



Annual Report

2021

Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2021

CONTENTS

03 GENERAL DETAILS

04-05 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

06-07 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

08 SENIOR TEACHER REPORT

09-13 HEAD TEACHER REPORTS

- Casa Nova
 - Edna McCulloch
 - Glen Warren
 - Holmes
 - Maheno
-

14-15 ASSOCIATION INITIATIVES

17-19 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

- Minutes
-

20-21 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Election of Board Members 2022
- Election of Individual Kindergarten Fundraising Teams 2022

GENERAL DETAILS

OFFICERS

President:	Rosalie Hyslop
Vice President:	Jill Henderson
Board Member Finance:	Stacey Hayes
Board Member:	Sarah Cromwell
Board Member:	Sarah Maindonald
Board Member - Co-opted:	Christy Townsend
Board Member - Teaching and Learning:	Mel Read
General Manager:	Julie Craig
Senior Teacher - 2021	Sarah Bryce

LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs L Divers	Mrs L Gilchrist	Mrs L Lawrence	Mrs M Selman
Mrs H Gardiner	Mrs V Laney	Mrs J Moffatt	

VOLUNTEER AWARD

2021: Bob Houliston

2020: John & Val Fahey

RECOGNITION OF LONG SERVICE

OKA acknowledge the following staff for their involvement in OKA for 5 years or more.

5 years or more		10 years or more	30 years or more
Ann Matthews	Robyn Houliston	Julie Craig	Fiona Hewett
Cheryl Nelson	Sarah Hunter	Lenore Fraser	
Di McLeod	Shona Familton	Sarah Newlands	
Euan Scrivener	Sonya Williams	Sue Mareta-Ria	
Fran Downing	Tessa Fifita	Sue McCone	
Gillian Rossiter	Mel Read		
Kelly Jones	Michele Fellows		

KINDERGARTENS

Casa Nova Kindergarten - 2 Raglan Street, Oamaru

Edna McCulloch Kindergarten - 12 Arun Street, Oamaru

Glen Warren – Te Ana a Raki Kindergarten - 38a Torridge Street, Oamaru

Holmes Kindergarten - 34a Stuart Street, Oamaru

Maheno Kindergarten - 13 Gifford Street, Maheno

AUDITOR

Audit Professionals Limited – Phillip Trounson

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Association, Board, Kindergarten staff, children, families/whānau and extended communities gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following Grants and Donations:

- Network Waitaki
- Oamaru Licensing Trust - for their weekly donations of food
- Lions Club of North Otago
- Waitaki Safer Community Trust (January 2022)
- Oamaru Club
- The Lion Foundation

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tēnā koutou OKA whānau,

Whoever could have imagined that we would be still talking and dealing with the impacts of Covid-19 in 2022. But as I sit here and write this report on March 7th 2022, I have one child at home on a class zoom, an employee in our own business at home with the virus and growing numbers of Omicron in our community, the kindergarten community included.



I have huge respect for our amazing staff who have been on the front-line of this pandemic, endeavouring to safely keep as many tamariki in their programmes as possible while also striving for engagement with whānau as they send their littlest taonga off into our care in these unprecedented times. I take my hat off to you all for making this happen. Our General Manager has also been kept exceptionally busy navigating the constant changes as determined by the Ministry of Education and Public Health. The Board are extremely grateful to Julie for navigating this complex space for us and ensuring that we meet continually changing regulations and have been able to operate safely during these times. Thank you to all our incredible OKA staff for your extraordinary work in the most out-of-the-ordinary of times! You are AMAZING!!

This year we welcomed Christy Townsend onto the OKA Board and she has quickly picked up the education acronyms and lingo and is a very valued part of the team - joining Jill Henderson (Vice-President), Stacey Hayes (Finance Delegate), Mel Read (Teaching and Learning Delegate), Sarah Maindonald (Board Member) and Sarah Cromwell (Board Member).

We are rapt with how the Family Hub and Family Support Officer role have established and grown this past year. We saw value in the establishment of these and had been trying to secure funding for a very long time to bring these worthy initiatives into fruition, it is great to see this benefiting so many in our community.

This Board, as we know it, may be the last of its kind in our Association. We have been part of a very long conversation, over many years, within the New Zealand Kindergarten (NZK) Association membership to evolve the NZK operating model. Sustainability has been the main priority of this work; producing a fit-for-service model that services local communities. The NZK Network has undergone significant change over the past three years. The environments in which local Kindergarten Associations are operating have also undergone significant change. Some of this has been driven by the Covid-19 international pandemic. However, the changing demographic of New Zealand is a significant contributor:

- by 2030, New Zealand's population will be 6 million
- there is a declining fertility rate – 1950s an average of 4.3 births per woman – now 1.61 and declining
- soon, 25% of the population will be aged over 65
- more people will exit the workforce than enter it
- the 65+ age group will be larger than the 0-14 age group.

As a network, we want to ensure that we sustain fit-for-purpose services in local communities, to ensure that tamariki can experience high-quality, teacher-led early childhood education for decades to come.

Ultimately, the current Board will move away from governance as that responsibility will now be held higher up the chain by the NZK Board. OKA will continue to be our own entity - retaining all our assets, liabilities, constitution, and ways of working. Our current Board will remain in place and will transition to an advisory Board. Rather than focusing on governance, we will have a strategic community focus on ensuring that relevant intel is gathered, that local parents and stakeholders are heard and that local services continue to develop and meet the changing needs of tamariki and our North Otago community. We will meet less frequently and will focus on being a sounding Board for Julie and the leadership teams.

This model change will create economies of scale that will benefit nga tamariki, ensure that governance is of an exceptional standard throughout NZK kindergartens across the motu, and reduce the amount of time and energy that each Associations General Managers are spending on the same work which allows them more time to achieve what matters most to our local community.

