

Kumeu



April Newsletter 2017

Staff Professional development/Literacy research project

More points we would like to share with you from another of our recent staff presentations regarding 'music and singing' in the area of literacy:

Exposing children to music/singing during early development helps them learn the sounds and meanings of words, helps them strengthen memory skills, also develops listening and thinking skills.

Listening to and singing along with rhymes and songs uses and develops both sides of the brain.

Teach songs with actions and encourage the child to dance along to the music, they will learn balance, co-ordination, body awareness and rhythm.

Studies show that musical experiences in childhood can actually accelerate brain development, particularly in the areas of language acquisition and reading skills.

Garden/ Mahinga update.

The tamariki are really enjoying the braeburn apples/ nga aporo as they ripen and we eat about 4 to 5 apples a day outside cut into slices.

The tamariki freely help themselves to chives, parsley, spinach and stevia leaves.

The winter brassicas are growing well and we "do a caterpillar hunt" most days.

We were given a lemonade tree from a leaving whanau and will plant it along the back with the other citrus trees.

Stephen Pye has also planted mixed grasses at the back of the newly placed boat and this area is being enjoyed by all.

Painting has been done in the mahinga , boat and ramp areas and is almost finished now. Thanks Stephen and Analeigh.

Whanau photo board

Do you have a family photograph on our Whanau board?

If you do maybe it needs to be updated as your children have grown or to include a new sibling.

If you do not have a photo on the board we would love you to bring one.

Family/Whanau news board

Have you been on holiday recently? Maybe you and your child have created something at home, like a new garden or play area.

We would love some photo's/stories to put on our News board. These will later be put into your child's portfolio to support a link between home and kindy.

The current value we are learning at present is **THANKFULNESS**.

Thankfulness is being grateful for what we have.

It is an attitude of gratitude for learning, loving and being.

Appreciate the little things that happen around you. Think positively.

Kete pukakpuka

Just to remind you about our Kete pukakpuka.

This is our book bag. It is a way to share our favourite stories with each other. If your child comes home with this please return the kete with a book that is special to you and your family. We will share it with the other children at huihuinga (gathering time /mat time)

Book swap

We have now introduced a 'book swap' beside our 'sharing table.' Please feel free to take a book and replace with another. Also if you have any books to donate to start this off with a good selection please feel free to do so.

WHAKATAUKI/proverb.

He kura tangata-He kura whanau.
A person educated is a community educated.

More food- growth spurts? Hollow legs?

Some all day children are struggling to save enough food to last their day and others are eating their morning tea before the official eating time. Please consider this when packing your child's lunch box to ensure they have enough food. Sometimes a separate box for each eating time is a good idea. Also please remember to name your child's lunch boxes and drink bottles to avoid confusion as many children have the same.

Many thanks

To those who commented on our recent piece in the local community pages where we advertised our centre and some current vacancies. The feedback was overwhelming and heart-warming and consequently initiated great interest. If you require any additional sessions for your children please let Gabriella know as spaces are filling fast. Also pass the word to friends. Thanks again for your support.

Goodbye

All the best to all our children who are on their next journey, transitioning to school. We have loved having you with us and wish you all the best in this next phase. Thank you for being part of our kindy whanau.

Staff hour changes

We are trialling a few changes of staff hours which will ensure we have the best staff/child ratios at all times. Therefore when roll numbers are at their highest more staff will be on the floor.

Autumn Fish and Chip night

Thank you to all the families who came to our Autumn Fish and Chip night (Friday 31st March) and helped to make it such a success.

We had great weather and were able to spend the whole time outside with our picnics.

Fish and Chip night is a wonderful time for families to catch up with old friends and make new one too. It's also an opportunity for children to see their families interacting with the teachers in a more relaxed and social setting.

Our philosophy (Nga Pou o Kumeu Village Kindergarten) recognises and promotes the relationship between families and teachers - Whanaungatanga.

Welcome

Welcome to all our new families we look forward to our learning journey together. Please remember we are always here for you. We want your time here to be happy and successful meeting the aspirations for you and your child.

Feedback regarding Newsletter

Many thanks to those of you who responded to our recent request for feedback regarding our newsletter. The feedback was very positive and helpful. We will continue it in the same format as this seems to suit the majority of you but we will try and fine tune any hiccups where we can. There will always be some hard copies at the sign in area but the adobe app should help some of you to open it if any problems.



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.