



Country Kidz



1452 Forest Road, RD1, Atiamuri
07 333 9111 027 6291892
Email: office@countrykidz.co.nz

October, 2023

Kia ora whānau

Tis the season to be filled with adventure! We are so excited for the warmer weather and have so many exciting opportunities for our tamariki planned to bring in the end of this busy year. We have farewelled Hayley to maternity leave and welcome Nicky Robertson to our teaching team for the next year. Nicky has a strong connection to Country Kidz already, with her daughter attending Country Kidz before heading to primary school. Hayley has left big shoes to fill and it's wonderful to have GG stepping in as our Daily Co-ordinator with the full support of our teaching team.

There have been some big changes to the inside spaces for Country Kidz as we look to revitalise our inside spaces and turn our Kererū room into a dedicated kai area. New tables are coming for this space and our Kōwhai Room is now ready for engagement ALL DAY LONG! This means our tamariki no longer need to put away unfinished projects and can now return to them after kai times. The new coat and bag hooks have been installed and are now reachable for all our tamariki. The Committee has approved the painting of this space, which will be undertaken in the next month. Terri Rose Baynton has also kindly offered to paint a mural in our Kōwhai room and we can't express just how grateful we are to her for this opportunity to extend the murals we already have at Country Kidz.

There is a lot happening this term and, as we have done the last two terms, the events section of our Country Kidz website is the place to go if you need dates and additional information. We will continue to keep you updated via Storypark and Facebook but we know it's convenient to also have everything in one place and available at all times without needing to scroll or search out old newsletters! The website is also a great place to go for all our policies and updated information on Country Kidz.

Coming up immediately is a Nature Kidz excursion to Taupō Community Gardens (10 October), Country Kidz Bike Day (12 October) and Pet Day (17 October) - there is more information on these days contained within and on the website. We are excited to have been invited to the Marotiri Ag Day on the 20th of October and will undertake this as a full Centre Excursion if we can get enough parent support to help with transportation.

Speaking of full Centre excursions, we have decided to take our Country Kidz Tamariki Christmas Party on the road this year and indulge the big passion among our learning community by taking a BUS TRIP! This event is in planning and further details will be available in a couple of weeks but please SAVE THE DATE for an end of year BUS RIDE—30 November :o)

With the warmer weather, there is a lot of water play on offer—if we could please have additional clothing in tamariki bags or even better sun-safe togs would be fabulous! We are going through a number of changes of clothes as we are keen to ensure that our tamariki are warm and dry once their water play is finished so they are not getting cold.

All our developmental age groups will be spending lots of time on weekly excursions out to the Pump Track so they have time to bond and explore with their peers in an open-ended learning environment. These are wonderful occasions for all our tamariki and we have scheduled the days so everyone gets to go at least once a fortnight.

We are so looking forward to this term and enjoying the remainder of the year with you!



Birthday honours for September and

October include:

Frankie Griffiths, Xanthe Joustra-Smith, Cooper Dillon, Mila Bennett, Vida Ward, Gene Steeghs

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

- 4 October Nature Kidz
- 5 October Koru Kidz
- 9 October Koru Kidz
- 10 October Nature Kidz Community Garden Excursion
- 11 October Pākiki Kidz
- 12 October BIKE DAY!
- 17 October PET DAY
- 18 October Nature Kidz
- 19 October Pākiki Kidz/Koru Kidz
- 19 October Shake Out 9.30am
- 20 October Excursion to Marotiri Ag Day
- 23 Labour Day (closed)
- 24 October Pākiki Kidz
- 26 October Nature Kidz
- 30 October Koru Kidz
- 31 October Hallowe'en
- 1 November Nature Kidz
- 3 November Gumboot Day

Event Calendar

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



**Xanthe Joustra-Smith
Frankie Griffiths**

Haere mai, welcome to our new Country Kidz friends,

Henry Donovan, Hugo Joustra-Smith

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



Our Learning Community Gives Thanks To:

Country KIDZ Committee for the amazing planning day morning tea/ lunch provided to the teaching team

Sincere thanks to **Brent Griffiths** for all the mahi and undertaking our much needed maintenance projects

So much thanks to **Terri and Doug** for the use and disposal of their trailer for our massive Spring Clean!

HUGE thanks to all our **parent helpers** at Taiopenga o Tūwharetoa—these occasions would not be possible without you!

COUNTRY KIDZ PET DAY 2023



Please join us on Tuesday 17th October for a fun and enjoyable day!

9.30am – 12pm

Bring your pets, whānau, & friends for this exciting day!

Gumboot throwing, obstacle courses, pet rock making, flower sauces, drawing competition, gumboot painting, cupcake decorating, and prizes!

There will be tie up areas for each animal - this is for the safety of your pets and our tamariki.

Please bring picnic blankets and kai!

Please note: You are responsible for your own pet and its droppings. Please be aware there will be different breeds of animals so we ask only to bring your pet if it is stock proof and will be ok with a crowd/other animals.

NEW BIKES!

We were very lucky to be awarded a grant from the **Mangakino-Pouakani Community Grant Scheme** to update some of our well used bikes. Thanks to Amy who drove this initiative and the hard work paid off with a grant for \$2000 awarded to Country Kidz. The new bikes and helmets have now arrived and our tamariki are loving them!



BIKE DAY

Bring your Bike to Country Kidz on 12 October and join us for a day celebrating all things biking, including our new bikes thanks to a Mangakino-Pouakani Community Grant!