The current Board have signed up for the pilot programme that runs until 28 February 2023. There is no compulsion for us to remain in the pilot and we can opt-out during the pilot if we wish to. During this time, there will be regular opportunities for General Managers and local Kindergarten Association Board Chairs and Members to engage about the evolution of the NZK Network Operating Model at a national level. Towards the end of 2022, we will start making decisions about the suitability of the NZK Network Operating Model. If it is adopted, and Associations do not wish to be part of a national NZK Network Operating Model approach but prefer to retain their own local Kindergarten Association Board, then that is fine. There is no requirement to be part of the Network Operating Model – it is simply an option available to NZK Members. It is an excellent option, and one that this Board has been dreaming of for many years. It is a chance to make real change and ensure sustainability for kindergarten moving forward.

Julie has been on the NZK Board, giving up a lot of her own time, to help them with this massive body of meaningful work. It has been fantastic having her part of this and we truly appreciate the time and energy that this has taken up. We are excited to see this pilot in action and get to be a part of real impactful change.

I touch wood as I type this....please can 2022 be a little less eventful before we all forget what 'normal' used to look and feel like. Thank you to all the OKA community for making the most of such a terrible and unsettling time.

Ngā mihi,

Rosalie Hyslop
OKA President



GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Tēnā koutou katoa

2021 – the year when kindness mattered the most. It has been a year remembered for opportunities, adapting to new ways of working and a wide range of challenges that felt never ending.

I am very proud of Oamaru Kindergarten Association (OKA) and everyone that continues year upon year to work tirelessly and collectively to grow and strengthen an Association that has been positively contributing to North Otago since 1950.



Ehara tōku toa i te toa takitahi

My strength is not due to me alone, but due to the strength of many

The work programme that was set for 2021 was once again wide and varied and like every year we worked to ensure we continued to provide the best learning opportunities for all tamariki who became part of the OKA whānau.

I would like to thank everyone who put so much into supporting the OKA community during 2021. What makes OKA great is the people – tamariki, whānau, board, kaiako, staff, volunteers, community, contractors, and suppliers. Without each and every one of you OKA would not be the place it is.

GROWING YOUNG LEARNERS

OKA's core business is to grow young learners, and this could not be done without strong teaching teams. Our amazing teaching teams continue to show resilience and determination as they adapted to daily changing requirements and through all of this, they provided quality programmes for tamariki both at the kindergarten and online. They were on the front line dealing with many ups and downs and through all of this they did the Association proud.

With the guidance of Sarah Bryce - Senior Teacher, the teachers continue to review, strengthen, and grow their individual and team practice with the end goal being to make a difference to the learning outcomes for tamariki.

Using technology to our advantage and the documents created by the Education Review Office (ERO) and the New Zealand Teaching Council of Aotearoa we have streamlined many processes to ensure we are using the most up to date documents and research. These documents support the ongoing growth of teaching and learning to ensure teams are constantly growing and providing rich programmes that are inclusive, relevant, and unique to their individual kindergartens, therefore providing the best learning outcomes for every child.

STRENGTHEN KINDERGARTEN

We investigated ways to support families within the Association and at the end of 2021 the following changes were made:

- Increasing the daily license number at Holmes Kindergarten from 30 to 39. This allowed more children to have access to quality kindergarten.
- Holmes and Maheno Kindergartens are now providing all year kindergarten and are only closed for 2 weeks during the Christmas/New Year break.

All of these changes continue to stem from the feedback received from the parent survey undertaken at the end of 2019.

The family hub opened in mid-2021 and has been a huge success. I wish to thank the community for their ongoing support of the hub. We must take the time to thank everyone who donated money, goods, supplies, and resources to support this initiative.

Our Whānau Support worker started in early 2021. Thanks to Waitaki District Council for allowing us the opportunity to pilot this idea. What a success this has been with Shirley working with up to 12 families at one time. Unfortunately, COVID-19 reduced the plans we had for running a wide range of groups, but these will be started in 2022 thanks to the donation from Waitaki Safer Community Trust to retain this much needed position.

DYNAMIC ORGANISATION

The OKA Board is made up of amazing strong members who continue to give up many hours of their family time to commit to OKA. I am proud of the way they continue to come to meetings and face challenges, question the norm, and try new things all for the greater good.

These members work at pace and expect full commitment not just from themselves but from me as well. So, during 2021, they spent time reviewing the board meeting times, day and structure to ensure they were working to the best of their potential. During 2022, the board is trialling something very different which allows them to focus on the work required and achieve 100% while doing it.

The Board sent a member to the National New Zealand Kindergarten (NZK) Hui in December, and from this, have agreed to join the NZK Pilot to establish the New Zealand Kindergartens Network Operating Model. This truly is about challenging the norm and ensuring the Association continues to strive towards meeting the ever-changing landscape of governance.

Despite the ongoing interruption caused by COVID-19 we have continued to focus on strengthening OKA. During the year we have provided leadership development sessions for our Head Teachers. As well, we introduced sessions for Aspiring Leaders. Each of these groups worked together as a cohort learning about leadership and management frameworks to help them excel in their role or potential roles.

Congratulations to Maheno Kindergarten who turned 5 in May 2021. What an achievement for this community! When we started this project over 5 years ago, we were unsure if it would be successful but with strong community support it truly has been. 2022 will see us focus on developing a new kindergarten building offering the community more spaces for children to attend and an area for the whānau to meet and connect. We will be planning the logistics for this as well as securing a large financial investment to ensure we offer the best possible facilities for our Maheno community. One that continues to grow and support the Association.

The NZK network continue to go from strength to strength. Managers from across 15 local Kindergarten Associations meet on a regular basis to share information, problem solve and debate new opportunities. This has provided me with an extended network and access to a wide range of information and knowledge.

My contribution to NZK has grown and in September 2021 I was re-elected to the NZK Board. I continue to learn and open my mind to a world outside of OKA. I have learnt so much and have had my thinking continually challenged on so many different levels. Once again, I would like to thank the OKA Board for supporting me to continue this journey – I could not have done it without you all. I would also like to thank Jill Bond – CEO of NZK for her ongoing guidance, wisdom, support, and patience. I have so much to learn from Jill and I am so grateful to Jill for taking the time to share her knowledge not just with me but with the OKA Board and Leaders as well.

