

Newsletter/Panui

November/Whiringa-ā-rangi 2024

Nau mai, haere mai, welcome to:

Kehlani Koopu, Kymani Koopu, Valentina Jagusch, and Zoe Reeves and their whānau.

Haere ra, farewell to: Huia Minogue, Jax and Ruby Pittams, Justin Macaligar, Kainoa Salt, Kamaia Reign Karati Te Kura, Koukou Pirini, Nova Tait-Dang, Pippin Bernard, Sylvia Craig who have left us since June

Teacher Only Day - Date change!

Friday 8 November

KEL will be **closed** on **Friday the 8th November**.

On this day kaiako will be focusing on infant and toddler pedagogy and curriculum planning to support learning for all. Thank you to all whānau for supporting kaiako to carry out this work on this day. It is very important to the centre.

Whānau Survey 2024

KEL staff and the committee are keen to hear your views about how well KEL is meeting the needs of tamariki and whānau. During November, we will send you an email with a link to a questionnaire. The information collected from this survey will help us to identify any concerns and/or ideas for improvement and will assist us to plan for the future. If you would rather fill it out on paper, please ask our kaiako to print it off for you. We value your opinions and look forward to your responses.

End of year Party!

This year we will be holding our End of Year Party on Thursday afternoon – **the 19th of December, at 1 pm** at KEL. We are looking forward to celebrating the year gone by at KEL with all our whānau and kaiako.

N.B. Please drop named gifts of no more than \$20 to the office. A large black sack will be available for gifts to go in to.

End of year closure dates

KEL will close for the year on **Friday the 20th of December** at 2.30 pm. We will open again in the new year on Monday the 6th of January.

N.B. It would be very helpful if you would let us know when you expect your tamaiti to return so we can manage staff leave over the period.

Whānau/Kaiako Hui – Week beginning 11th November

All whānau are invited to book a time for a catch-up with kaiako during the week beginning **11th November**.

This is an opportunity for whānau to sit down and work alongside key kaiako to develop a plan of learning and outcomes for tamariki. We recommend that you take up the opportunity to share your thoughts, talk through any concerns and hear from kaiako about how things are progressing for your tamaiti.

Family Boost

As from 1 October families are able to apply to IRD for Family Boost assistance with their childcare costs. On the 2nd of October therefore, we sent you a statement showing fees you were charged for the period 1 July to 30 September. From now on, you will receive a statement at the end of every 3 month period.

The amount you can claim will depend on your household income and the childcare fees you pay. The maximum you can receive is \$975 per quarter (every 3 months).

If you wish to apply to IRD for Family Boost funding, you will need to upload the quarterly statements we send you, to IRD via your myIR account. If you are eligible you will need to submit a claim once every 3 months – retrospectively.

Registering for FamilyBoost on myIR

To register for Family Boost you will need an myIR account.

If you don't have an myIR account go to:

ird.govt.nz/myir-personal to set one up.

To register for FamilyBoost on myIR, you will need to:

- Log in to myIR.
- Select 'I want to'.
- Search for 'FamilyBoost' in the search tab.
- Select 'Register for FamilyBoost'.
- Complete your details and 'Submit'.

You will need to have the following details ready:

- New Zealand bank account details.
- Details of each eligible child attending ECE:
 - full name
 - date of birth
 - IRD number.

(If you need to apply for an IRD number for your child, you'll need to visit: ird.govt.nz/ird-number-nz)

- Your partner's details (if you have one):
 - full name
 - date of birth
 - IRD number (optional).

You will also need to give the name and address of KEL:

Kilbirnie Early Learners, 58 Bay Road, Kilbirnie.

Please let Tenaya or Helen know if you have any queries or concerns.

Annual General Meeting - February/March 2025

Usually we hold our AGM for the year in October/November. Due to the pressures for many, at this time of year, the committee has decided to postpone the AGM until February/March next year. At the meeting we hope to have a new entrant teacher from a local school to talk with parents about School Readiness for tamariki who are about to start school.

