



## Poutū-te-rangi, March Pānui 2023

### Kia ora e te whānau,

Potū-te-rangi finally brought us some settled weather and a more settled curriculum to our centre 🌻 Ngā tamariki loved celebrating Sea Week in the centre this month, with many learning experiences for us to explore our connection with our oceans and all of the lifeforms within it. We ended Poutū-te-rangi with a week of dress-up celebrations to say haere rā to our lovely Kaiako, Stacey as she starts her maternity leave. We wish Stacey and her whānau all the best as they await the arrival of their new pēpi ❤️ We can't wait to meet baby! Lucky for us, Jack will still be attending the centre, so Stacey will be calling in regularly ❤️ We have also welcomed a new reliever Kayla Osborne into our centre whānau. It has been another action-packed month, with many learning experiences for ngā tamariki. A massive ngā mihi nui to everyone who has offered resources and support for our community based ece centre. You are what makes WCK so great! Arohanui from us all at Whenuakite Country Kids x

### Centre Celebrations:

Our birthday celebrations have slowed down in the centre lately. Rā whānau ki a koe, Happy Birthday to the following tamariki who celebrated birthdays in Poutū-te-rangi, March: Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday to Zoe Jenkins, Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday to Jasper Pavitt, Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Billie Harrison and Tulsie Stephens. And Happy birthday to our lovely Kaiako Anne! We hope you all had lovely birthdays celebrating with friends and whānau ❤️

This month has been a time of settling in for many, as we have been supporting new tamariki, whānau and staff transitioning into our centre whānau ❤️ Nau mai haere mai, welcome to Daisy's little brother Oliver Land in the Tūi ruma, and to Kiera Lomas in the Kererū ruma. We are also looking forward to welcoming our new Kaiako, Jane McMullen into the Kererū ruma in Paenga-whāwhā, April! ❤️ It is lovey to have you all here with us and we look forward to walking alongside you all throughout your learning journey here at Whenuakite Country Kids ❤️



## Important reminders:

### The Annual WCK Chicken Dance Fundraiser!



This year's Chicken Dance fundraiser will be held in the centre on Rāmere, Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of April at 10am. You are welcome to join us in the centre to see the magic happen! 😊 Please return your cards to the office once sold and before **Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> of April** 😊 🐔

### Kia Manawaroa:

Kia Manawaroa is the Ministry of Education's pānui for whānau Māori. Read the Poutu-te-rangi, March issues of Kia Manawaroa here:

[Kia-manawaroa-3-march-2023](#)

[Kia-manawaroa-17-march-2023](#)

[Kia-manawaroa-31-march-2023](#)

## Important Upcoming Dates:

Our amazing fundraising team will be about over Easter. Please show your support at either:

[The Hahei Community Market, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 9am](#)

[The Cooks Beach Fire Brigade, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am](#)

## Holiday Closure 2023 Dates:

- **Easter:** Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April and Easter Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2023.
- **Anzac Day:** Rātū, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April
- **King's Birthday:** Rāhina, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June.
- **Centre Winter Closure:** First week of School holidays: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> -Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July.
- **Matariki:** Rāmere, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July

# Centre Happenings



# Supporting Transitions to Kura, School

Room 7 visiting us at WCK! ☺



Harold, Life Education visit



# Supporting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) learning through real life experiences at WCK



Ngā tamariki love to be a part of every experience happening here at WCK. It is a particularly exciting day when machinery comes to the centre to operate! Tamariki are naturally curious and begin to explore the world around them from infancy, developing their own working theories about how the world works through the people, places, and things that they interact with (MoE, 2017). We are so fortunate that ngā tamariki are provided with many diverse opportunities to observe and learn from real life STEM experiences happening all around us, in our rural environment. Tamariki can then take the knowledge and learning they have acquired to role play with peers and test out their working theories in their play using a range of loose parts materials and resources. What an amazing group of inspired and engaged scientists, engineers, and mathematicians we have! 😊



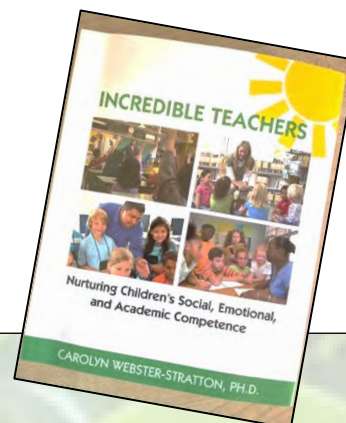
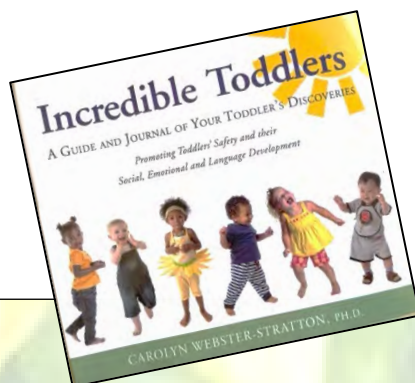
# EOTC March



