

Newsletter

POHUTUKAWA KINDERGARTEN GLENDOWIE

Term 1 2025

Apologies this newsletter is so late out! Another whirlwind start to the year for Melanie with a new Student Management System to learn and use and a lengthy process with the Ministry of Education. We are delighted that our license has been extended till 5 and we are now working with council on the resource consent to have our license extended for the option of an earlier opening time.

The kaiako and tamariki have jumped right into fun filled weeks of learning with Water Wednesdays, Hangi's, baking, bug catching, puzzling, painting, creating and exploring. We started the year with a visit from Hato Hone/St Johns, and learning about the year of the snake in Chinese New Year.

PARENT ASPIRATIONS FOR THEIR CHILDREN

As we focus on our individual planning for each child we acknowledge the partnership with families and how working together and understanding the aspirations whānau have for their child are linked to their values. We are in the process of working alongside each of you to discuss these aspirations so that we can identify your child's learner focus and plan how we can support them in their learning to succeed and achieve in their specific learning goals.

From a **parent's perspective, learning aspirations** for their child often focus on their child's early development, foundational skills, and positive attitudes toward learning.

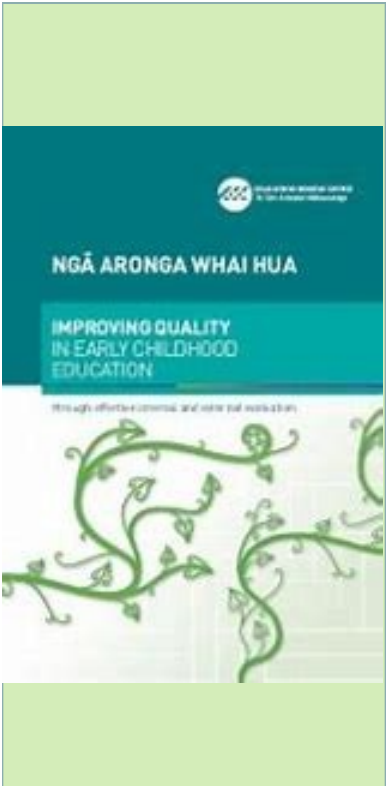
Parents' Learning Aspirations for Their Child May Include:

- Curiosity & Love for Learning** – Hoping their child enjoys exploring new things, asking questions, and engaging in play-based learning.
- Confidence in Trying New Things** – Wishing their child feels safe to take small risks, such as trying new activities or making new friends.
- Independence & Self-Help Skills** – Supporting their child in learning basic life skills like dressing themselves, tidying up, or making simple choices.
- Social & Emotional Growth** – Wanting their child to express emotions appropriately, share, take turns, and build friendships.
- Resilience & Problem-Solving** – Helping their child develop patience, persistence, and the ability to cope with small challenges.
- Early Literacy & Numeracy Skills** – Hoping their child develops basic skills such as recognizing letters, numbers, counting, and enjoying storytelling.



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INTERNAL EVALUATION

How can individual planning improve the quality of learning outcomes? How can this planning be reflected in our documentation compared to previous styles?

Some recent professional development that the kaiako attended has supported us in our progress towards wanting to strengthen our individual planning for each tamariki.

We have looked at the process of observing the children and discussing the observations with whānau alongside their

aspirations so that we can identify a learning outcome suitable for that child (Te Whariki— Te Ara Whanui).

From that we can create a learner identity that the child can connect to as we all work together to support the tamariki in their success.

The teachers will be in touch with parents over the rest of the term to discuss aspirations.

Watch this space to see how we can document these learner identity's and the progress.

“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

PUĀWAI ROOM

We have had a busy term so far settling in and rekindling friendships. We have welcomed Mere kara and Ben from akomanga Huero and Caleb and his family. This term we also farewell Ryder, Ted, Ivar and Beau.

We have been focussing on promoting each child's individuality, building up self-help skills and continuing to learn more about 'what is being kind' this term.

PUAWAI AFTERNOON PROGRAMMEROOM

This term we have focussed on belonging, culture and community. We have celebrated our individuality, similarities and differences, through portraiture and family waka. We have explored Auckland through landmarks: the Sky Tower, Auckland Harbour Bridge and volcanic cones (Rangitoto). We have discussed that Auckland is a city within New Zealand. We learnt about holiday spots people have travelled to, and discussed the discovery of Aotearoa/NZ many years ago.

