

Newsletter

POHUTUKAWA KINDERGARTEN GLENDOWIE

Term 3 2025

Welcome Lucia, Walter and whanau who joined us during the term.

We will have a couple more tamariki heading off to school next term so lots more holidays for Glenda-Dowie as she visits their houses before their graduations.

Term dates: 14th July – 19th September

CHILD SAFETY AND PROTECTION

Keeping Our Tamariki Safe – Child Protection Policy Review

It's time for our annual review of our Child Protection Policy. With recent headlines in Australia highlighting the importance of child safety, this is a timely reminder of how seriously we take our responsibility to protect and nurture our tamariki.

In today's rapidly changing world, it's natural to feel concerned about how to keep our youngest citizens safe. At kindy, we want our children to grow up brave, confident, and curious—ready to explore, take risks, and learn through play. At the same time, we are committed to creating a safe and supportive environment where upsets, conflicts, and disappointments are treated as learning opportunities that help build resilience and personal growth.

Our Most Powerful Tool: Education

All our teachers undertake regular professional development in child protection—attending training at least every two years. This includes identifying and responding to all forms of suspected abuse: physical, emotional, neglect, and sexual. These courses also reinforce how we maintain safe practices and environments that protect both tamariki and staff.

We are proud to be one of the few centres offering the *All About Me* programme. Developed in the late 2000s by police and education professionals, this empowering resource introduces important topics in a developmentally appropriate way. It helps children understand that they are unique and valued, teaches them the names of body parts and emotions, and opens conversations around the difference between secrets and surprises. It also introduces the concept of consent by teaching the importance of saying—and hearing—“No.”

Your Voice Matters

A copy of our updated Child Protection Policy will be emailed to all families in the coming weeks, with hard copies available at kindy. We welcome and value your feedback, and encourage you to share your thoughts.

Together, we can continue to create a kindy community where every child feels safe, respected, and loved.

Nga mihi



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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?

Our individual planning and learner focuses are developing well with both rooms having great wall displays for the children to engage with. We will support these learner goals by designing the environment for engaging learning experiences and using a range of intentional teaching strategies. As progress is observed we will record this in

the children's kete ako and revise goals as required.

Please add your voice to these stories either directly in the kete ako or through conversations or messages to the teachers.

"Mā te huruhuru, ka rere te manu."
With feathers, a bird can fly.

INTERPRETATION: *Just as a bird needs feathers to take flight, a person needs knowledge, skills, and learning to grow and reach their potential. This whakataukī reminds us that individual development and learning are essential to thrive and succeed.*

“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



AFTERNOON PROGRAMME

Our afternoon focus is **mathematics**. Each week, your child is invited to bring in a photo or item that represents the **shape of the week**. Please check the notice wall in Akomanga Puāwai or our Facebook page for updates. **Week 1:** Circle, **2:** Heart, **3:** Triangle.

Welcome to our Term of
Mathematics

Monday - Number

Tuesday - Baking/Measurement

Wednesday - Colour/pattern/
sequence/sorting/
size

Thursday - Shape

Friday - Science/Engage games/
Collaborative board games

AKOMANGA PUĀWAI

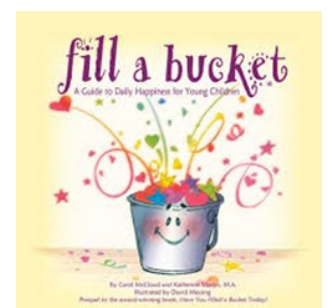
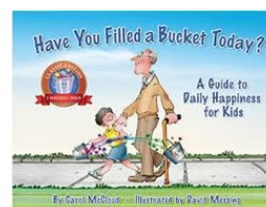
What a fantastic term we've had in the Puāwai Room! We've especially enjoyed focusing on phonics and literacy, and it's been wonderful to see our tamariki grow so much in this area. They've been participating enthusiastically, sharing new things they've learned, and many are even writing their own names! Our class motto is "try your best," and our tamariki certainly have been living up to it!

We'd like to remind all caregivers that encouraging independence and responsibility for personal belongings is an important part of preparing our children for school. We promote self-management with lunchboxes, drink bottles, clothing, and shoes—and we'd love your support in encouraging this kindly and at home too.

For social and emotional learning, we've been using the concept of **'Have You Filled a Bucket Today?'**—a programme that encourages kindness by "filling others' buckets" through positive actions and words which in turn, fills one's own bucket too.

