

Newsletter/Panui

April/Paenga-whāwhā 2023

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to: Saba Aden, Emi Buddle, Raymond Hopman, Phippen Bernard, Koukou Pirini and Kainoa Salt and their whānau. *And welcome back* to Isaiah Isaako and his whānau.

Haere ra, farewell to: Suleiman Adem and Gildarts Amdengan who have gone off to school, and also Leon Spence.

KEL Working Bee & Whānau BBQ

Saturday 6th May

Working Bee – 10 am to 2 pm

We are holding a working bee on Saturday 6th May from 10 am to 2 pm. This will be an opportunity for a good clean-up of the Centre. It would be great to see you there. It's fine if you can't make it for the whole day. Any time you can offer would be much appreciated. Many hands make light work! There will be a variety of tasks to do inside and out.

BBQ – 2 pm

We will finish the day with a shared BBQ meal together. You are welcome to bring meat or vegetables to put on the BBQ, or you could bring a salad or other food to share.

N.B. We have one small portable BBQ but if anyone else has one they would like to lend for the day that would be much appreciated.

Working Bee tasks

There are a number of tasks we hope to tick off at the working bee. If there is something in particular you would like to help with, please let us know:

- Top up the sandpit with fresh sand
- Weed and tidy the front garden
- Install shelving in outdoor storage shed
- Fill holes in sunroof
- Replace broken fence palings
- Tip run

Special General Meeting

7pm, Wednesday 10th May

KEL is an incorporated society and a registered charity. All parents are automatically members of the society. According to our Constitution, the annual accounts must be put to a General Meeting for approval by members each year. Our 2022 accounts were not ready in time for our Annual General Meeting at the end of last year. We are therefore holding a Special General Meeting to approve the accounts. This meeting will be held at 7pm on the 10th of May. All whānau are invited to attend. This meeting will be followed by a regular committee meeting which you are welcome to stay for.

Updating your contact details

We now have a KEL cell phone. If you want to contact kaiako during the day please use this number: **022 1016 412**.

If you have not done so already, **please text this number** so that we have your number saved on this phone and can therefore contact you in an urgent or emergency situation.

Important Dates Coming up

ANZAC Day – centre closed: 25 April

Working Bee and Whānau BBQ: 6 May

Special General Meeting: 10 May

ERO Visit Date: 18 May

Our Kaiako Team



Earlier this year, not only did our long term Senior Teacher Jannie retire, but we also sadly said farewell to our kaiako Elise and Emma. Jim Bailey however joined the team in January and Tenaya Tilly and Riana Ngaia in February. We are now in the process of recruiting and appointing a fourth kaiako and also a Senior Teacher to replace Jannie. Tenaya is currently acting Senior Teacher until we make an appointment.

KEL Governance Committee

KEL is governed by a committee of whānau who are elected at an Annual General Meeting.

The Committee determines and develops the Centre's strategic direction, reviews our policies and procedures on a regular basis, supports our kaiako and generally keeps the Centre on task.

The Committee meets once every six weeks. By becoming a committee member, you can play an important role in shaping the early learning experience of your tamariki and help ensure that decisions made by the Committee are in the interests of all tamariki who attend KEL.

If you are interested in finding out more about what the Committee's role is and/or joining the Committee, please contact one of our current Committee members or talk to Tenaya.

Current Committee Members are:

Alex and Kate Dean: Co-Chairpersons

Matthew Forbes (Treasurer)

Rachel Katz/Olson (Secretary)

Kelly Forbes

Hannah Cooper

No nuts ! please

KEL is a nut free zone! We often have tamariki at the Centre who have nut allergies. To protect them from inadvertently coming in contact with nuts in any form, we ask that all whānau **do not** include **nuts of any kind** in children's lunch boxes. This includes peanut butter and other spreads with nuts in them. You will also need to check muesli bars for nut content. We appreciate your support with this. **It's just not worth the risk!**



KEL ERO Review 2023

KEL has recently been notified that the Education Review Office will be reviewing our Centre in May this year. This is part of the regular review process carried out by ERO.

It will be an Akarangi | Quality Evaluation Review. That is, reviewers will evaluate the extent to which KEL has the learning and organisational conditions to support equitable and excellent outcomes for all tamariki.