NZK has changed under Jill's leadership, and I am excited to see where we go this year as we venture into the pilot. The pilot is about strengthening and growing governance, management, and teaching teams to be the best they can be, therefore ensuring the best learning outcomes for ngā tamariki.

We all know that there are always going to be challenges ahead as we create our new future within OKA and New Zealand especially as we learn to live with COVID. If we all work together as a collective for a common goal, we will ensure that we support and grow each other, and that OKA remains a strong and respected part of the North Otago Community that it serves.

*Titiro whakamuri
Kokiri whakamua*

Look back and reflect so you can move forward

Ngā mihi,
Julie Craig
General Manager

SENIOR TEACHER REPORT

Tēnā koutou

2021 was a year of continued growth and development across all Kindergartens, with our Kaiako continuing to demonstrate a strong commitment to providing high quality teaching and learning to support positive outcomes for tamariki.

Once again Kaiako showed commitment to supporting tamariki and whānau during Rāhui. This was done in a culturally responsive way reflecting how well kaiako know their whānau. Some kindergartens engaged with whānau using Educa providing ideas for learning experiences, videos of them telling stories/singing or made phone calls to check in on their well-being. This demonstrated to whānau that Kaiako genuinely cared for their them beyond just being there at kindergarten and led to a strengthening of relationships.

All Kaiako show a commitment to honouring Te tiriti o Waitangi. They give mana to Te Tiriti in varying ways depending on where they are at with their own understanding and commitment to ongoing learning in this space. The Māori values of manaakitanga, kotahitanga, whānaungatanga and aroha are consistently reflected in practice and used to assess tamariki learning. Kaiako are continuing to explore these further so that they expand on their understanding, and ensure they are reflected in practice.

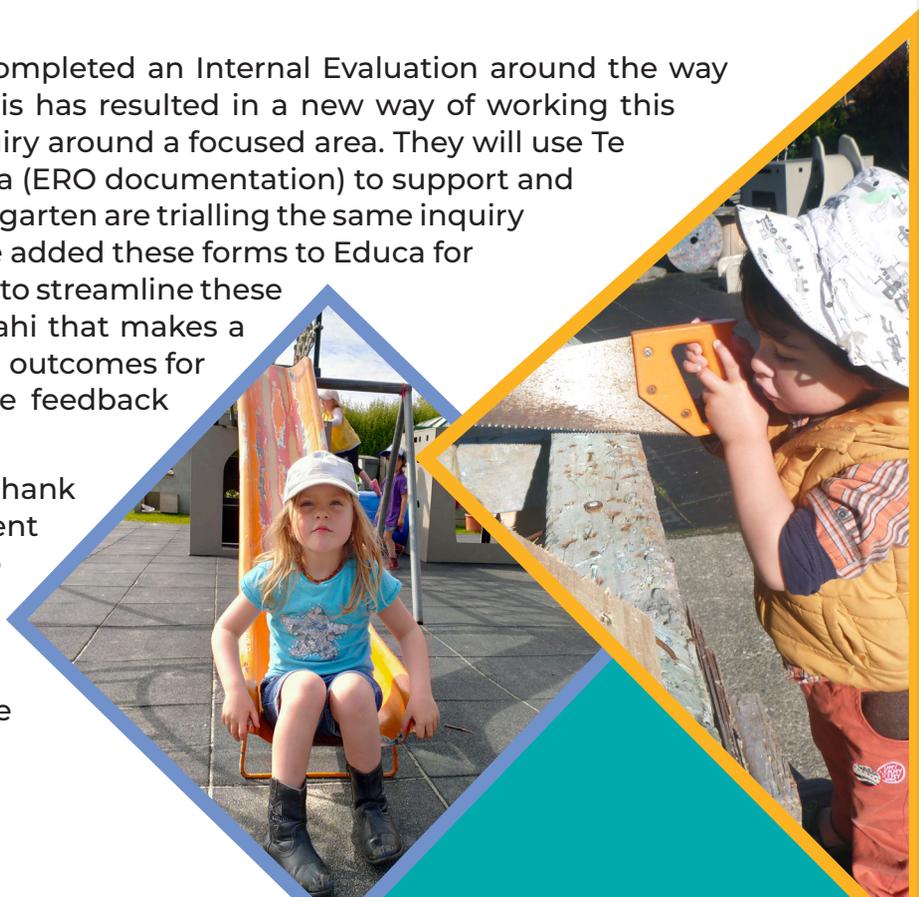
Supporting tamariki to grow social and emotional competence is an on-going focus in some kindergartens. Kaiako are experiencing an increase in the number of tamariki with complex needs who require additional support to be to be successful in the Kindergarten environment. This is requiring Kaiako to find new ways to interact and engage with the tamariki in learning experiences. He Māpuna te tamaiti, the new MOE resource to support Kaiako with tamariki social and emotional competence has been an invaluable resource for Kaiako to be more intentional around the teaching strategies that they use and the importance of being consistent as a team to enable success.

The formation of CSIK has enabled Kaiako to be involved in more regular hui with other local Kaiako. All Kaiako have been involved in a CSIK hui x 2 over the year. Due to Rāhui we haven't had all of the CSIK teams together yet. Head teachers have been involved in Head Teacher hui approximately x 1 a term (aside from during Rāhui) This is an opportunity to continue to grow their leadership alongside others.

In 2021 the Senior Teacher (ST) team completed an Internal Evaluation around the way we work and support kindergarten. This has resulted in a new way of working this year. Team's will now engage in an inquiry around a focused area. They will use Te Ara Poutama and Ngā Aronga Whai Hua (ERO documentation) to support and guide them in this work. Oamaru Kindergarten are trialling the same inquiry process to complete their PGC. We have added these forms to Educa for teams to have easy access. It is our hope to streamline these processes so Kaiako are engaged in mahi that makes a difference to their practice and learning outcomes for tamariki. To date we have had positive feedback from Kaiako.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank Julie and all Kaiako for their commitment to learning and growing practice to support all tamariki. Working with Kaiako who are open to learning makes my work very positive and enjoyable. as He waka eke noa – A canoe which we are all in with no exception.

