

## Newsletter/Panui

### June/Hune 2023

*Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to:* Jacob Prins, Mira Bradbury, Sylvie and Frankie Craigand and their whānau.

*Haere ra, farewell to:* Brooke Cooper, Luca Forbes, Noel Nigussie, Luna Burgoyne-Brown, Nixon Williams and Marley McLeod

### Mānawatia a Matariki

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 4.30 to 6 pm**

**Come and join us to celebrate the Māori New Year !**

KEL will be welcoming the appearance in the night sky of the nine stars of Matariki this year on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July.

Please bring a plate of kai to share (no nuts please). All KEL whānau are invited to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.



### New KEL Senior Teacher

**Appointment confirmed**

Tenaya Tilly has been our Acting Senior Teacher since Jannie retired in March. On the 12<sup>th</sup> June the committee agreed to offer the Senior Teacher position to Tenaya on a permanent basis. Tenaya has agreed to take on this role.

### Jim is returning to work

Our kaiako Jim Bailey, has been on ACC leave for the last three months. At the beginning of June, we negotiated a 'return to work' programme under the advice and guidance of ACC. As a result, over the last month Jim has been back at the Centre on reduced hours. His hours of work will be gradually increased over the next few weeks and we hope to have him back to his full hours by the first week in August.

### Important dates and events coming up

**Manawatia Matariki Celebration** – 4.30 pm, Friday, 13 July

**Matariki Holiday** – KEL closed: Friday, 14 July

**Committee Meeting:** 2 August

**Teacher Only Time:** KEL closed Friday, 4 August, 12.30- 2.30

### New KEL Kaiako Appointed

**Maddy Heyward**

We are very pleased to announce that the KEL Committee recently agreed to appoint Maddy Heyward to fill our kaiako vacancy. Maddy will be starting at KEL on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July.

Maddy graduated as an early childhood teacher in November 2021 and now has 18 months EC teaching experience. Prior to training as an early childhood teacher however, Maddy graduated with a Bachelor of Design; Fashion Major with Honors at Massey University, Wellington and worked as an Art Teacher for primary school age tamariki. We are all confident that Maddy will fit in well at KEL and will be quick to make warm and lasting connections with our tamariki. We are looking forward to her start date.



### FEE Increase- 1 August

At the KEL committee meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, a budget for the 2023/2024 year was agreed. Due to the need for the Centre to allow adequate funds for maintenance of the premises and for replacement of equipment and resources, it was agreed that we would increase the hourly fee rate by 5% as from 1 August 2023. In effect this will mean that whanau who are charged fees, will be paying **\$6.52 per hour** instead of \$6.30.

We regret that this increase is necessary, but the centre has done its best not to increase costs for whanau for some time. The last time we increased fees to whanau was in 2017 but due to the fact that government funding increases have not been adequate to meet our increased costs, we are left with no alternative. If you have concerns about this increase, please contact The Manager, Helen Baxter, or talk to Tenaya.

### Teacher Only Afternoon: 4<sup>th</sup> August

On Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of August the Centre will close at 12.30 so that the teaching team can meet for Teacher Only Day time. This is an important opportunity for the new team to spend time together discussing centre processes, rituals and routines, teaching philosophy and internal evaluation.

Fees will not be charged for the afternoon.

## 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.

**Due to tamariki moving on to school and kindergarten recently, we are in need of new committee members.**

**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.**

### Next Committee Meeting

The next Committee Meeting is scheduled for **2 August, 7pm**

### Current Committee Members are:

Alex and Kate Dean: (Co-Chairpersons)  
Rachel Katz/Olson (Secretary)

### Policy Review

Policies reviewed and approved at the last committee meeting were:

- Appointments Policy
- Children Leaving the Premises Policy
- Children Sleeping Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Inclusive Education Policy
- Nappy Change and Toileting Policy
- Police Vetting and Safety Checking Policy
- Smoke Free Environment Policy
- Visitors to the Centre Policy
- Whānau Engagement and Participation Policy

You are welcome to view the revised policies which can be found in the Policy Folder at the sign in table.

## KEL ERO Review 2023

KEL was reviewed by the Education Review Office in May. Reviewers were at the Centre on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of May. Unfortunately, due to staff illness, we had no permanent qualified kaiako at the Centre on those days. This made it difficult for us to provide all the documentation required by the reviewers.

We have now received a draft report and provided feedback to ERO on the draft. A final report will be posted on the ERO website when it is finalised: <https://ero.govt.nz/how-ero-reviews>

## Thanks!

### Wellington Children's Foundation

In May we were very fortunate to receive a grant from the Wellington Children's Foundation for new chairs for our under 2 year olds and tablets for our kaiako to use to take photos and record learning stories during the day.

## 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 table.

### Naming your child's lunchbox

Please remember to name your child's lunch box and drink 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 \$6.52 per hour for any unattested hours.

*Kia Kaha from*

*Tenaya, Jim, Riana, Helen, Kathleen & the Committee*

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# From our kaiako...

We have had lots of amazing reciprocal learning lately regarding taking care of ourselves and to a lesser degree, others (promoting our tuakana-teina roles here at KEL) in the event of an emergency. We have used a variety of learning methods to inform this practice. Most recently with the fire in Shelly Bay we held a wa whariki where tamariki lead their learning, asking questions and sharing their knowledge with hoa. Alongside this we have practiced our turtles in the event if an earthquake, whilst reciting: Drop, Cover and Hold.



Caring for our place- helping Riana build the cubbies for storage



Lochie, Frankie and Wolfie, working towards a common goal "Sky Castle"



Unboxing our fantastic new stools



Luna, Izzy and Joel working towards skills for Kura



Kaitiakitanga in practice - Pippen and Kainoa

## New profile/portfolio books have been introduced

Please look out for new stories as they are published on Storypark and then put into books at the Centre.

### Accessing Storypark

**You should have received an invite to join.**

Storypark is an online tool that assists kaiako and whānau to work together to extend children's interests and abilities and support their learning journey.

Kaiako use Storypark to record learning stories and communicate privately with whānau. You can read your child's stories on Storypark. Stories are then printed and added to profile/portfolio books at the Centre which you are welcome to read at any time.

To get access to Storypark you need to accept the Storypark invitation to view leaning stories.

If you have not received an invite, or can't find it, please let kaiako know.



KEL Pyjama Day