Hobson Sports Day

17 St Patrick's Day Celebrations

20 Down Syndrome Rock your socks day

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

To respect of surrounding community we ask parents to wave goodbye instead of tooting as they farewell children in the mornings

Please send in sunflower blooms which they have finished flowering

Please apply sunscreen in the mornings

SORRY about the MESS but we are LEARNING here.



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.

During one of our Ka Kite ceremonies we were enjoying reading a funny story about a kiwi who was learning to use the toilet while children were enjoying an ice block. One of our children announced proudly 'I did wees in the Parnell Pools. It made the water all warm.'



UPCOMING EVENTS

Games Day at Mt Hobson: We will host our annual games morning at Mt Hobson on Thursday 5th March from 9-11.30am. All children and parents are welcome to join us for the morning so please book this morning into your diary.

Cultural celebrations: Over the next few weeks we have lots of cultural celebrations to share at kindy with Waitangi Day, the Chinese and Korean New Year, Holi Festival and St Patrick's Day. Each year we try to celebrate the significant celebration days within the cultures of our kindergarten community. An important value we share at kindy is Ako, which means learning with and alongside each other. Culture is rich in learning for children and teachers so please ensure that you share your culture with us at kindy so we can share this within our kindergarten programme with the children.

Down Syndrome Rock Your Socks Day – Friday 20th March: We will be supporting this day within our curriculum by inviting everyone to wear your favourite socks, odd socks or your craziest or most colourful socks to kindy.

COMMUNICATION CORNER

Thank you: Thank you to all of our families for all the lovely gifts that we all received at the end of 2025. We were truly spoiled and your generosity and kindness is much appreciated by us all.

Tooting: A neighbour in our surrounding community has approached us to request families not to toot to farewell children in the mornings as the noise is disturbing them. As we would like to be respectful of our surrounding community we ask families to farewell children by waving and saying goodbye and not tooting. Thank you for your understanding.

Availability: With children joining our kindergarten community in the new year some of our days are now waitlisted so please plan ahead for any changes in enrolment. There are still some spaces available for new children to join our kindergarten community so if you have any friends considering kindergarten options please let them know to get in contact with us soon.

Sun protection: We are supporting children at kindergarten to keep themselves safe in the sun over the summer months by talking about the importance of wearing their hat while outdoors, using clothing to protect themselves from the sun and applying sunscreen to skin that is exposed to the sun. We would like your support to ensure that sunscreen is applied each morning before kindy and ensuring that children's clothing covers their shoulders to provide an additional level of protection. We follow our Sun Protection Policy of apply sunscreen at lunch time and requiring children to wear their hats while playing outside during these summer months.

Library: Children who attend kindergarten on a Friday have the opportunity to select a library book to take home each week. This supports them in preparing for school as the book bags are similar to what the children will have when they go to school and they have the responsibility of returning these each week to choose a new book. We would like to ask parents to support their children with this responsibility as children do get disappointed when they don't have an opportunity to select a book along with their friends when prior weeks books have not been returned.

Greeting of the Month: This month's greeting is the Chinese greeting Ni hao to connect to our teaching on the Chinese New Year.

WELCOME

Oliver Rooth
Sasha Donovan
Jio Yoo
Theodore Oswin
Susin Li

WELCOME BACK

Alessandra Rudolph
Madeleine Rudolph

FAREWELL

Matilda Johnston
Billie Barrett
Stella Maxwell
Alba Donovan
Levi Webb Purcell