

OUR TEACHING TEAM





5 Shamrock Drive, Kumeu | 094129361 | kumeuvk@xtra.co.nz

September 2018

KIA ORA

Sadly we have lost some families who have been with us for several years as their children go on to school. We wish them lots of love and happiness in their new journey. We welcome new families to kindy and look forward to watching them grow and develop on their learning journey with us.

This recent exit has created several spaces in our roll, therefore if you wish to pick up any more sessions now is the time. Please see Gabriella.



SUNHATS

Please ensure your child brings a named sunhat remembering that caps are not allowed at kindy. We promote those recommended to us by the cancer society ie. Legionnaire or bucket style, to ensure good coverage of face and neck.

With the weather improving we feel there are now days hats are needed so if these are placed in your child's cubbie for easy access this is a great help to us and your child.

WHATS HAPPENED THIS MONTH?

We are presently practicing earthquake drills with the children to ensure we all know what to do to be safe in this scenario.

What's coming up?

Parent/ teacher interview evening
October 11th at 6pm.

This is for parents of four year olds only, a lovely opportunity to share information about your child, discuss their learning journey and possibly set goals.

These are ten minute slots so please be on time.

We will give you time slots as we collate the final list.

TE REO MAORI

We encourage our tamariki to use Te Reo Maori throughout the day. Here are a few words you may have heard:

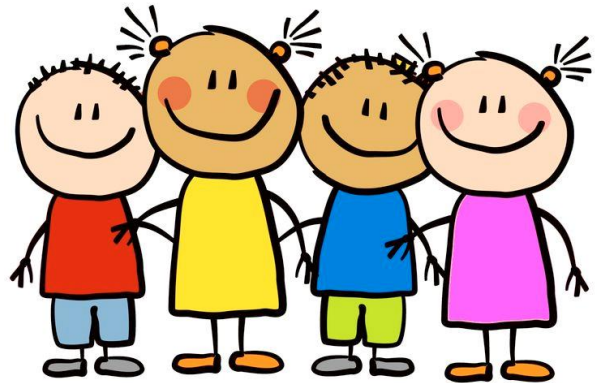
We have celebrated Te wiki o te reo maori with the tamariki this week. We have incorporated new Te reo books and C.D's donated from Emily and Beth on their leaving to attend school.

Piwakawaka	fantail.
Manu	bird
Ruru	morepork
Aniwaniwa	rainbow
Ngahere	forest
Inanga	whitebait



IMMUNISATIONS

Please make sure Shirlene has the updates of your child's immunisations to ensure we have these on record. This is a legal requirement.



Does your child have enough food?

Please ensure your child has enough food for the time they spend at kindy as we are finding some children are running out.

Naming belongings

Please remember to name your child's belongings especially lunch boxes, drink bottles, but also clothing. Our lost property continues to grow especially our sock collection so please check regularly for any misplaced items.

Hours

Please respect the hours your child is enrolled. If there is an unexpected reason that you will be late to pick up your child please let us know.

Professional development – Literacy research update

At our recent staff meeting the discussion was around 'Using IT in literacy learning in early childhood centres'. We discussed both the positives and the negatives.

It was interesting to learn that no use of devices should be used with infants under two years and a very careful balance with those older. Research shows that exposure to 'high quality' technology can enhance children's learning but there needs to be a balance of other important areas of development provided in a good learning environment.

Sadly it was noted that while children are becoming more adept at using devices they are becoming less able to do important self-help tasks such as making their lunches, tying their shoes.

Studies are showing that children's language and social skills are suffering due to too much time in front of screens and not enough time interacting with family and friends. Thus they struggle to 'self-regulate' their behaviour.

While we have two tablets at kindy we only use these at times to further extend the children's learning and interests. We believe the many other rich curriculum areas we provide are invaluable. It was also discussed how children don't need 'working' digital and mobile devices as they learn through pretend play. This play promotes meaningful language.

The Value of Art in Early Childhood Education

When your child takes part in art and craft activities at kindy so much learning occurs during the process. These include both fine and gross motor skills as they master the use of paint brushes, pens, scissors, staples etc. Children working within a group situation engage in conversation with both teachers and their peers providing opportunities to extend on language skills. Your children are proud of what they create at kindy and we therefore ask that you take home their creations which can be found either in their cubbies at the end of a session or in the red art box (situated on the deck area) and filed under the days they attend kindy.

Planning

Our planning each month utilises a resource that incorporates monthly kaupapa/principles. We aim to teach our tamariki about tikanga/practice within the Maori culture.

Ukaipotanga - belonging.

Ukaipotanga are the places we find ourselves, our strength, our energy. Having a place where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute is essential.

As a person with your identity intact, you can make your contribution.

Whakatauki – A person who is taught at home will stand collected on the marae.

A child who is given proper values at home and cherished within his whanau will not only behave well amongst the family but also within society and throughout his life.

Contact details

Please ensure we have up to date phone numbers for you and your emergency contacts so we are able to get hold of you should your child fall ill at kindy or an emergency occur. Please see Shirlene in the office or one of the teachers if you feel that these may need to be updated.

Holidays

Please remember to fill out a form if your child is to be away on holiday to help us know roll numbers. See a staff member.

Mahinga update.

The tamariki are eating the Romanesco broccoli heads raw from the mahinga.

We are about to plant riwai (potatoes) and other summer crop plants now the weather is warming.

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

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