Sarah Bryce
Senior Teacher



CASA NOVA HIGHLIGHTS

Kia ora Tatou

2021 was another unusual year for us all but that might just be the new norm from now on. This year Gillian Rossiter joined our teaching team. Gillian brought some amazing teaching strengths with her and throughout the year she has supported our teaching and learning of sustainability, mindfulness, music, and storytelling. Our wonderful Jan left after many years in the Teacher Aide role – this was a really big change for us as Jan had shown such responsibility for her role that then became ours to teach a new person. Erin McLeod joined us for a short while before Teresa Mavor stepped into this position. Teresa has been a wonderful addition to our team with her organisation and work ethic. Kelly and Sue have taken on further leadership roles within the team, which is a fabulous support to me, tamariki, whānau every single day – Casa Nova is truly blessed to have this high functioning and passionate team.

Learning for tamariki does look a little different with Covid and Kaiako are working hard to ensure the programme stays fresh, inviting, and exciting. With different level changes the number of resources available changed; excursions were halted or modified, kai served differently, no cooking with tamariki among other things. For us, not being able to get out and about so much with walks and bus trips, not cooking with small groups and losing our self-service at kai times, was challenging but we have adapted as our new norm. The resilience of our tamariki has been really highlighted and with many careful explanations, many can describe why and the importance of our wellbeing and safety.

Sadly, we lost our good e hoa Bluebell. We had Bluebell for about six years and she had supported the learning of many tamariki over this time. We used the opportunity of her death to grow nga tamariki knowledge of death, grief, and the funeral process. Bluebell has a grave at kindergarten that many visited for some time to korero to her and to continue the process of saying goodbye. A few months later we welcomed a new rabbit – Pango. Pango was six months old when he came to us so to be fair, he is not as easy going as Bluebell. Currently he is learning to hang out with us a little more enjoying getting fed and lots of pats.

This year we began using some funding received to grow our partnerships with Pasifika famili. Shirley and I held a successful Fono at the office which was a wonderful way for families to share what was important for them in their child's learning journey. Shirley and I offered our knowledge of Early Childhood Education – why and how we do things and what these might look like in ECE. We thank so much all the famili that attended and shared their feelings, beliefs, knowledge, and understandings. Out of this grew our celebrations of Pasifika language weeks, these were most exciting this year – our families embraced this chance to celebrate and share their culture within the kindergarten – dressing up in cultural clothes, singing, dancing, weaving, sharing kai and learning how to open and grate a coconut the traditional way; just some of the learning opportunities offered. This was very mana enhancing for our Pasifika tamariki and as a result we have seen their confidence in themselves and their culture grow within their learning. Our families too were super empowered and enjoyed sharing their expertise. Our next step is to make 2022 even better!

Our diversity is still one of the unique aspects of our Kindergarten – we celebrate this and each year our learning as teachers grows in so many different ways, in turn supporting our tamariki to learn in ways that is meaningful to them. We work hard to grow learning partnerships with tamariki, their whānau and other agencies and as a result we have very thoughtful and reciprocal relationships that are focussed on tamariki growth, manaakitanga and empowerment. A big thanks to my team, Julie, Shona, Sarah B, Shirley, Sali, the Board, our early intervention and speech language team and all the others that ensure we continue to grow and have a positive impact on our learning community.

Sarah Newlands

Head Teacher, Casa Nova Kindergarten

EDNA MCCULLOCH HIGHLIGHTS

Kia ora, Malo e lelei, Sveiki, Nī hāo, Āyubōvan, Salamat pagi, and welcome to Edna McCulloch's report for the AGM 2022, I am extremely proud to bring you my first report as Head Teacher at Edna McCulloch Kindergarten.

2021 brought a new range of challenges across Aotearoa/New Zealand once again with Covid, and there was the inevitable flow-on effect to our learning environments. Throughout these changes Edna McCulloch Kindergarten Kaiako worked hard to find ways to ensure that openness was at the forefront of communication with whānau.

Throughout 2021, Kaiako redesigned the learning environment to ensure that all parts of the curriculum are accessible for all tamariki. Kaiako completed an emergent review on literacy within the kindergarten. Through this review we worked to make literacy more visible, and it gave the children more opportunities to revisit favourite books with special kete pukapuka. The dramatic play area was also redesigned with new bedding covers, wall design, real teacups and plates, and a soft warm paint colour that has given it a real 'homely' feel. The large planter boxes were moved into the environment and the tamariki have embraced the opportunity to grow their own fruit and vegetables. Children took home seeds to grow and then brought them back to the kindergarten as seedlings to plant and care for. They planted sunflowers and a wildflower mix and are now watching the birds taking the seeds from the sunflowers. It was rewarding for Kaiako to hear from parents that the children had been talking about their plants/vegetables at home and how they'd been caring for them. The pride on their faces when they were able to take home the vegetables, they grew to share with their whānau was wonderful!

Our mindfulness programme continues to guide our children's ability to be fully present, aware of where they are and what they're doing, and not being overly reactive or overwhelmed by what's going on around them. Each morning the children have the opportunity to take part in the session supporting their body and mind for their day of learning and exploration, and we've noticed the difference this makes to the tone of the day. Our community of learners is currently a younger group of children. This comes with rewards and challenges. Kaiako have been developing a learning environment that supports a wide range of learning opportunities for all tamariki, to extend our creative thinkers, provide an environment where children can take active risks and a place where our four year old boys (in particular) have the space for exploration and to channel and expend their energy. The children have also embraced opportunities to grow as leaders, and as tuakana within the kindergarten. We welcomed Liz who joined the teaching team for term four as Sacha went on maternity leave and we were excited with the safe arrival of her new baby boy Odin in November. Liz now has a permanent teaching position within the Oamaru Kindergarten Association at Glen Warren Kindergarten, and we wish her all the best in her new role. In January 2022 we have welcomed Michelle, who will be teaching with us until November.

