

Milton Kindergarten newsletter



Term 3 2018

Kia ora whanau,

Welcome back to another busy term. With lambs popping up and the daffodils sprouting we are heading into spring. We have our usual teaching team Of Emma, Brittany, Christine, Natalie, Amanda, and we welcome Mary to the team. Amanda is working full time to replace Kendal who is away on maternity leave. Amanda has lots of years' experience in both home based care and early childhood centres. Mary is a familiar face at our kindergarten as she has relieved for us for quite some time. Mary also has lots of years teaching experience in a variety of early childhood settings and we are very lucky to have them both in our community.

Fundraising

At the end of last term we held a disco! This was a hotly anticipated event for the children with lots of chatter around the kindergarten about who was wearing what superhero outfit or what latest Disney star children would be dressed as.

We had a sausage sizzle, face paint, animal balloons, dancing, goodie bags, and a prize for best dressed! Well done Liam!

This event was only made possible due to the huge amount of whanau support we had running the BBQ, arranging music, painting faces, running the kitchen,

arranging prizes, and organizing this wonderful event. We would like to thank everyone involved for donating prizes, food, and of course their time and energy. We couldn't do it without you.

This event raised \$288 and of course, the children all had a great time tearing up the dance floor so thank you all!

[Do you want to be a part of fundraising action? Here's how...](#)

We are always welcoming any whanau to join our fundraising team. We currently have a facebook page called "Milton kindy Whanau and friends" which is the forum for sharing ideas and for opportunities to get together with other eager whanau to brainstorm and fundraise for our kindergarten. This page allows whanau to post ideas and even get a group together to do any fundraising such as BBQs, bake sales, stalls, and events within the kindergarten. If this page doesn't suit we also have the notice board in the kindergarten where parents can put notices up around fundraising to arrange a group of people to run some form of fundraising.

With growing rolls the teachers have taken a step back from directly running fundraising but are more than happy to support whanau once an idea has been put out within the kindy and people have started to work towards this idea. Of course, we will also be supporting these events by attending them and helping out where we can. We would like to thank everyone for their continued support as whanau running

fundraising ensures teachers focus stays on teaching and learning 😊

We are currently under way for the calendar fundraiser. Amy is heading this group with Chris, Mel and Philippa.



Group planning

This terms whole group goal has been focusing on 'Children following Kaitiakitanga (processes for a particular environment)'. We have identified two indicators,

Indicator one: Children will be seen to follow the processes at Kindergarten

Indicator two: Children will demonstrate kawanga (responsibility) for the environment and each other.

This has been put in place as we have had lots of new two year olds start with us as well as new teachers. The focus has included our four main kaitiakitanga, these consist of: **Walking feet, Gentle hands, Quiet voices and Kind words**, together with the children kaiako have made visual prompts for each of the kaitiakitanga to

help assist with this learning, and make it more personal. Children have been able to revisit these concepts daily as part of our mat times. Were they too have been learning about 5 on the whāriki. These are,

- Sitting on our bottoms in our L shape
- Putting our hand up to talk
- Putting our belongings in our bag (no toys on the mat)
- Keeping our hands and our bodies to ourselves
- Listening ears, (no talking)



We are proud to say that many of our new children have quickly grasped these concepts, and our older children can be seen reminding one another of our kaitiakitanga. It is great to see the children taking responsibility towards ensuring our kaitiakitanga is being up held.

Part of the learning continuum involves taking responsibility for our belongings, kaiako have been reminding children to put their shoes and socks by their bag when they are not on their feet, many of our children have this one mastered with only a few needing some extra reminding.

Rolling up our sleeves before hand washing has been another of our kaitiakitanga that we have been reinforcing on a daily basis and once again it is lovely to see some of our older children taking on

a leadership role here as they assist their younger peers in doing so, using our quiet voices to communicate has at times been more of a challenge for some of our children and using our walking feet, is another of our kaitiakitanga that has needed continuous reminding with some. Yet we can already see with consistency between kaiako, that children are started to pick up on this too and at times have even been pulling themselves up on this.

Using our gentle hands and quiet voices has been a part of our kaitiakitanga that we have been able to explore in more depth on a personal level, we have been able to hear children showing empathy towards one another and checking in with each other, as to how they are feeling, Are you ok? Is a phrase many of our children will use to each other? We have a kind and caring group of children here as part of our kindergarten family, and Kaiako are always keen to be apart of their individual learning journeys.

House keeping

A gentle reminder to please check the **donations roster**. If you cannot fulfil your duties or donations please find a replacement. You can do this either by asking another parent or asking on the “Milton kindy whanau & friends” page.

It is timely to remind parents to once again **name your child’s clothes and belongings**. Also with the weather getting warmer we would like to remind parents to provide a change of clothes as we like to get outside in the sandpit and in the water play.

Our **sports programme** has started up again with Paul and many of our older children have been enjoying this on a regular basis. Please remember to bring along

appropriate shoes for this, gumboots are not suitable for this activity.

Name tags- please ask if you need a new name tag for your child’s bag. Having a name tag on each bag that is the same helps teachers a lot to locate bags.

Name tags by your child’s hook. Lots have gone missing! Melissa and Philippa gave up their time to make these and it is a timely process so please if they have gone home with your child can we have them back. Please encourage your children to not remove them, many thanks.

Transition update.

We would also like to **welcome**, Maddison, Sabastjan, Liam, Matilda, Marley-Rose, Jameson, Ollie and Oscar, and their whānau to our kindy.

We have also **farewell** Cameron and Sandro to school, and Sam, Scott, and Rusko who have shifted out of town, we wish them all the best as there learning journey continues.

We would also like to **thank** the Hale family, for all their continuous support and work they have done for us.

Kahui-Ako

Kahui ako- community of learning. The teachers have been busy working in their Pod groups, these are research Pod where teachers from across the sectors get together and share individual inquiries into a group topic. We are working in the collaboration Pod. The vision the Kahui

Ako is to create stronger learning pathways for children. This is achieved through sharing of practice and knowledge across sectors. Transitions have a huge impact on children's learning so the smoother the path the greater the success. Teachers give up lots of their time to dedicate to this initiative

Last week the teachers presented to the High School teachers from their pod on how to use spiral of inquiry- this process is about investigating and improving practice.



Transitions

We have begun transition visits to Milton Primary that enable us to be a part of regular activities and experiences. We are heading to school for a short mat time- morning tea-play time- mat time. This will support children to become familiar with the environment and expectations within the environment- this leads to children confidence and ability to mana tangata (contribute).

Transition cluster- the Milton kindergarten teachers are a part of the Milton transition cluster group- supporting smoother transitions to school. This week teachers will be presenting to the cluster around dispositional teaching and learning.



Celebrations at the end of last term.



We celebrated Brittany's leadership journey and growth at the end of the term

and surprised her with some flowers, as thanks and recognition on her hard work. Brittany is a supportive member of the teaching team and her growth in articulating and sharing practice as well over seeing and working towards the bigger picture demonstrate her developing leadership skills.

We also welcomed Amanda to the team and welcomed and farewelled Kendal- who is away on Maternity leave. Kendal will be away until March next year looking after her we bundle of Joy Eddison Jane Anderson, who was born on the 23rd of July.