

Kumeu



July Newsletter 2017

Mahinga kai update.

The tamariki enjoyed the first of the carrots that finally grew large enough to eat. We are now eagerly awaiting the rest to grow bigger.

The potted orange tree is now in the back garden where it will be able to spread its roots.

More parsley has been planted as the tamariki eat from this most days.

The mahinga is at its winter best and we are all looking forward to planting our spring / summer garden soon.

The worm farm was cleaned out and the poo put on the fruit trees and the wee on the pot plants. (Hee hee the tamariki thought this was funny). !!!

Te Reo Maori

Mahinga kai garden	Vege
Rakau aporo	Apple tree
Retihi	Lettuce
Kareti	Carrot
Kai	Eat
Whutupaoro	Rugby
Tere	Sail
Pere rua	Yacht
Poti	Boat

Thank you

Many thanks to the Kumeu Film Studio for all the amazing donations of weird and wonderful items that we quickly put to great use.

Thank you and farewell

Sadly we are saying goodbye to Leanne O'Flaherty, our centre administrator, after nearly 12 years. Her last day with us is Friday 21st July. She has cared for the staff and centre so beautifully and will be sadly missed by us all. We wish her all the best in her new role as caregiver and for the future.

Welcome

We are lucky that Shirlene Colcord will take over the role of centre administrator. We are fortunate to therefore utilise both her admin and teaching skills within the centre.

We are excited to have Sarah Geraghty, student who recently completed a four week placement with us, joining our teaching team. Please help us make her welcome.

Professional development

We continue to work on our Literacy research project as a teaching team. Some points we would like to share with you from our recent staff presentation regarding 'talking and listening' in the area of literacy:

We need to provide a language rich environment for children. Preschool years are a crucial time for language and literacy learning and development.

Relationships between teacher/parent and child are what firstly help determine language/literacy development, there needs to be rapport to engage, exchange and converse. There needs to be a balance of talking and listening and an introduction of/exposure to interesting and varied words. We need to really give our attention to children; listen to ensure we understand their meaning responding appropriately and effectively. We need to ensure oral language is not overlooked.

For children the limits of their language means the limit of their world (Lennox, 2013).

Friendships

At times parents come to us with concerns their child lacks friends. As we have high teacher/child ratios we know our children well. Please be assured that we would always discuss any worries we might have regarding your child socially or otherwise. Children develop their social skills at different times and often enjoy their own company without needing others around them.

Kia ora!

Thank you for keeping your children at home when they are unwell. Please remember to give us a call if your child is going to be absent from kindy.

Parents Library

Are you aware that we have a range of childcare books and D.V.D's available for you to borrow. These cover topics such as toilet training, sleeping issues, child development and special learning needs.

The teachers also have a great wealth of knowledge and experience and are always available to discuss and assist you if you would like to chat.

Rituals-Making the everyday extraordinary

When setting up the tables for afternoon tea we have enhanced the experience by adding special table cloths and beautiful candles.

The children really seem to appreciate and enjoy the experience especially when we turn off the lights and eat by candlelight.

During this special kai time the children are calmer and there is more opportunity for conversation.

Respect

The virtue we are teaching the children at this time is 'Respect' –Whākaute.

"An attitude of honouring oneself and others through our words and actions. Treating every person with dignity and courtesy".

Please remember we are here for you and your families, we believe the key to success is working in partnership.

Arohanui from us all,

Gabriella, Leanne, Jenny, Jacquie, Helen, Linda, Suzanne, Shirlene, Val, Cath, Stephen and Joanna.