With our younger learners comes the need to take more time to support individual well-being, self-help skills and toileting. Having extra support ensures that Kaiako are able to provide sustained, quality interactions which are child-led. The Edna McCulloch Kindergarten curriculum priorities continue to be at the forefront of everything we do; Whānaungatanga/Relationships, Māia/Confidence and Manaakitanga/Respect. The kindergarten Kaiako are taking the priority of Manaakitanga/Respect into the group learning priority this year. Role modelling respectful relationships, interactions and conversations is our focus as we support our tamariki to learn with and alongside each other in generous, open, respectful ways of being. Our moemoea is reflective of our curriculum priorities ... "At Edna McCulloch Kindergarten we create a safe secure environment where children learn through fun and laughter, and whānau feel welcome and accepted".

I would like to thank the incredible Kaiako who have welcomed me into Edna McCulloch Kindergarten with such kindness and respect. Their support has been instrumental. Joy, Belinda, Kendall, and Sacha, you have made my transition into Edna McCulloch an exciting and rewarding experience. Thank you to our fundraising committee whose hard work ensures Edna McCulloch continues to expand the learning opportunities for tamariki through the extra resources we've been able to purchase. To our Senior Teacher Sarah, thank you very much for your guidance and support and for provoking our thinking and stimulating our inquiries.

To the Board who put countless hours into ensuring the Oamaru Kindergarten Association provides equitable opportunities for all children in North Otago to attend quality kindergarten learning environments. To Shona, thank you for your support within the kindergarten and all the administration work you complete for us; it makes a big difference to us! To Julie, thank you for your ongoing dedication to all the tamariki, whānau and Kaiako within the Kindergarten Association. The endless hours you give don't go unnoticed and your commitment to us all is invaluable.

Finally, I would like to thank the whānau at Edna McCulloch Kindergarten for sharing with me their incredible, amazing, and respectful tamariki. Every day they teach me something new! They share their ideas and thoughts; they laugh and have fun with me and embrace me with their kindness. They remind me that every day I am supporting them to develop as self-directed learners who will always reach for the stars!!

Lenore Fraser

Head Teacher, Edna McCulloch Kindergarten

GLEN WARREN TE ANA A RAKI HIGHLIGHTS

2021 was another wonderful year for our Kindergarten despite some more disruptions due to Covid-19. We started off the year strong with enthusiasm and passion, a healthy roll and wait list.

We were fortunate to welcome Ofa to our team as support in a teacher aide position, her contribution to supporting not only our program, and additional learners but our connection to Pasifika culture specifically Tongan has been invaluable to us and our community.

As a team we came together and found a moemoeā which we felt deeply represented us – with whānaungatanga at the heart of all we do we felt the whakatauki; Ko koe ki tēnā, ko ahau ki tēnei kiwai o te kete. You at that, and I at this handle of the kete. By working together, we will move forward and represent our Kindergarten essence; we hold handles of the kete with each other, our tamariki, their whānau they each hold handles together also, which is how we move forward and provide the best learning outcomes for each tamaiti in our place.

For Matariki – our biggest event of our calendar we invited our whānau to not only join us for shared kai at an evening event; but to use this time to share their aspirations for their tamariki which we used to form our curriculum priorities for the next year. In the spirit of our moemoeā it was a collaborative process that took time and a shared space.

Our internal evaluation saw us start unpacking and strengthening our culture of mākohe – compassion, kindness, and consideration, which saw us working closely with individuals and collectively as a group to support mindfulness and social and emotional learning over the year. We adopted two rabbits that required a rehoming and they have found themselves adored and doted on by our tamariki.

At the end of May, a treasured Kaiako who had her place at the kindergarten from when it opened embarked on the next chapter of her journey – Mel took the opportunity to further stretch her leadership skills and accepted a Head Teacher position at Holmes Kindergarten. It was an emotional farewell laced with excitement and probably a few nerves; a transition for Glen Warren. Fortunately, Rebecca who had completed a placement as a student with us in January completed her study and accepted the role making the transition a rather smooth one.

Te Pākahi o Maru generously allowed us a further six metres of their playground for our own. An exciting time as they brought in machinery and took out the old fence to move it back. We are so grateful for the space this provided us which meant the swings that were brought through our fundraising committee had a place to go.

With some time in August spent in rahui again for Covid-19 we continued to deliver our programme in different ways such as online. The resilience and excitement our tamariki demonstrated when they returned remind us of the connection they hold to their Kindergarten.

November saw us farewell another treasured Kaiako as Kate made the decision to take a break from teaching. We are ever so grateful to all the relievers that supported our programme through to the end of the year – you are each valued contributors with your special ability to step in and support us in our ways.

I would like to extend warm gratitude and thank you to all stakeholders and contributors in Glen Warren Te Ana a Raki Kindergartens community; with special mention to our fundraising committee, our Board, and our treasured General manager Julie – thank you.

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi. Engari, he toa takitini. Success is not the work of one but the work of many.

Karen Hailes

Head Teacher, Glen Warren Te Ana A Raki Kindergarten

HOLMES HIGHLIGHTS

Kia ora, Malo, Talofa, Nǐ hǎo, warm greetings to you all from Holmes Kindergarten,

Well, what a year it has been. In May Holmes Kindergarten said farewell to Lenore as she was given the opportunity to be the new Head Teacher at Edna McCulloch Kindergarten. I then had the honour of joining Holmes Kindergarten as Head Teacher and this is where the busy journey then begins.

In 2019 Oamaru Kindergarten Association undertook an Association-wide survey. Through this process it was decided to change our licence to become an all year kindergarten to provide more opportunity for tamariki to access kindergarten. This means less paperwork and less disruption to the routines for our community as whānau have the option to opt in or out of term breaks once, rather than every term. For Kaiako this change means that we can choose when to take our annual leave during the year, this also allows us to have consistency of Kaiako. Around 90% of our Holmes community are utilising our all year model.

Thank you to the Oamaru Licencing Trust (Brydone Hotel) food donation scheme that provides healthy morning kai for our tamariki five days a week, this includes a selection of fruit, bread, wraps, spreads, cheese, and other baking supplies. With the appointment of our new fulltime Kaiako Sam we have been able to increase our roll providing opportunity for existing tamariki to increase their attendance and to say kia ora to new whānau. With five teachers this also provided us with the opportunity to open both sides of the playground all day.