You can find out more about the review process here:

<https://ero.govt.nz/how-ero-reviews>

The reviewers will be at the Centre all day on the **18th of May** and will be reporting their findings to us at 2.45 on Friday the **19th of May**. If you are interested in attending this meeting, please let us know.

A report will be available for us to comment on approximately 2 weeks after this. Once accepted by us, it will be posted on the ERO website.

Toys from home

While we understand that tamariki are often keen to show their friends special toys from home, this can often result in unnecessary conflict about what belongs to who.

So please, unless it is a special comfort toy for rest time, do not send your tamariki to Centre with toys from home.

Parent Donations

We wish to thank those parents and whānau who respond to our requests for donations. These are absolutely crucial to the Centre's financial viability!

Receipts

Receipts can be provided at the end of the financial year to those who have made donations during the year, or at other times should you request it, e.g. if you are leaving the Centre.

Please let us know if you would like a receipt.

Tax rebates for donations

Because the centre is a charitable organisation, you can claim a tax rebate for donations you make. This means you can claim back a third of the amount you donate. Go to:

<http://www.ird.govt.nz/non-profit/np-donations/donee/np-donee-claiming-tax-credits.html> for details.

Housekeeping and reminders:

Advise us of absences and illnesses

Please let kaiako know if your tamariki will **not** be attending on a day they are booked to attend and let us know if they have a diagnosed illness.

Washing

We appreciate help with the Centre's weekly washing. There is a roster by the sign in folder.

Naming your child's lunchbox

Please remember to name your child's lunch box, drink bottle and/or milk bottle. We have many that look alike.

N.B. There are vivids in the kitchen for whānau to name when they drop off.

Naming your child's clothing

Please name your child's clothing, especially coats and sweatshirts. We have many that look alike.

Spare clothes donations

We are always grateful for donations of spare clothes for tamariki at KEL, especially trousers and underpants.

Casual sessions

If you would like to book your tamariki in for extra days, please let Tenaya know and she will do her very best to oblige. The cost for casual days is \$6.30 per hour for any unattested hours.

Kia Kaha from

*Tenaya, Jim, Riana, Helen, Kathleen & the Committee
Kilbirnie Early Learners*

Phone: 04 387 9488

022 1016 412

Email: kilbirnieearlylearners@xtra.co.nz

Manager - Helen Baxter: Tel: 02102379068 helenbaxternz@outlook.com

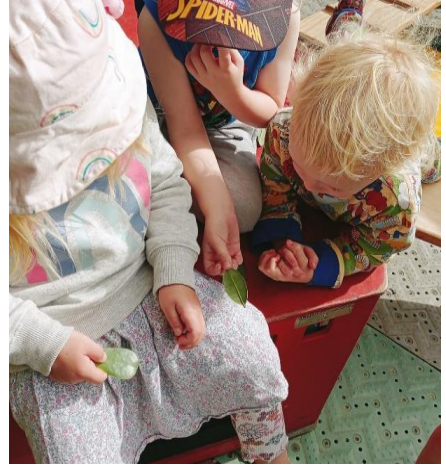
Our website – www.kilbirnieearlylearners.co.nz

From our kaiako...

Tamariki have settled into the year with their usual resilience, and given the comings and goings of other kaiako, KEL tamariki continue to prove that they are capable of dealing with changes to their rituals and routines.

We celebrated Easter, with Hot Cross Bun tasting, and briefly talked about the many traditions people have to acknowledge this celebration.

Some of the older tamariki, helped to collect feijoa from our tree and cleared up the branches that were blocking our gateway – they were cooperative in their mahi and kotahitanga was visible throughout the experience.



We are also, extending and enhancing our creative thinking, with the making of headbands, venetian masks (our take on them), in the art area and outside.

We are finding different ways to explore and be creative with our natural world – islands/moats and construction sites in the sandpit, towers that defy gravity (and some that don't), exploring the idea of camping and creating caves

from the resources that are available to us.

Sometimes we all need to remind ourselves of how powerful our imagination is. It is the tool to encourage, explore and help us to develop working theories about the world in which we play a large part.

