

Parent Newsletter/Panui

June/Hune 2019

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to: Ikaram Nuri, Tila Vaisaigano, Seleiman Amed. ***Haere ra, farewell to:*** Jacob Mahon, Declan Yiasoumi, Lila Walker, Anna McGrattan, Maddox Pakau, Teresa Cachaza, Mabel Wells, Chelsea and Maddie Slobbe. Tessa O'Donovan, Arnav Jaggat and Toby Kendon.

KEL Matariki celebration

Friday 5th July, 4.30 – 6.00 pm

Please join us on Friday the 5th July from 4.30 onwards for shared kai at KEL to celebrate Matariki. We will be decorating our 2019

Matariki Cloak and sharing baking made by our tamariki.

If you are able, please bring food from your culture to share and/or something your family really enjoys! Just keep in mind that we have children with allergies. So please nothing that contains nuts, and let a teacher know if it contains egg.

We look forward to seeing you there. ***Bring the whole whānau!***



Suggestions/Ideas Kete

We want your feedback and your thoughts and ideas for improvements to the Centre. We survey parents once every two years, to get feedback on how well you think the Centre meets you and your child's needs, but we would like to hear from you more often!

This week you will find a box by the sign in table. Please take a moment, from time to time to jot down your reactions, your feedback, your concerns, your questions, and any suggestions or any new ideas you would like to share with us, and pop them in the box. You can put your name on the comment, or not – whichever you prefer.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Important dates to remember?

Matariki celebration: Friday 5th July, 4.30 to 6.00 pm
Next Committee meeting: Friday, 19th July, 9.30 am

We need parents to join our Committee !

Urgent and important!

KEL is an incorporated society. All parents are members of the society and we are legally required to have a committee to govern the Centre. That is, a committee of parents that takes responsibility for ensuring we are compliant with legal requirements, for management of the money! and for employment of our staff. There is however, no a big time commitment required of committee members. We have staff who manage the day to day running of the Centre.

The committee meets once every 6 weeks, currently on a Friday morning.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday the 19th of July.

If you are interested in finding out a bit more about what is involved in being a committee member, please come along to this next committee meeting. If your child is not booked to attend on Friday mornings, please talk to Jannie and she will endeavour to make arrangements to fit your child in as a 'casual' on that morning.

By becoming a committee member you can play an important part in shaping your child's early learning experience and help ensure that decisions made by the committee are in the interests of all the children who attend our Centre.

Next Committee Meeting **Friday, 19th July, at 9.30 am**

Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday the 12th July at 9.30 am in the Centre office.

Do you have a green thumb?

We are looking for someone who is willing and able to take a little time to tidy up our front garden before spring. It doesn't need to be a big job but it would be great to have it looking its best and producing lots of lovely kai for our tamariki again as summer comes on.



Please let us know if you are willing and able.

KEL's CLOSED Facebook Page

KEL has a Facebook page. We want to hear from KEL families about the idea of establishing a **closed** Facebook page for KEL families only. That is, only KEL families would have approval, by a KEL administrator, to join. This would mean that only members of the group (KEL families who chose to join) would be able to see the information and/or photos etc. that are posted on it.

The purpose of the page would be to provide a platform where KEL families could communicate with each other safely.

There would be rules set out about how the page can be used and this would be monitored by our administrator. If members had any concerns about how the page was being used, they could report them to the administrator.

We have set up a page on a trial basis. If you log on, you will see posts and notices of events etc. that are intended for parents of KEL only. You can ask for advice on issues relating to the Centre, request play dates with other KEL children, pass on or sell items... or just pass on some knowledge or kind words.

If families find it useful, we will continue with it.

If you are on Facebook and would like to join, go to the public KEL Facebook page and click on the tab for community, and groups. The closed page is listed under both.

Committee Business

Policy review

Policies recently reviewed by the committee have been:

- Emergency Planning and Procedures
- Police vetting and safety checking policy

You can find the revised policies on the parent noticeboard.

Our next policies for review are:

- Treaty of Waitangi / Bi-cultural Policy
- Internal Evaluation Policy

ERO Review

As an outcome of our ERO review in January this year, we have been required to work to make some improvements to some areas of the Centre's practice. A Development Plan for the Centre has now been approved by ERO and we will be reporting to ERO in November this year on our progress. The Development Plan, and a copy of the ERO Report are posted on the notice board.

No nuts! please

KEL is a nut free zone! Please support the teachers by not including any nuts or peanut butter, or nutella in your child's lunch box. It is good to check other products also e.g. muesli bars / bliss balls for nut content.



This is important because we need to protect children who have serious allergies who may inadvertently come in contact with nuts.

It's just not worth the risk!

Housekeeping and reminders!

Update your contact details

If you have had any changes to your contact details please let us know, **including Emergency Contact People's details.**

Naming your child's lunchbox

Please remember to name your child's lunch box and drink bottle.

Donation of a box of tissues is always appreciated.

Advise us of absences and illnesses

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

How can you help?

We are always grateful for donations of plastic bags, spare clothes for children, especially trousers and underpants.

Washing

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

Spare Clothing:

Can you please make sure you have spare clothes in your child's bag for those messy play/ water activities

KEL Facebook Page

If you haven't already, please visit our Facebook page and 'like' us. 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 child in for extra days, please let Jannie know and she will do her very best to oblige. The cost for casual days is \$30 a day or \$10 if you are funded for 20 Hours ECE.

Wetbags!

With plastic bags now clearly on the way out, we have been looking into ways we can support our families to find an alternative. One option is to use 'wetbags'. These are re-usable, eco-friendly waterproof bags that can be used for wet clothes and used cloth nappies etc.

Some companies offer wetbags at a reduced cost if they are bought in bulk. KEL is exploring opportunities for buying in bulk so that our families can get them cheaper than they would otherwise.

Please let teachers know if you are interested in KEL accessing wetbags for you at a discounted price.

Kia Kaha

**from Jannie, Nikki, Jess, Geof,
Helen, Kathleen & the Committee
Kilbirnie Early Learners**

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Community Constable Visit

Recently children have showed a particular interest in people in uniforms, and in particular police people. We therefore invited our local community constable to visit the centre and talk with the children. During her visit Constable Tayla talked to children about her job, showed us all the tools she carries with her: handcuffs, a flashlight, keys and her notebook. She told us that her main job was keeping communities, including us, safe, and that we don't need to be scared of the police. Children also got to see her car, and how the siren ! works.