You can learn more at <https://bucketfillers101.com>

Thank you for your continued support—we're looking forward to another great term of learning and growing together!
Ngā mihi nui, Kate and Natasha



HUERO AKOMANGA

What a vibrant and adventurous term we have had! Our tamariki have delighted in a wide range of hands-on experiences that have sparked curiosity, creativity and connection. From joyful messy play and energetic gross motor outdoor fun, to celebrating Matariki through rich explorations of shapes, colours and storytelling, our classroom has been a hive of discovery. It has been heartwarming to see children grow in confidence, build new friendships, and truly embrace the rhythm and learning of our daily environment.

Looking ahead to this term, we are excited to dive into loose parts exploration and construction play, with a strong focus on early mathematics and number concepts. Through open-ended resources and thoughtful provocations, children will be encouraged to problem-solve, count, compare, measure and create – all while having fun and deepening their understanding of the world around them.

As always, we warmly invite you to connect with our teaching team to discuss your child's learning focus. Your insights are invaluable, and we are committed to weaving each child's unique interests, strengths and goals into our planning through intentional and responsive teaching strategies. Together, we can continue to nurture a rich and meaningful learning journey for every tamaiti.

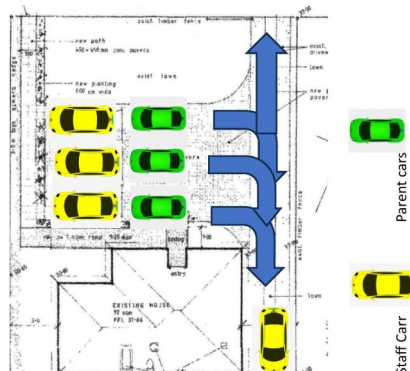
Arohanui, Sarah and Phillipa



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.

Please pass on to anyone else who picks up your child



TE WHARIKI -TE ARA WHANUI : OUR CURRICULUM

PATHWAYS TO SCHOOL

Learning is a journey that begins before birth and continues throughout life. Each part of the education system has a responsibility for supporting children (and the adults they become) on this lifelong journey of exploration. Kaiako and new entrants teachers support children by affirming their identity and culture, connecting with and building on their funds of knowledge and having positive expectations for their learning. Young children look forward to going on to school or kura, and they expect it to be different, but they do not always anticipate quite how different the expectations, structures and routines may be. By working together, kaiako, new entrants teachers, parents and whānau can support children's learning continuity as they make this crucial transition.

Pohutukawa Kindergarten is committed to supporting children transition to school by ensuring they have the skills, knowledge and confidence to succeed.

READING

- By reading out loud to your child every day, you can help them succeed in the world of learning.
- They will expand their vocabulary, understand new concepts and ideas, discover the world around them, and value reading and learning.
- Becoming familiar with a particular book or repeating phrases helps build a child's language and comprehension.
- Point out signs and logos when driving and shopping so that written language comes alive and has a purpose.
- The goal is to read 1000 stories to your child before starting school.

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.

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IMPORTANT DATES

6th August – Wacky Wednesday

Things get a little wacky! Come in dressed in your wackiest outfits and be ready for some crazy surprises around Kindy.

7th August Topsy Turvey Thursday

Upside down, inside out, back to front? We invite you to come in your most creative topsy turvey outfit but mind your step when you come through the Kindy door, you never know what's on the floor, OR on the roof!

21st August 2025 Photos

Class photo at 9am. All to attend please arrive at 850am ready. Individual and sibling photos from 830 until finished around 1030am.

22nd August 2025 Mum's night

7pm Mum's are invited for a night out with drinks, nibbles and great company.

REMINDERS

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

Spare clothes- please remember to bring spare clothes. During the next two terms your child may need jackets and gumboots.

Pick up times – are 12.30, 230pm, 330 and 5pm. Please be on time to pick collect your child from there booked time.

Parking – Please do not park or drive on ours or the neighbours berm.

Nuts—Please be aware we have a **no nut policy**. Another child may come into contact with your child's food at the table and this can have serious consequences.

FAMILY BOOST

The Family Boost payment is **increasing**. 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 now be equal to 40% of ECE fees paid by households, maximum of \$1560 every 3 months, to families with have a household income of less than \$229, 100 a year, effective 1st July 2025.

If you think you might be eligible then apply on line at the IRD. Please ask Melanie if you need me to resend any invoices as you can also claim for previous time periods.

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.

ENROLMENTS

We currently have vacancies every day so if you know of anyone needing top quality care and education please refer them to us.

Remember you also receive a 10% discount when you enroll for 4 days and 15% discount when you enroll for 5 days. Siblings also receive a 10% discount.

