

## Newsletter/Panui August/Here-turi-kōkā 2021

***Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to:*** Osian Broadbent, Luca Forbes, Eleanora Herman, Murtaza Khan and Jax Pittams.

***Haere ra, farewell to:*** Ashton Calcott, Archer Cooper, and Cody Walmsley who have gone off to school and also Magdalena and Teddy Satherley, and Casey and Corin Wyeth.

### Matariki 2021

On the evening of the 9th July KEL whānau celebrated Matariki. It was awesome to see our whānau come together to celebrate. There was a real feeling of whanaungatanga on the night. Ngā tamariki put on a fantastic performance, before we said our new karakia together and then shared some delicious kai.



Later, after dark we had a star/glow party outside. It was so much fun that many tamariki did not want to leave!

Matariki marks the time of the year when the cluster of nine stars known by Maori as Matariki appears just before sunrise. Although it is observed by many cultures around the world, for Maori it signifies the beginning of a new year.



### Teacher Only Day – 29 September KEL will be closed

On Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of September KEL will be closed for a Teacher Only Day. On this day our kaiako will be attending a team professional development day on Living Te Tiriti in our Early Childhood Centre.

We realise that this may be an inconvenience for some whānau, but this will be an important day for our Kaiako.

As the Centre will be closed on this day you will not be charged if your child is enrolled on Mondays.

### Late Pick-ups

Please remember that afternoon pick-up time is 2.30 pm. This means you need to arrive to pick up your tamariki BEFORE 2.30 so you can be out the door by 2.30.

Late pick-ups mean our kaiako are late leaving at the end of the day. We understand that there will be the odd occasion when whānau get held up, but our kaiako should not be expected to be late finishing on a daily basis.

Please be aware that the committee recently made a change to our fees policy and as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, you may be charged a late fee of \$15 if you are late.

If you are going to be late for any reason, it would be really helpful if you give us a quick call.

### Winter illness and RSV

As you will know, respiratory illnesses have been common over this winter. One in particular RSV, has affected many children in particular. Babies and very young children can become seriously ill with RSV. It is important therefore that if your child does have symptoms, you keep them at home until they are free of symptoms. Symptoms and severity of the illness vary from child to child. They may include, one or all, of the following:

- coughs
- runny noses
- fevers
- breathing difficulties
- loss of appetite and energy

You should call your doctor if symptoms persist or worsen.

***N.B. Those with minor symptoms are still infectious.***

Attached with this newsletter, is some information from Regional Public Health.

### ***Emergency Contacts – Update***

As part of our recent review of our Emergency Policy and Procedures, we have agreed that we will ask all whānau to complete an update form once a year. As none of us can know when we might need these details, it is very important that all whānau let us know of any changes to whānau and alternative emergency contact people for all KEL tamariki. Please complete and return the update form that kaiako have given you.

## KEL Governance

At KEL our governance committee and staff work together to determine and develop the centre's strategic direction, review our policies and procedures on a regular basis, support our kaiako and generally keep the Centre on task.

The Committee meets once every six weeks, and members contribute as they are able, beyond that.

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 Jannie.

**Next Committee Meeting:** The committee meets once every six weeks. Our next committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.15 pm.**

### Current Committee Members are:

Kate Dean: Chairperson  
Rachel Olson: Treasurer  
Zara Calcott  
Emma Chrysoulis  
Bronwen Broadbent

### Bronwen Broadbent - Committee Member

Bronwen joined the KEL committee last month and attended her first meeting last week.



My son Osian, joined KEL a couple of months ago and I decided to get involved in the committee to support our wonderful staff. I've previously been secretary at another community-based ECE and found it very rewarding. It's great having the opportunity to contribute to decisions about how the Centre is run, get more governance experience and work alongside some fantastic people!

### Policies currently under review

All our policies are reviewed regularly to ensure they reflect current practice and legal requirements. We are currently reviewing the following policies:

- Child Protection Policy
- Police Vetting and Proof of Identity

Policies under review are posted on the noticeboard with any proposed amendments. Whānau members are welcome to comment or suggest other changes.

### Change to our charges for casual sessions

Over the last few years KEL has had a special reduced rate for casual / extra sessions. We have decided that as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September casual sessions will be charged at the same rate as enrolled sessions. That is \$6.30 per hour for unattested hours.

## Grants and donations

**Thank you to!!!**

### Wellington Children's Foundation

In April we received \$933 (excl GST) to purchase lots of new resources and equipment for our tamariki.

### T.G. Macarthy Trust

In June we received a grant of \$697 (excl GST) to install lighting in the outdoor play area for dark wintery days. Dentice Electrical has installed the lighting.

We are very grateful to both these funders.

### Staff and Whānau from Brooklyn Early Learning Centre

We are very grateful to the kaiako and whānau from Brooklyn Early Learning Centre for the equipment and resources they donated to KEL recently. Sadly, the centre had to close in May this year due to the sale of the premises they operated out of.

### Parent Donations

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

## Housekeeping and reminders:

**Donation of a box of tissues** is always appreciated.

### 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 vidids in the kitchen for whānau to name when they drop off.**

### 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.

### Spare clothes donations

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

### KEL Facebook Page

**Keep up to date with KEL news!**

If you haven't already, please visit our Facebook page and 'like' us. This is also a good way to keep up with KEL news and we appreciate your support and interaction with our page. Please don't hesitate to write a review on there as an additional way to help us promote our services.

### Casual sessions

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

### Hats and warm jackets

Please remember to bring a waterproof jacket and a warm hat for your tamariki, so they can spend time outdoors during the winter months.