NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

Little Treehouse
KINDERGARTEN

PROGRAME HIGHLIGHTS

Baby chicks at kindy

Our highlight this month was welcoming the arrival of 10 chick eggs at kindy. Through the Living Eggs Education Programme the children had the opportunity to learn about the life cycle of chickens as they became Kaitiaki (guardians) for these chickens as we witnessed their birth and cared for them over a two week period. Children took responsibilty for cleaning the brooder and feeding the chicks daily and we all enjoyed lots of special cuddles together. This was an amazing experience for the children and teachers, encouraging curiosity and wonder as children observed the life cycle of the chick, asked questions about what they saw and developed their own theories about what was happening. The children made predictions, observed changes and investigated and shared their ideas, working colloboratively as they have learnt alongside each other, demonstrating our kindy value of Ako.

Superheroes

Superheroes have been a strong interest within our kindergarten environment this year and to support this ongoing interest we hosted a Superheroes dress up day at kindy. We had a kindy fill of superheros and princesses with superpowers who enjoyed a fun day letting their imaginations soar.

Māori language week

This month we celebrated Māori language week with a focus on the use of Māori language within our daily practice. We intentionally weaved more Te Reo Māori into our day through exploring the map of New Zealand to learn the Māori names of different towns, practising counting, naming different foods, sharing our special Kindy Pepeha, reading Te Reo books and legends, exploring some new songs and playing Te Reo memory games. We also enjoyed some creative Moari arts and crafts and making delicious Parāoa Parai (fry bread).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

- 5-9 Fijian Language Week
- 22 Police Visit
- 30 Celebrating Halloween

NOVEMBER

- 9 Celebrating Diwali
- 10 Dad's Sausage Sizzle
- 16 Kindness Collective Christmas Appeal

DECEMBER

- 3 Christmas Show rehearsal 9am-11am
- 4 Christmas Show 9.30am
- 23 Christmas close down Reopening Wednesday 6th January 2026

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Please support our Kindness Collective Christmas appeal by purchasing a gift for a child at an Early Learning Centre who needs support to enjoy the celebration of Christmas.

GRANDPARENT MORNING

Grandparent day was a very special morning for the children to spend time with their grandparents sharing all the things that they enjoy doing at kindergarten. We had a lovely spring morning to share together spending time playing and creating, meeting our baby chicks, reading our special portfolios, meeting friends and sharing some new songs together. Our morning concluded with us all coming together to share a special morning tea. Thank you to all our amazing Grandparents for taking the time to spend the morning with us at kindy and creating special memories together for us all to treasure.



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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.

During our time with the baby chicks one of our children shared that 'the chicks go cheep cheep because they go backwards (pause), just like a truck!'



COMMUNICATION CORNER

Kindness Collective gift giving: We are continuing to support the Kindness Collective this year by providing Christmas gifts for children in need attending early childhood centres in South Auckland. We have supported these centres for 4 years with amazing gifts from our families. Sharing the message of kindness towards others with our children is an important part of our kindergarten values. We encourage families to get involved by donating a gift and reinforcing the message of kindness at home.

Child Planning and Assessment: As part of our ongoing reflection of our child assessment and planning processes we have recently added a desplay board showing each child's current learning focus along with a photo of the child. This is intended to increase children's awareness of their learning focus and support them to become more connected to their learning focus. From our parent survey, we identified that children's awareness of their learning focus was not always visible to families so we hope to increase children's awareness by making this more visible within our kindy environment.

You may have noticed over the last month or two that the teacher writing for your child has changed. We have decided as part of our learning story writing process that the teacher writing for your child will change after the completion of two learning focus areas. This ensures that your child has different teacher voices within thier portfolios and teachers have the opportunity to spend time supporting the learning of all children over time.

Parent resources: Due to feedback from our parent survey we have completed a toilet training resource to support parents through the toilet training process. We have also created a parent resource to support families as children become interested in writing their name and to support scissor skill development.

Policies: Review of centre policies is carried out monthly on a rotational basis. This month changes were required to our Accident, Injury and Incident Policy and Information and Complaints Policy due to the change of legislative oversight from the Ministry of Education to the Eduction Review Office. We also updated our Emergency Procedures for Parent and Caregivers to include the communication from the Ministry of Education in an Emergency. All policies are available for review and feedback by our parent community.

Greeting of the Month: Our greeting of the month is the Fijian greeting of Bula to support our learning during Fijian language week.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fijian Language Week: We will be learning about the Fijian language during Fijian language week from 5th-9th October.

Police visit: Constable Gordon will be visiting on 22nd October to teach us all about the role of the police in keeping our community safe.

Halloween: Dressing up is always a popular interest with our children so we are hosting a dress up day for Halloween and plan to enjoy some fun Halloween inspired activities.

Diwali - Monday 9th November: We will be celebrating Diwali with some fun activities and learning.

Dad's Night - Tuesday 10th November 5.30-7pm: Our annual Dad's sausage sizzle evening will be held on Tuesday 11th November. Children are invited to bring along their Dad or other significant person (Grandad, Uncle etc) for an evening of fun at kindergarten. This is a great opportunity for Dad's to see what their children love about kindergarten and to meet other Dads.

Christmas Show and Dress Rehearsal: Our Christmas Show will be held on Friday 4th December at 9.30am. Please book this important date in your diary. This will be held in the St Lukes Church and all family, grandparents and extended family are welcome to attend. To support us with our Christmas Show we have a full dress rehearsal on Thursday 3rd December. This rehearsal is recorded so we would appreciate it if all children could attend kindy on this day from 9am to 11am.

FAREWELL

Charlie Robinson

WELCOME

Bowie Baker
Niall Baker