



Milton  
kindergarten  
Term 3, 2019

This term we are learning about "G.R.I.T". Growing resilience in tough times

Indicator one: Children will see themselves as capable.

Indicator two: Children will recognize their Wairua (special attributes)

Children have continued to develop ideas about 'Growing their brains', this has developed over two terms with children developing attitudes of 'giving it a go', 'challenging themselves', developing skills and attitudes for using their imagination and being creative.

We have seen children move along their continuum of 'giving it a go' and whilst some children can transfer this to new learning situations, others are still working on this. We see children challenging themselves, at times finding it hard to regulate emotions or not using appropriate strategies without tautoko from teachers.

We would like to see all children move along their continuum of emotional regulation and recognise that being resilient supports them to grow their brains – included in this will be working through conflict, as well as recognising strengths and taking risks.

When children believe that they are capable of growing their own brains, they shift from a fixed mindset to a "Growth Mindset" and see themselves in the driving seat of their learning.

Term Dates 2019

- Term 1  
23/01/2019 – 12/04/2019
- Term 2  
29/04/2019 – 5/07/2019
- Term 3  
22/07/2019 – 27/09/2019
- Term 4  
14/10/2019 – 20/12/2019

We farewell Amanda this term who has gone to work in Dunedin where she will be closer to her family. We have also welcomed Katie into our team. She has already been made to feel so welcome into our kindergarten whanau and cannot wait to get to know you all more.



"WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN OBSTACLE AND AN OPPORTUNITY? OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD IT. EVERY OPPORTUNITY HAS A DIFFICULTY, AND EVERY DIFFICULTY HAS AN OPPORTUNITY." J. Sidlow Baxter

"Learning and teaching should not stand on opposite banks and just watch the river flow by; instead they should embark together on a journey down the water. Through an active, reciprocal exchange, teaching can strengthen learning how to learn." Loris Malaguzzi



Children have been showing GRIT as they work through challenging times. Teachers have been supporting children by encouraging them to talk through what's bothering them.

Children have been really enjoying challenging experiences where they need to push through and overcome them, displaying GRIT. Lots of encouragement and praise is used in these situations not just from teachers but also their peers.



Along with encouraging children, we've been role playing, role modelling and helping children to develop their own social stories, where teachers work alongside children to come up with strategies that work for them and help them through tough times. We've then collated the strategies into a book that they can share with others and use when they need.



Children have been using the language of learning "I'm showing GRIT" or "I'm staying positive", along with lots of encouragement to their peers. We love hearing that language around Kindy!

Kaiako have introduced resources to encourage children to show GRIT, stay positive and take turns. With the help of Colin Mitchell, we've been able to set up a challenging experience for the children where they can stand on a piece of wood suspended by ropes and make their way across them all. Children have needed to ask for help, take turns, encourage others and it has pushed some children out of their comfort zone.





This term we have been continuing our transition visits with Milton Primary schools new entrant's class. We go over every Tuesday morning where we join them for reading and then morning tea. These visits are very beneficial for our children who are going off to school soon, as they get to experience the school routine and spend time with their peers and new teacher Miss Holden.



Our current internal evaluation is on Localised curriculum. We have been questioning Whanau about what they would like to see happening at kindergarten and finding out what it is we do well or could work on. We've had some great feedback already and are keen to hear from anyone who hasn't yet contributed.

We held a coffee morning a few weeks back where parents were invited to join us for coffee and biscuits before session, this was a great way of getting input from whanau, we really appreciate you taking the time and value our community's opinions.

This is also a focus as part of our Kahui ako – community of learners group, where we have termly meeting with our fellow teachers in the community to better understand the different education sectors and collaborate our ideas for the best of the children.



This term we have Fare welled Sabastjan, as well as Melody and Angus who have gone to continue their learning journeys at school.

We have also welcomed Karera back to Kindy and had Jackson and Jannatul start with us this term.

Last term we held our bike-a-thon, where we raised money to go towards resources for the children. This was a fun afternoon for our children and their families where the children raced their bikes around the Primary school bike track and had a BBQ. Children also received 2 Duffy books along with their medal of completion.



**Housekeeping:**  
**Please contact us if your child is going to be absent- this is so we know you are okay.**  
 Please ensure your children's belongings are named.  
 Please ensure your child is coming with a **jacket and a warm hat**. As the days have been cold and wet, we still like to head outside to explore.  
 With colder, wet days we could be getting wet from splashing in puddles, so a couple of **changes of clothes and gumboots** ensures your child can engage in this play.  
 Please check your child's hair regularly for **head lice** - this is going around.  
**Sports programme**- please ensure if your child is 4 that they have a pair of running shoes for Tuesday and Thursday for the sports program.  
 Please ensure you sign your **child in and out!**  
 Please check the **lost property bucket!**  
 Reminder please can children leave **home toys at home**- this ensures nothing gets broken or lost.  
 Please can all parents/ whanau ensure they complete their parent help and donations- if you are unable to do this please swap with someone else. When this is not done it puts added pressure on teachers and/ or the whanau that continuously do it when others don't arrive. Many hands make light work and it is a small task over the whole term. Parent help ensures teachers can provide a range of resources for children to follow their interests and spend their time engaging your children in learning.



We recently had a dress up day, which was enjoyed by both children and teachers.  
 Everyone put a lot of effort into their costumes and we all looked great.