Annual reports will be presented and we will elect the governance committee for the year ahead. KEL is an incorporated society governed by a committee of parents. The committee determines and develops the centre's strategic direction, reviews our policies and procedures on a regular basis, employs and supports our kaiako and generally keeps the centre on task.

We need parents to join our committee!

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.

Please consider putting your name forward to join the committee. You don't have to be an expert in anything! We welcome the views of ALL KEL whānau. If you would like to know more about the role of the committee, please talk to Tenaya or email Helen at: helenbaxternz@outlook.com

Parent Donations

We wish to thank those parents and whānau who have responded 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.

Important dates coming up

Teacher Only Day: Friday 8 November. **KEL CLOSED**

Whānau/Kaiako Hui: Week beginning 11 November

Next Committee Meeting: Wednesday 11 December 7 pm

End of Year Party: Thursday 19 December 1 pm

Last day for year: Friday 20 December

First day open in new year: 6 January

Housekeeping & IMPORTANT! Reminders:

Nappies and wipes

Please remember to check your supply.

Naming Items

Things are easily lost at KEL over the course of a busy day. Best practice is to name everything and keep precious toys at home.

Wet bags

Thank you to those who have provided wet bags for your tamariki, as we no longer have a supply of plastic bags these are a real help for messy/wet clothing.

Emergency kit snack boxes

We are wanting each whānau to provide us with a 2-litre ice cream container with snacks you know your tamaiti will eat, and medication such as inhalers for them. These must have a Drs label on it which shows expiry date and dosage. These will need to be turned over every 6 months

Signing in and out

Remember to sign in and out when you are dropping off and picking up. For safety reasons we need to know who is on the premises at all times during the day.

Confirmation of enrolment forms

Occasionally we ask whānau to confirm that they want their tamaiti to continue to attend KEL for their booked hours. This is because if tamaiti have been absent for a period or show irregular attendance, the Ministry of Education requires that we ask whānau to sign a form to confirm their booked days/hours. **Thank you!** to those whānau for supporting the Centre to comply with this MoE requirement.

NO NUTS!!!

Please remember **NO NUTS** of any type at KEL.

Advise us of absences and illnesses

Please let us know if your tamaiti is going to be absent. We also want to know if your tamaiti is sick. Please let us know their symptoms so that we can protect everyone at KEL. Text or email is our preferred method of communication for absences.

Casual days

If you would like to book your tamaiti in for a one-off extra day, please check in with Tenaya and she will do her very best to oblige.

Kia Kaha from

*Tenaya, Jim, Riana, Maddy, Josh, Helen, Kathleen
and the Committee*

Kilbirnie Early Learners

Phone: 04 387 9488

022 1016 412

Email: kilbirnieearlylearners@xtra.co.nz

Manager - Helen Baxter: Tel: 02102379063

helenbaxternz@outlook.com Our website –

www.kilbirnieearlylearners.co.nz

National Shakeout Day

On the 24th October KEL tamariki and kaiako, along with the rest of the country, participated in The National Shakeout. At 9.30 am they practised the centre's earthquake emergency drill and procedures.



Thanks! to our funders this year

Over the last year we have made a number of improvements to our environment – indoors and out. Many of these were only made possible by the provision of grants:

Wellington Children's Foundation: \$725 for the cost of a space saver cot for the sleep room.

T G Macarthy Trust: \$1,800 for the cost of removal of the Pohutukawa tree.

Wellington Community Trust: \$10,000 for the cost of replacing the fence.

Thanks also to!

Richard McIntosh: who removed The Tree and did the stump grinding

Gem Ltd Builders: who built The Fence

Fred Double: who built the Bark Chip Pit

Kennards: who supplied the stump grinder

All of whom provided most valued services, supplies and expertise at NO or low cost.



And thanks especially! to our KEL staff and parents and their whānau

who gave their time when it mattered! to finding the funds, planning the projects and provided their labour to make them happen.

Well done everyone. You are all fabulous!