With our new team, it was a timely opportunity to revisit our team Moemoea and curriculum priorities. As a team we unpacked what was most important to us and our kindergarten, and we developed this statement...

Hei poipoi i te ara o te maatauranga ma te tautoko, te whakaute, te ngakau nui, me te ngahau.

To foster the pathway of knowledge by being supportive, respectful, enthusiastic, and having fun.

Our Moemoea then supports our learning priorities which we consulted with our whānau to see what was most important for there Tamaiti. These are Manaakitanga/ caring/nurturing and loving. Whānaungatanga/ relationships and connectiveness. Māia/confidence and competence and lastly Kotahitanga/ unity and collaboration. We are very excited to have developed these and look forward to the journey they will take us on. Each week Kaiako work collaboratively to post Tamariki Mahi on Educa. This is an overview of tamariki emerging interest and fun they have enjoyed over the week.

To Karen H Head Kaiako of Glen Warren, thank you for being an amazing mentor and sounding post. Thank you to the other Head Teachers for your support, this has been a big year for the team and we appreciate your wisdom. A thank you to my Kaiako team, Sue, Fiona, Sam, and Katalina. I am looking forward to see where our journey takes us as we continue to grow and strengthen our teaching practice to ensure the best learning outcomes for tamariki at Holmes Kindergarten. Thank you Sarah Bryce for her support and commitment to our Kaiako team. Thank you to the Board, for their ongoing support, dedication, and commitment to the tamariki of North Otago. Shirley, thank you for your support in the Family Hub, you provide opportunities for whānau to come and seek advice and guidance. Thank you to our amazing relievers, we appreciate your support and dedication. Thank you to our Fundraising team, it has been a hard year for fundraising, however with your commitment we have been able to provide extra resources for tamariki to extend their learning opportunities.

Finally, thank you Julie our General Manager for your ongoing support and dedication to the tamariki and Kaiako of Holmes and her four sister kindergartens. Your encouragement, guidance, and support this year has been very much appreciated.

Mel Read

Head Teacher, Holmes Kindergarten

MAHENO HIGHLIGHTS

Yet another Covid influenced year. It is an ongoing challenge to keep things as close to “normal” as we can, and to quickly click into supporting children’s learning at home when required. A big thank you to the Maheno Teaching Team for continuing to be flexible and to “roll with the punches”. We never stop learning but sometimes wish things would remain stable for a while

It was a soggy end to 2021 and the start of 2022. The outdoors may resemble a jungle in time! However, the tamariki love playing out in the ua and the rainwear that we purchased with the Network Waitaki Grant has proven invaluable. Our orchard flooded frequently over winter, so we have decided to prune and dig out nga rākau whai hua this winter. Those fruit trees that are still healthy we will plant into large grow bags to keep them out of the ground and hopefully prevent flooded roots. This will be a wonderful project for Kaiako and tamariki this winter and we will purchase a few new trees as well. This will support our journey towards the Silver Enviroschools’ level.

Our heihei have done well and are very at home. In fact, at times, keeping them in their own “play area” is tricky. As soon as anyone arrives in the morning they just fly over the fence and walk up to the door. They are happy to forage in amongst playing tamariki and have to be bribed back into their own area with yummy treats.

Our noke farm is spectacular on the “worm wees” front. Whānau gardens are growing well thanks to the outputs from our wriggly friends. Tamariki have raised enough money from selling bottles of this liquid gold to buy their choice of toys- tractors and various attachments of course!

Sport Otago came up to us for some sessions of physical activity and movement games with our tamariki. This was a fabulous learning opportunity for both the tamariki and Kaiako. We have incorporated what we learnt about extending tamariki learning through physical mahi into planning for outdoor learning.

We were also visited by Sascha Morriss from Waitaki Geopark. She told us all about the dinosaurs that lived in Te Waipounamu. Tamariki were able to see a physical representation of the actual size of a plesiosaur. Dinosaurs are big, very big- and the tamariki loved it!

We ended 2021 with a dress-up day. This was a lot of fun. It is amazing how “in character” children can be when they dress up!

Kaiako learning last year revolved around our how well we incorporated our learning priorities of manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga into our assessment of children’s learning progression.

By focusing on this, the team prioritised weaving respect for Te Tiriti ō Waitangi throughout our programme. We developed knowledge about the stories of Atua and our local area and grew our skills in Te Reo. Kaiako also found that we focused our discussions around children’s learning at each and every team meeting and we thought more deeply about children’s learning progression and our Priorities for Learning. From this review we decided that we would add tuakana-teina to our learning priorities. This way of teaching and learning is an important part of Te Ao Māori. An older or more expert child helps and guides a younger or less expert child, (originally a younger sibling of the same gender). This learning also recognises “ako” where the tuakana-teina roles may be reversed at any time.

Maheno Kindergarten enjoys fabulous support from our whānau and our adaptable and inventive Fundraising Committee. Thank you all so very, very much!

Thank you again to Julie for her amazing ongoing support. Many thanks also to the Board for supporting us in our journey for a new kindergarten in Maheno. This will be a wonderful addition to our local community and help to cater for the population growth in Maheno and surrounding areas.

Ngā mihi nui,

Karen McCutcheon

Head Teacher, Maheno Kindergarten

ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the OKA Family Hub

One of the most valuable assets to the OKA suite of offices at 209-211 Thames Street was opened in June 2021. The Family Hub, a space where parents can pop in with their children, relax and enjoy the facilities including tea and coffee making ingredients, a changing room and books for children, stemmed from OKA General Manager Julie Craig and an idea that she had several years ago.



“Everyone in the community is welcome to enjoy the Family Hub which is run by whānau support person Shirley McVie, who is available to support those families awho are enrolled at one of our OKA kindergartens or are a prospective enrolment.

According to Julie Craig, the Family Hub is a way of giving back to the community.

“We are a non-profit organisation and the easy, street-level access of the Family Hub and friendly welcome makes it an ideal place to catch up and give back to those who support us,” she said.



