

# Newsletter

## Pohutukawa Kindergarten Ellerslie

### Term 2 2024

#### KAITIAKITANGA

Early in Term 1, we spent time learning about the treaty of Waitangi and then talking about what's important to put into our own kindy treaty. One of the points discussed has been how we can 'protect' our special place of learning by taking care of the environment and our 'things', this also led into a discussion about recycling and what we should do with rubbish. This coincided with Sea Week/Kaupapa Moana. To begin with, the tamariki listened to a storybook outlining the damage done to our oceans by pollution. The tamariki were visibly shocked by some of the pictures of the kai moana and sea birds pictured stuck in nets and rubbish, and swimming through spilt petrol. A mat time discussion took place regarding what we/they could do to avoid this occurring (putting rubbish in the bin or taking it home).

It was interesting to observe the tamariki role playing what they have learnt in our afternoon programme. They were at the water trough with the sea animals and nets, helping save the animals and clear the rubbish that was floating in the "ocean". The tamariki have created some crayon and dye pictures of clean beaches following on from learning about the importance of protection of our land as in the Te Tiriti o Waitangi. We have had discussions about the importance of being kaitiakitangi (caretakers of our world) and protecting our kindy environment, the environment in the community as well as places we like to go with our whanau such as the beach. The tamariki have been exploring their guardianship and care of the environment through caring for our garden and growing plants.



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#### INTERNAL EVALUATION

Thank you to all those that completed our survey ————. It was great to get in out from our whnsu to be clesr of your expectations and aspirations. We will have the final summary available shortly.

The Internal Evaluation so far has strengthened the importance of transition to school and the part we as Early Childhood Educator's and provider have in this process.

This term we are going to run separate groups for our Fabulous Fours and Energetic Explorers (2 and 3 year olds) on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We will alternate each week the teachers leading the learning and look forward

*“Internal evaluation is a systematic process used to evaluate what is and is not working, and for whom, and then to develop our practices and make improvements as a result of evaluation” p15 Ngā Aronga Whai Hua*

#### ERO

We have been notified by the Education Review Office that they will be visiting with us this term .

This involves management supplying them with examples of our service systems, practices and curriculum. They will also visit for two days on-site. When they are here there will be an opportunity for you to discuss with them our service and the learning outcomes for your children.

#### THE PLAYGROUND TIDY UP CONTINUES

Our new turf is down and so far both children and teachers have raving reviews. We have decided to set up our mud kitchen down in the courtyard and planting of herbs and fragrant plants is underway.

We hoped to mosaic the path next to the fairy garden but alas time has not allowed this so we have decided to get the pavers down and perhaps later in the year we could lift and mosaic as time allows.

We have a new carpentry table set up and we know this will bring huge interest and develop creativity as we explore this play space.

Carrots have been harvested and varied considerably in size. What great learning the natural world can offer. Beetroot and broccoli are in for the winter harvest. Any other ideas?







## MATARIKI

The tamariki are invited to bring along their togs and a towel to enjoy some splashy fun at kindy on each Wednesday this term.

Please ensure all the togs, towels and wet bags are well named.

Applying sunscreen before you get to kindy ensures your child is ready to get out and go straight away. If you wish to supply sun block for us to top up at lunchtime we can do this.

These will begin on Wednesday 7th February

## ENROLMENTS

Word of mouth is definitely our best marketing tool. We currently have vacancies every day if you would like to extend your enrolment days.

If you know of any families in the neighbourhood looking for excellent care and education for your children we would love you to send them our way.

## TE WHARIKI— OUR CURRICULUM

### PRINCIPLES - KAUPAPA WHAKAHAERE

#### Ngā Honongā / Relationships -

Mā roto i ngā piringa, i ngā whakahaere i waenganui o te mokopuna me te katoa, e whakatō te kaha ki roto i te mokopuna ki te ako / Children learn through responsive and reciprocal relationships with people, places and things.

*Tū mai e moko. Te whakaata o ō mātua. Te moko o ō tipuna.*

*Strand strong, O moko. The reflection of your parents. The blueprint of your ancestors.*

## LOST PROPERTY

drawing.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Compost Collective
- Mothers morning—**7th March** 5-7 pm
- Kings Birthday holiday
- Matariki Disco
- Matariki holiday

## REMINDERS

- **Sun Safety**—Summer is at full strength this term. Children are required to wear a hat if they wish to play outside. Please bring a named hat for your child, which you can leave in our hat box if you wish. Although our sun shades are up, much of our outdoor area is still exposed to the sun so please apply sunscreen to your child before coming to kindy.
- **Wet soiled clothes**—Please include a reuseable bag for wet clothes in your child's kindy bag and bring suitable changes in case they are required.
- **Notice Recognise Respond**—A reminder that if you would like these updates emailed to your inbox please sign up via the website under the 'Contact Us' tab. You will then be sent a confirmation email so you may need to check your junk mail folders.

## TE WHEKE

It is important that every child develops mana (authority and control) over their learning within each strand of Te Whāriki, so they are active participants in their learning journey. Kaiako (teachers) support this through acknowledging their taonga tukuiho (identity and uniqueness), interests, strengths, needs, and achievements including these in the learning, planning and documentation.

We will support all children to reach their goals by meeting them wherever they are at, understanding their individuality, supporting their unique needs, and walking with them on their learning journey to grow to their full potential.

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