

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026



Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Autism Awareness Month - Hoods Up Volume Down Campaign

This month we acknowledged Autism Awareness month and the Hoods Up Volume Down campaign by adapting the initiative with a low sensory morning tea at kindy where the lights were dimmed and we used our quiet voices. With the help of Peter the Polar Bear the children shared ideas about what they can do at kindy if it is a little noisy, bright or overwhelming. Ideas included reading a story, cuddling Mr Fluffy or playing in the quiet corner. We also shared our basket of special sensory toys that help us to feel calm and happy at kindy.

Ice Cream Castle Project

We have made significant progress on this project this month with the completion of our walls, roof and turrets, just as the children had imagined as they planned the design of this project. The castle has been embellished with sprinkles and decorations and is being used actively within children's play. We even enjoyed a treat by selling real ice creams from the 'Ice Cream Castle Shop' one afternoon.

Alongside this project the children have also been involved in other key projects including our reenactments of the story 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo', the ongoing collection of recipes to contribute to our 'kindy recipe collection' and making fairy's and fairy houses.

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 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

5 Mum's Night Out - 7pm

4-10 NZ Sign Language Week

18 Pyjama Day is support of our Pyjama appeal

22 Last day for Pyjama collections

JUNE

1-4 Samoan Language Week

26 Matariki Disco 5.30-7pm
Celebrating Matariki 4-10 July

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

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

Please complete our upcoming parent survey on our child planning and assessment processes to support our Internal Evaluation

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

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





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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.

One of our children asked Mrs Prasad how to spell the word 'dog'. When she responded with a simple 'Why?' the child paused, gave this some thought and then responded 'Is it really just one letter?'



COMMUNICATION CORNER

Happy Mothers Day: We would like to wish all of our Mums a lovely Mother's Day on Sunday 10th May. May you all have a special day with your families celebrating the wonderful people that you are.

The Kindness Collective: We are continuing to support the Kindness Collective to help others in need in our wider community. This month we have our Pyjama Appeal and would like families to donate new pyjama's to support this cause. We will be hosting a pyjama day to support the children's learning about extending kindness to others in need.

Children's sign in space: With a number of children showing an interest in writing their name at kindy, our children's sign in space becomes a valuable space to support independent name recognition and early reading and writing skills. Through this space children learn that there is a difference between 'mark making' and 'letters' grouped together and that words and letters have meaning. In supporting your child to 'sign in' each morning it is important that they have the opportunity to try this on their own. Encourage and guide them. Please ensure that you encourage and support correct letter formation, the use of lower case letters except for the first letter of their name and always start letters from the top. Teachers are available to support both you and your child with this.

Child Planning and Assessment: To support us in our internal evaluation we will be seeking parents feedback on the changes we have made to our child planning and assessment processes through a request to complete a survey in the coming month. We would value your input and support in completing this parent survey.

Policies: Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month we have completed our review of all policies affected by changes in our Licensing Criteria which became effective on 20th April 2026. Details of these changes were provided separately to parents. Our Curriculum and Assessment policy was also updated to reflect our new processes for capturing and documenting children's learning. 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 on Tuesday 5th May from 7pm. Leave Dad at home and enjoy an evening out. .

Kindness Collective Pyjama Day - Monday 18th May: We are hosting a pyjama day on 18th May to support our learning about extending kindness to others in our community. Donations of NEW pyjamas will be collected until Friday 22nd May.

Sign language week: During the week of 4th-10th May we will be focusing on reinforcing our prior learning of New Zealand sign language within our curriculum.

Children's Matariki Disco - Friday 26th June 5.30pm-7pm: We will be learning about Matariki at kindergarten from 6-10th July. This learning will be proceeded with our annual children's disco on Friday 26th 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

Lily Vaeoso