Shirley, Family Support Co-Ordinator

Heirloom Tapestry returns to original custodians

An original wall hanging commissioned in 1978 from the North Otago Embroiderers' Guild and designed to hang at Edna McCulloch Kindergarten has “come home” to its original custodians, Oamaru Kindergarten Association.

The large panel, which originally hung on a piece of dressed wood, was “rediscovered” when research for the OKA Centennial Book was being undertaken at the Waitaki Museum.

Chloe Searle, Director Waitaki Museum and Archives and Forester Gallery, said the panel had been in storage at the Museum for a number of years since the original Edna McCulloch site was redeveloped. She subsequently offered it back to OKA, an offer General Manager Julie Craig was very pleased to accept.

Written on the back of the panel is the inscription: “Presented to the Edna McCulloch Kindergarten

by the North Otago Embroiderers' Guild, April 1978.” The panel features a number of colourful animals and is now proudly displayed at the OKA Thames Street offices.



INITIATIVES

Van transport well supported by OKA families

In June 2020, OKA welcomed our very own eight-seater van, designed to collect children from their homes and drop them at kindergarten.

The van was donated by the Rotary Club of Oamaru, using some of the profits from their annual Bookarama, has proved to be an integral part of OKA helping parents and caregivers overcome barriers to education, such as getting

children to and from OKA kindergartens.

OKA general manager Julie Craig said the van has been well supported by a wide range of families for all five kindergartens.

“The ongoing support of the Rotary Club of Oamaru is much appreciated.”



OKA Christmas window sparkles

Christmas 2021 came a little early at the OKA offices in Thames Street when local artist Luzette Crossan arrived with a special design in mind for the front windows of the new offices.

Located on street level, the frontage glass panels provided an ideal palette for Luzette who portrayed a gingerbread house and lots of Christmasy flourishes including candy canes, holly berries and leaves and the OKA “hands” logo.

The windows certainly created a lot of interest with many parents and caregivers also taking an opportunity to take a photo or two with the gingerbread house in the background.





AGM 2022



AGM AGENDA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA to be held at BRYDONE HOTEL, WEAR STREET, OAMARU

Thursday the 12th May 2022 at 5.00pm.

Opening Karakia and Waiata.

Chairperson - Welcome and Opening

Introductions of Board

Apologies

Minutes of the 2021 Board AGM held on the 06th May 2021

CORRESPONDENCE

Inwards: Audit Professionals – Audit of 2021 Financial Statements.

REPORTS

- Receipt and consideration of the Annual Reports for 2021
- Receipt and consideration of the Audited Annual Financial Accounts for the year ended 2021

ELECTIONS

Election of Board Members to fill vacant Board positions.

Election of Individual Kindergarten Fundraising Teams:

- Casa Nova Kindergarten
- Edna McCulloch Kindergarten
- Glen Warren – Te Ana a Raki Kindergarten
- Holmes Kindergarten
- Maheno Kindergarten

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Acknowledging Association Achievements for 2021

CLOSE OF MEETING

Closing Karakia and Waiata

MINUTES OF THE OKA AGM 2021

HELD: 06th May 2021 at the Brydone Hotel, Wear Street, Oamaru

The meeting was opened with a Karakia and Waiata at 5.35 pm

The President welcomed everyone to the 2021 Annual General Meeting and acknowledged how nice it was to be meeting face to face compared to this this last year when the meeting was undertaken by zoom.

Present:

Board: Rosalie Hyslop (President), Stacey Hayes, Jo Wilson, Jillian Henderson, Sarah Cromwell, Sarah Maindonald and Mel Read (Board Member - Teaching & Learning).

OKA Staff: Julie Craig (General Manager), Sarah Newlands, Lenore Fraser, Karen Hailes, Karen McCutcheon, Sarah Gordon, Shona Familton, Kate Preston, Shannon McDonald, Mel Haywood, Karen Brown, Euan Scrivener, Tessa Fifita, Sue McCone, Sacha Cogle, Kendall Smith, Joy Sheehan, Sonya Williams, Di McLeod, Belinda Smith, Gillian Rossiter, Kelly Jones, Sali Gough and Robyn Houliston.

Parents: Carolyn Webster, Nimo Nukulasi, Zena Kumer and Iris Wong

Community: Bob Houliston and Christy Rolfe.

Apologies: Letty Divers (Life Member), Fiona Hewett, Sarah Hunter, Katalina Veituna, Chrissy Townsend, Jan Bell and Sue Mareta-Ria.

Hayes / Henderson

Carried

Annual Meeting Procedures:

The President referred all in attendance to the Oamaru Kindergarten Association Constitution for voting eligibility and procedure for the 2021 AGM.

Minutes:

Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting (08.04.2020) having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed with the following change:

Stacey Hayes moved that nominations listed above be elected as the Kindergarten Fundraising Teams for 2020 not 2019 as detailed in the minutes.

Henderson / Cromwell

Carried

Correspondence

Inward:

Audit Professionals – Audit of 2020 Financial Statements.

It was noted that the date on the letter was 30.04.2020 so Audit Professionals will be asked to provide an updated letter with the correct date of 30.04.2021.

Jill Henderson moved that the inwards correspondence be accepted as being read.

Wilson / Maindonald

Carried

Annual Reports for 2020

The Annual Reports for 2020 have been circulated to members for receipt and consideration. The President spoke to her report then invited the General Manager and Head Teachers to speak to their reports.

Presidents Report: Rosalie Hyslop.

General Manager's Report: Julie Craig.

Kindergarten Highlights: Casa Nova Kindergarten – Sarah Newlands, Head Teacher.

Edna McCulloch Kindergarten – Sarah Gordon, Head Teacher.

Glen Warren Kindergarten – Karen Hailes, Head Teacher.

Holmes Kindergarten – Lenore Fraser, Head Teacher.

Maheno Kindergarten – Karen McCutcheon, Head Teacher.

Jill Henderson moved that the Oamaru Kindergarten Association Annual Reports for 2020 be received.

Henderson / Hayes

Carried

Financial Report:

The Audited Annual Financial Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 were presented and time for discussion was provided.

Stacey Hayes moved that the Oamaru Kindergarten Association Audited Annual Financial Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 be taken as read and confirmed.

