

Matariki Ball



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Country Kidz



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July/August, 2023

Kia ora whānau

It's the start of a busy new term as we celebrate Matariki with a trio of events to welcome in the new year and say goodbye and thanks to the year that has been. Thank you to everyone that helped make our full Centre Matariki Planting morning with Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board, Greening Taupō, and Miraka a great event. It was an icy cold day and there was much planting and mulching that was done for our wider community—it is so wonderful to be involved and help at such important community events. Our Matariki DISCO last night was a huge success and what a wonderful evening we had dancing, eating, and catching up with one another. It was lovely to see everyone dance the evening away with us to some groovy beats, beautiful kai, and spot prizes galore! Our last Matariki event for this year is the 4 Year Old sleepover which has been moved to 4 August—same time, same place, same fun planned!

Manaakitanga is our current term focus, which flows nicely on from all the mahi we have been seeing over the last year. Manaakitanga provides huge scope for broadening our understanding of RESPECT across all spectrums, certainly a noun with huge meaning—

Kindness, generosity, support, hospitality through the processing of caring for others

This is something that aligns beautifully with our learning community philosophy and we see growing in our tamariki as they understand the importance of it in their play and exploration both socially and emotionally.

We have seen exceptional needs to increase hours and days and have worked really hard to make this work for all with the teaching team we have and the number of hours in our day! We are now at capacity so if you would like to extend your tamariki days or hours for the future please let us know your needs now so we can add them to the wait list for each day. This will help ensure we continue to meet all the needs of our whānau as much as possible into the future.

We continue to see a lot of Winter illnesses in tamariki and thank our whānau for remaining home when their tamariki are unwell—this really helps to prevent viral infections from taking hold on all our learning community, including kaiako.

Ngati Tūwharetoa Taiopenga is not too far away (12th September), we will have all our waiata in books by the sign-in sheets for our whānau to take home next wiki and will also provide Youtube clips on Storypark so our tamariki can practice at home with whānau. We are excited to have our tamariki participate and be able to attend again this year—more details to come, but please put the 12th September in your calendars!

Here's to another month full of exploration, intrigue, and wonderings as we see through the last of the Winter cold and look forward to Kōanga. Thank you once again from our teaching team to your whānau for all the support during this busy and illness filled season—bring on the blue skies and sunshine!

We say 'farewell' to some of our tamariki this month who are about to start their primary school learning journey,



Woody Walker
Charlie Urbahn

Haere mai, welcome to our new Country Kidz friend,

Mahinaarangi Reihana-Timoti

We are looking forward to getting to know you and your whānau!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Birthday honours for July and August include:

Wishing all our whānau and community that also celebrated a birthday this month the warmest of wishes

Baiden Bicknell, Toby Bicknell,
Charlie Urbahn, Woody Walker,
Theo Finlayson, Akaal Singh,
Cobie Cox, Loahlann Earls,
Prius Walker, Milla Davison



Our Learning Community Gives Thanks To:

Serena Waterworth and the entire fundraising committee and all the helpers for putting on the outstanding Matariki Ball Fundraiser that was enjoyed by so many for 2023. Serena and the fundraising team, we are incredibly grateful to you for putting such a wonderful event together to support the longevity of Country Kidz ECE—the success of the event is a tribute to you all!

Sincere thanks to Heidi from Kids Greening Taupō and Serena Waterworth for the donations of natives to our Pump Track—this area is going to be beautiful!

Thank you to GG and Cara and your helpers for the fabulous Matariki Disco, such a fabulous event and we appreciate all the effort!

Thanks to Wendy Jones and the Griffiths for their donations to our Disco spot prizes—we are so lucky to have your continual support.

GREENING TAUPŌ DAY 2023



PROUDLY AWARDED TO

Country Kidz ECE
SECOND PLACE

for their extraordinary achievements and dedication in participating in Greening Taupō Day 2023 School/ECE competition



He iti te mokoroa, nāna i kati te kahikatea

So exciting to have Country Kidz ECE acknowledged for our contributions to Greening Taupō Day 2023. Huge aroha to **Briar** for getting us organised and leading our GREEN wiki!

Website Overhaul is Complete!



Our website has had a major overhaul and has been tested over the last month and is now live. You can find everything you need to be up-to-date with the happenings at Country Kidz including events, permission slips, RAMS, policies, timetables, newsletters, and more! Head over and have a look, we would love some feedback on other things you would like included—countrykidz.co.nz

VACANCY—Fixed Term Maternity Leave Teacher (Flexible Hours)

Country Kidz Early Childhood Education Centre is seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic provisional or registered teacher for a fixed term maternity leave position to join our passionate teaching team. The fixed term teaching position has a start date of 11 September, 2023 and is for 12 months.

Calf Rearing Fundraiser

Country Kids is looking for donations of 100KG fresian or dairy beef bull calves and would appreciate your support of our Centre.

Please let Brett Steeghs know if you have any questions or are able to contribute.

027 2944403



Event Calendar

- 31 July Koru Kidz
- 3 Aug Nature Kidz
- 7 Aug Koru Kidz
- 8 Aug Nature Kidz/Committee Meeting
- 14 Aug Koru Kidz
- 17 Aug Nature Kidz
- 21 Aug Koru Kidz
- 22 Aug Nature Kidz
- 28 August Koru Kidz
- 29 Aug Nature Kidz
- 11 Sept Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori
- 12 Sept Taiopenga Tūwharetoa
- 18 Sept Book Fair Wiki
- 22 Sept Book Character Dress Up Day