



Country Kidz



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May, 2022

It hasn't quite been the start to Term Rua that we were hoping for, but it has started and we are so grateful to our community for last week. Without your help we would not have been able to open to our whānau that had no alternatives and needed us to be available to them. It is a reminder to us all that you never know what is around the corner, and no amount of contingency planning can help when Covid is around!

It was a very unusual welcome back for Sarah who has re-joined us from maternity leave with a very cute little Aria. Thank you for all your mahi last wiki Sarah, we are so delighted to have you back as part of our teaching team!

Term Rua planning has been finalised and we are celebrating RESPECT as our curriculum focus to bring together a wide range of interests we are seeing in our tamariki. It also fits nicely in with our intentional teaching of respecting ourselves, each other, our environment, and the resources that we are lucky to have in all our play spaces. As part of our RESPECT focus we will be celebrating Pink Shirt Day (20 May), Greening Taupō Week (30 May-3 June), Samoan Language week (30 May-3 June), and Matariki. We have added an event calendar to our Newsletter so you know all of the dates for events and celebrations for the coming month.

We will be welcoming ERO to our learning environment on the 3rd of June for their Akanuku Assurance review—we are excited to have them return so they can see all the mahi we have achieved over the last 6 months and the positive learning journey we are all on to provide excellence in learning and development for our tamariki. Huge thanks goes to our Country Kidz kaiako and Committee for the work they have done and continue to do to ensure our tamariki have everything they need to be successful life-long learners.

Thanks to our huge community effort our two Easter fundraisers were extremely successful with the Hot Cross Buns raising \$412.50 and \$885 for our Easter Raffle—what an awesome amount to raise for our outside resources! The tamariki have some great climbing and outside equipment coming their way during Winter.

It may not have been the start to Term Rua we were looking for but we have made the most of it and are enjoying seeing everyone back in our learning environment. Please be aware COVID is currently doing another round in our learning community and a number of our friends and whānau are experiencing it for a second time. Show kindness and let us continue to look after one another. Me mahi tahi tātou mo te orange o te katoa

Take care, the Country Kidz Teaching Team

Any updates?
We need to keep our enrolment forms updated with relevant contact phone numbers, emergency and pick-up information. If your circumstances have changed, please come in so we can update your details

We say 'farewell' to our tamariki this month who are moving to different districts,

Ashton Abrams
Evelyn Lindsay
Carson Dear
Hudson Evans



Haere mai, to our new friends Country Kidz friends,

Aria Blue
Kaliq Sutherland
Alex Sutherland



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



Our Learning Community gives great thanks to:

Hayley and creative director Briar for a successful grant application to Contact Energy and Kids Greening Taupō for \$1800!

Amy Wine for a successful grant application to Trust Power for \$1200 for new weatherproof clothing!

Julia Finlayson for a successful grant application to Resene for 50litres of paint for our fences!

Without community grants and fundraising, our learning community would not be able to provide the extent of learning opportunities we do and be able to care for our learning environment.

Thank you Hayley, Briar, Amy, and Julia for putting in additional mahi to foster further funds for our tamariki to benefit from.

KARAKIA

A number of our whanau have asked for our karakia mō te kai as we hear our Country Kidz are sharing it at home too!

This is wonderful to know as part of our role as kaiako is to share wider world knowledge with our tamariki and affirm the connections they are making. Sharing and experiencing the symbols of their own and other cultures is one of our Te Whariki learning goals for communication—kei te pai tamariki!

E tō matou matua

E te rangi

Whakamoemiti

Anamatou kei a koe

Mo enei kai, Amine!

Governance News

A DRAFT Country Kidz Vision, Philosophy, and Strategic Plan have been cultivated from the community feedback at our AGM and will be circulated to our community in the coming weeks for consultation.

At the AGM we also welcomed back Craig Render, Amy Wine, Julie Finlayson, Chloe Walker, Laura Styles, Serena Waterworth to our committee and thank Emily Hilhorst and Tyson Taylor for joining our 2022/23 stewards.

Sincere thanks to Aroha Kohere and Jennelle Critchley for the time and mahi they put into Country Kidz as part of our committee. Jennelle has served as Secretary at a governance level for years and we are incredibly grateful for all the additional work that role has required.

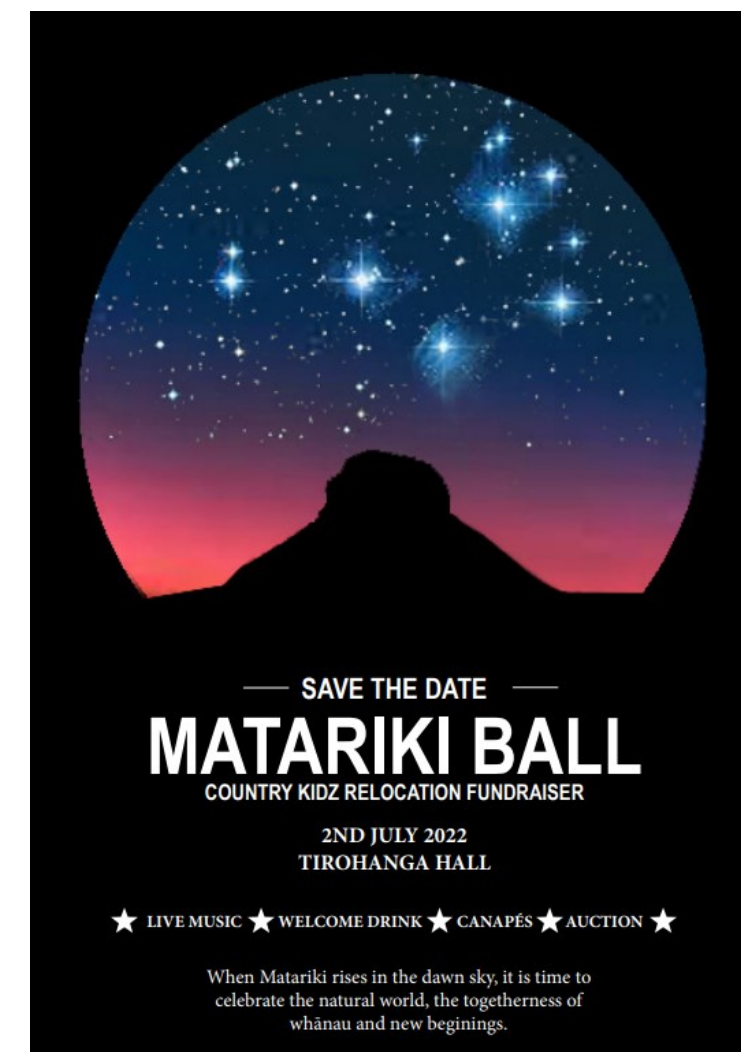
AND DON'T forget to **SAVE the DATE** for the committee Matariki Ball Relocation Fundraiser on 2 July—can't wait to see you all there!

We are still under Covid Mitigations

When coming into the Centre please make sure you:

- ♦ wear a mask
- ♦ have good basic hygiene

Big awhi to Briar and Tim for coming and taking the shade sails down—I know it was a bigger job than expected but we are SO grateful!



Birthday honours for include:

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

Meila Russell and Ashton Abrams

Event Calendar

10 May Committee Meeting—All Welcome

11 May Nature Kidz

17 May Nature Kidz and Greening Taupō

20 May Pink Shirt Day

25 May National Simultaneous Story Time 1pm

25 May Nature Kidz

30 May Go Greening and Samoan Language Week begin

31 May Nature Kidz and Go Greening

3 June Go Greening Excursion (permission slips and parent help requirements going out this week!)