Hayes / Wilson

Carried

Elections

Board Elections

Nominations were received as per clause 4 of the Oamaru Kindergarten Association Constitution:

Sarah Cromwell	Nominated by:	Antony Cromwell
	Seconded by:	Rosalie Hyslop
Sarah Maindonald	Nominated by:	Sarah Cromwell
	Seconded by:	Rosalie Hyslop

As per the OKA Constitution Clause 4 the normal process would be to elect Board Members by ballot, appointing scrutineers etc. In this case, however, there were more vacancies than nominations and everyone at the meeting agreed that voting could occur by the passing of a motion.

Jill Henderson then moved that persons nominated above be elected as Board Members of the Oamaru Kindergarten Association.

Henderson / Hayes

Carried

Announcement of the Elected Teacher Representative

Nomination and Election of the Teacher Representative has been undertaken as per clause 4.0 of the Oamaru Kindergarten Association Constitution and Rules.

It was announced to the meeting that Mel Read Teacher at Glen Warren Kindergarten was elected as Board Member – Teaching and Learning to the Board.

Election of Individual Kindergarten Fundraising Teams for 2021:

Casa Nova Kindergarten Fundraising Team Nominations

Erui Timba Jane Taafaki Jess Devlin Stacey Curry Teria Hendry

Edna McCulloch Kindergarten Fundraising Team Nominations

Ashlee Hampton Claire Briscoe Jodi Trainor Sally Kirkmoe
Carolyn Webster Jo Smith Louisa Beaumont

Glen Warren – Te Ana a Raki Kindergarten Fundraising Team Nominations

Adele Michie Kim Hill Nora Masila Shannon Armstrong
Lydia Quested Melissa Milmine Riana Latu Tangiwai Shaw

Holmes Kindergarten Fundraising Team Nominations

Abby Bowman Brooke Cleaver Claire Muir Lisa Mathieson Shelley Moore
Aly Gilmour

Maheno Kindergarten Fundraising Team Nominations

Ashleigh Halkett Sarah Phillips Simone McCone Jannine Hore-Newlands

As per the Oamaru Kindergarten Association's Constitution Clause 5.21 each Kindergarten Fundraising Team are to provide the Association with a list of nominees for its local Kindergarten Fundraising Teams. Election of officers will take place at the first committee meeting following the AGM.

Sarah Cromwell moved that nominations listed above be elected as the Kindergarten Fundraising Teams for 2021.

Cromwell / Maindonald

Carried

General Business:

Acknowledging Association Achievements for 2020

- Lenore Fraser for long service to the Association – 10 years in January 2021.
- Jo Wilson Board Member for service to the Board since June 2018.
- Joy Angus and Christine Voyce for supporting the children on the van.
- Sarah Gordon for service to the Association as she is leaving on the 21.05.2021 to take up a role at the Ministry of Education.

Volunteer Award

This is an award which provides an opportunity to acknowledge the work of volunteers within the association and kindergarten communities.

Julie Craig was invited to speak about the recipient of this award – Bob Houliston. Bob is a great supporter and volunteers at all Kindergartens and the Association Office.

A gift and flowers were presented to Bob and his wife Robyn.

Close of Meeting

Rosalie Hyslop as President thanked everyone for attending the AGM and the meeting was closed with a Karakia and Waiata at 6.25pm.

MEETING CLOSED: 6.25pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS 2022



Position – Board Member

Name: Rosalie Hyslop

Nominated by – Association Member: Sarah Cromwell

Seconded by – Board Member: Jill Henderson

Elected - 2014, 2015, 2018 & 2020



Position – Board Member

Name: Jillian Henderson

Nominated by – Association Member: Lisa Winders

Seconded by – Board Member: Rosalie Hyslop

Elected - 2017, 2018 & 2020



Position – Board Member

Name: Stacy Hayes

Nominated by – Association Member: Rosalie Hyslop

Seconded by – Board Member: Jill Henderson

Elected - 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018 & 2020



Position – Board Member

Name: Christy Townsend

Nominated by – Association Member: Rosalie Hyslop

Seconded by – Board Member: Jill Henderson

Elected - Co-opted 2021

ELECTIONS OF FUNDRAISING TEAMS 2022



Casa Nova Kindergarten

Jackie Wilson
Jessica Devlin
Hayley Gray
Teria Hendry



Edna McCulloch Kindergarten

Aly Gilmour
Carolyn Webster
Erika Bishop
Rachel Campbell

Shakilah Saleh
Sally Kirkmoe



Glen Warren Kindergarten

Kim Hill
Melissa Milmine
Ryan McGeown
Shannon Armstrong

Tangiwai Shaw



Holmes Kindergarten

Abbey Robinson
Anna Bole
Fiona Dunnett
Lauren Hewett

Shelley Edgar
Justine Robins
Yvette Coulman



Maheno Kindergarten

Abby Bowman
Ashleigh Halkett
Casey Cleaver
Katie Seddon

Sarah Phillips
Simone McCone



“What happens in kindergarten matters for a lifetime!”



OUR KINDERGARTENS



Casa Nova Kindergarten

Address: 2 Raglan Street, Oamaru

Phone: (03) 434 2422 ext 1

Email: casan@oamarukindergarten.co.nz



Edna McCulloch Kindergarten

Address: 12 Arun Street, Oamaru

Phone: (03) 434 2422 ext 2

Email: ednam@oamarukindergarten.co.nz



Glen Warren Te Ana a Raki Kindergarten

Address: 38a Torridge Street, Oamaru

Phone: (03) 434 2422 ext 3

Email: glenw@oamarukindergarten.co.nz



Holmes Kindergarten

Address: 34a Stuart Street, Oamaru

Phone: (03) 434 2422 ext 4

Email: holmes@oamarukindergarten.co.nz



Maheno Kindergarten

Address: 13 Gifford Street, Maheno, Oamaru

Phone: (03) 434 2422 ext 5

Email: maheno@oamarukindergarten.co.nz

Oamaru Kindergarten Association

**209-211 Thames Street, Oamaru
(03) 434 2422**

www.oamarukindergarten.co.nz

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