We will be continuing with exploring our planet earth and the other planets that make up our galaxy, the Milky Way. Kaiako Tash and Kaiako Kate





HUERO AKOMANGA

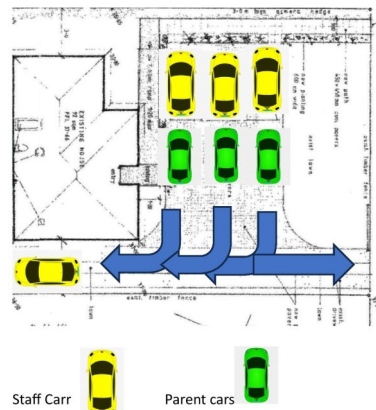
Huero room has eased into the new year full of excitement as we adjust to change and move forward optimistically ready for new opportunities to grow, learn and have fun!

We respectfully farewelled our awesome kaiako, Stacey, with best wishes in her next life adventure. We also welcomed our new tamariki and their whānau, Koa, Blair, and Emilia - Nau mai haere mai!

This term we are working on helping all to feel comfortable in the routines of daily kindy life, whilst taking a more personalised approach to focus on individual needs. This also includes preparing our older tamariki of the class with their transition to the Puāwai room. Some of the experiences we will be extending, through this terms planning, will be around dramatic play (because we love watching/helping mum and dad at home whether it's in the kitchen or living spaces), developing confidence using gross motor skills (e.g. outdoors climbing, balancing, jumping, etc), and lots of water/messy play exploration - because it's summer and it's fun!

We hope through these experiences we will continue to foster and build confidence, curiosity and communication skills within all our tamariki.

Arohanui, kaiako Phillippa and kaiako Sarah



Staff Carr

Parent cars

TE WHARIKI -TE ARA WHANUI : OUR CURRICULUM

PLANNING

Planning involves deliberate decision making about the priorities for learning that have been identified by the kaiako, parents, whānau and community of the ECE service. All children should have opportunities to learn across all five strands of the curriculum and to pursue their strengths and interests in depth. When planning, kaiako draw on their own pedagogical knowledge and on their knowledge of the children. This is gained from informal and formal assessments, dialogue with parents, whānau and others working with the children and from other sources such as parent surveys and internal evaluation.

WHANAU NIGHT

Thursday 6th March 5-7

Bring your own picnic dinner. If you wish to pre-order fish n chips we will leave that for you to do. We hope you can join us for some fun activities and a mingle with other families.

DAD'S NIGHT

27th March

This will be from 5-7 for enrolled children to bring their Dad's (or significant male figures). We will have sausages and bread. Please bring your child's drink bottles.

REVIEWS AND TESTIMONIAL

We are still looking for some new testimonials and google reviews. If you have the time please click on the link on the bottom of my email signature and give us a review, even if its just to click the stars.

Please remember to comment on Facebook especially the community pages looking for ECE recommendations.

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IMPORTANT DATES

•Cultural dress up day – **3rd March**

•Whānau Night—**6th March**

•Dad's Night – **27th March**

•End of term - **11th April**

School holiday bookings open 31st March :

We have a few spaces in our Playball sessions here at kindy—Thursday 2.30-3.15pm



REMINDERS

SUNBLOCK: Please apply this before arriving at kindy. We will top up after lunch. If you wish to supply your own named bottle please do so.

SUNHATS: Must be worn when playing outside. Please name these

Please ensure your child has enough spare clothing and a wet bag for any wet items (there is always plenty of water and messy play at kindy).

Special things from home: We understand that sometimes children need their special cuddly. However, we'd really appreciate that other toys are left at home for safe keeping. It is not the Kaiako responsibility to be searching at the end of the day if these items get lost.

FAMILY BOOST

The Family Boost payment is now up and running. It is made directly to families with young children to help with the rising costs of early childhood education (ECE). The Family Boost payment will be equal to 25% of ECE fees already paid by households, maximum of \$975 every 3 months, have a household income of less than \$180 000 a year, effective 1st July.

Families can claim this every 3 moths by applying through IRD. We have had several families successfully apply. If you want to do this then please let me know if you need an updated version of our invoice (License numbers must now be included).

You will also need an IRD# for the child you are claiming for so need to apply for this if they don't yet have one. You will then login through your own IR login to process this.

ENROLMENT CHANGES

With our new Student Management System, each time there is an enrolment change you will need to sign the piece of paper acknowledging the change. This will also be true for extra days booked in advance.

THE CARPARK

Please park behind the teachers cars facing the hedge. The space behind Sarah's van needs to be kept clear so cars can safely turn and then head back out into the street forwards. Thank you.