Casa Nova Kindergarten Newsletter Term 2 2026

Kia Ora, Mālō e lelei, Talofa, Āynhōvan,
Namaste, Bula, Kia orana, Kumusta, Hello and welcome!

Welcome to our termly newsletter! It sure has been a busy term!

Some of our ako this term.... This term we celebrated NZSL week throughout our environment and during our whāriki rituals we enjoyed learning, revisiting and sharing our knowledge of sign language. NZSL is an official language of of Aotearoa and something that we love to use throughout our programme all of the time.

Recently, we added a wonderful collection of Barbie dolls and accessories to our environment, and the engagement from ngā tamariki has been incredible! The play has been rich, sustained, and full of meaningful learning opportunities. Through this imaginative and real-life play, tamariki have been developing important social and emotional skills such as collaboration, communication, turn taking, sharing, negotiating, and problem solving. We have observed tamariki working together to create storylines, assign roles, care for the dolls, build homes and spaces, and navigate friendships and family dynamics through play.

This type of dramatic play also supports language development, creativity, empathy, and confidence as tamariki express their ideas, explore different perspectives, and make sense of the world around them. It has been wonderful to see the deep connections, teamwork, and imagination flourishing each day through something as simple and joyful as playing together.

Recently you may have notice a new face at kindy.

Met Twin she is a one of our lovely Kindy Mum's who has filled in the role of teacher aide and cook, while Teressa takes some time to spend with family. Please make your self know and introduce yourself to Twin. Ngā tamariki and Kaiako have been enjoying tasting some authentic Filipino cooking.

Pick-Up Times - We have noticed an increasing number of tamariki being picked up late on a regular basis. This means we are not always able to adhere to our operating licence requirements, which may have implications with the Ministry of Education. Late pick-ups can also be unsettling for your child and place additional pressure on kaiako, particularly as this time is set aside for meetings and essential administration. We have a limited window to complete a significant amount of work, which can otherwise extend into our own family time. We do understand that occasional delays can happen, such as traffic, appointments, or unexpected situations. If this occurs, please call or send us a message to let us know you are running late.

From Term 2 we will be implementing our fees procedure, and a late fee will be applied. Please know this is not something we wish to enforce, but the ongoing impact on both tamariki and kaiako is becoming increasingly challenging. We appreciate your understanding and support with this. Attached is a letter from our General Manager whow is supporting us with this.

Reminders for Term 2:

REMINDER!

- Remember with the colder weather please have the appropriate clothing available in your child's kindy bag. Eg warm hat, jacket, socks and change of clothes.
- Thanks for all the morning tea donations and help with washing, please see the roster for your turn.
- If your child is unwell, including coughs and runny noses please keep them at home to avoid the spread of illness. Runny green noses and coughs are a concern at present.
- If your child is away please let us know, we will use their space. A text is great.
- ***Our session times are 8.45 am—2.45 pm. Thank you for respecting these.***

One of our Mum's requested some of our recipes that we have for kindy kai– Here is a firm favourite.

Easy BBQ Sauce Pulled Pork

Delicious and simple, only a few ingredients, the slow cooker does the work for you

PREP TIME 20 minutes

COOK TIME 10 hours

TOTAL TIME 10 hours 20 minutes

Ingredients

- 1.5-2kg Pork Shoulder Roast, bone in or out
- 250-350 ml BBQ Sauce
- 1-2 Onion, finely diced
- 2-3 cloves Garlic, finely diced
- Salt & Pepper

Instructions

1. In your slow cooker place the diced onion and garlic in the base
2. Add the pork shoulder and season well with salt & pepper.
3. Add the bbq sauce and spread over the whole pork shoulder
4. Close the lid and cook on low for 8 hours
5. Carefully remove the pork from the cooking liquid onto a large plate
6. Remove any bones and fat from the pork
7. The pork is done when it all falls apart easily between two forks
8. At this stage slice the pork into fist sized pieces and return to the slow cooker with cooking liquid for upto a further two hours
9. Again test the pork, it should be so tender it shreds apart easily with two forks
10. Remove from the cooking liquid and completely shred
11. You can use it straight away, or as it makes so much you can freeze portions for other meals in ziplock bags
12. To make sliders, to your buns add mayo, bbq sauce, delicious coleslaw, fresh warm pulled pork, serve and enjoy!

Internal Evaluation

- The Hill

We are currently investigating ways to sustain our wonderful hill. Our tamariki love sliding down this on their kumu or on the skateboard unfortunately this is eroding the hill away. We are thinking of planting grasses but are seeking any other wonderful ideas. Please share if you have any.

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Kia ora Parents and Whānau.

LATE PICK UPS

We would like to remind all families of the importance of collecting children promptly at the end of their scheduled session time.

Collection Expectations

- Late collection can place the kindergarten in breach of Ministry of Education licensing requirements.
- Children may only attend during our licensed hours and their agreed enrolment timetable.
- It also affects staffing and operational arrangements at the end of the day.

We understand that unforeseen circumstances can occasionally arise. In the first instance, if a child is collected late, the Head Teacher will discuss the situation with the whānau and work together to establish a plan to help prevent it from happening again.

Repeated Late Pick-Ups

Where late collection occurs repeatedly, a late pick-up fee may be charged in accordance with our Fees Procedure. The fee is $10.00 per 15 minutes after the end of the session. Any waiver of this fee is at the discretion of the General Manager.

We appreciate your support in ensuring children are collected on time and thank you for helping us maintain a safe and compliant environment for all tamariki and staff.

Kā mihi,

Julie Craig
General Manager

OUR KINDERGARTENS

CASA NOVA | EDNA MCCULLOCH | GLEN WARREN | HOLMES | MAHENO

What happens in kindergarten matters for a lifetime!

Fundraising

The team is still to meet to organise a fundraiser but with our next fundraiser we hope to purchase a new swing and plants for our hill.