## IY Autism course for Teachers

Throughout March, three of our Kaiako attended the Incredible Years Autism Teacher Training Programme. This was an intensive 6 session programme which aims to increase teacher's capability in supporting neurodiverse children's communication skills and social, emotional competence. Laura R, Hanna and Jazz completed this course and found it very informative and inspiring. We have been introducing the skills and ideas learnt from this course together at our staff hui and in our interactions with tamariki each day. We are keeping a copy of the Incredible Years books from this course in our whānau bookshelf in the office foyer. Please help yourself to these or ask us if you would like to know more 😊

This is also a really helpful website if you would like to learn more about Autism: [Home - Autism NZ](#)





## **POLICIES CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW:**

C5 BICULTURAL POLICY, GMA10 ENROLMENT POLICY,

HS1 SAFETY, HYGIENE AND MAINTENANCE-GENERAL, HS23 BOTTLE FEEDING

We value your contribution, so please share your ideas and suggestions for our policies under review. These can be located in the 'Policies Under Review' folder in the whānau bookshelf at the office.

## **Community Contribution :)**

Check out all of the awesome koha which our community have given to WCK this month 😊 We really appreciate the generous support which our community-based centre receives. You are AMAZING! Thank you! 😊



**Ngā mihi nui mo te tautoko me te aroha,  
a BIG thank you for all your support and love x.**

# Cyclone Gabrielle Fundraiser

Ngā mihi nui to our amazing WCK community for giving so generously to our Cyclone Gabrielle fundraiser in March. As residents on the Coromandel Peninsula, we know how damaging severe weather events can be. We are very fortunate that our region did not experience the extreme rainfall associated with Cyclone Gabrielle and can empathise with the heartbreaking loss and damage caused by the cyclone. We raised a total of \$350.00! to go directly to tamariki most affected in ECE centres and Schools in the Tairāwhiti and Hawkes Bay regions. Kai pai!



## WCK Strategic Plan Review

*We are one year into our 3-year centre strategic plan, and while we regularly review how we are tracking, we also undertake an annual, full review to ensure that our goals are still relevant and that these goals are being met. The WCK staff and committee have recently spent some time together reviewing our strategic plan and we are happy with the progress that we have been making as a centre since March 2022. The most updated version of our centre strategic plan is available for you to view in our whānau folder in the bookshelf in the office foyer and attached to this pānui, newsletter. We appreciate your feedback, so please have a read through the strategic plan and let us know if you have any thoughts or suggestions. We are looking forward to working together to achieve more of our goals as a centre in 2023 😊*



# *Nau mai Haere mai, Welcome!*

Kia ora to all of the Country Kids Whānau,  
My name is **Jane** and I have lived in Tairua for 5 years with my Husband Keith and our one year old, Leo. I love getting outdoors; surfing, hiking, camping, kayaking, snowboarding and making the most of the beautiful place we call home. I also enjoy music, yoga and travelling the world. I have a background in Science and Primary School teaching, and have taught at both Whenuakite and Tairua Schools in the past few years. I am really excited about the new adventure of working in ECE.

I look forward to meeting you all.

Ngā mihi, **Jane**



We are excited to have Jane McMullen joining our teaching team in the Kereru ruma as a Kaiako during Stacey's maternity leave. Welcome to the team Jane! 😊



## Lenny



## Ollie



## Kiera

*Haere ra e hoa, Farewell yo our Kaiako and friend Stacey!*





To celebrate our kaiako Stacey as she heads off on Maternity leave, we had a week of dressing up! Crazy Hair Day, Pyjama Day, Anything day and Favourite Colours Day! It was SO much fun! 😊



Hahei Library Presents



# Easter Booksale & Market

HAHEI COMMUNITY HALL & VILLAGE GREEN

APRIL 8TH FROM 9AM - 1PM



BOOKS FOR SALE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



CRAFTS AND PRODUCE STALLS

# WCK EASTER HUNT!

COME AND JOIN US FOR A FUN EASTER HUNT!

8/4/2023

FROM 10AM

COOKS BEACH FIRE STATION

\$2.50 PER CHILD

PIC•COLLAGE

Whenuakite Country Kids



CHICKEN DANCE RAFFLE



## PRIZES

Thank you to all our generous sponsors for their kind donations:

1st \$500 Cash from Richardsons Real Estate, Hahei.

2nd Good Whites teeth whitening service valued at \$300.

3rd Coromandel Ocean Adventures family classic coastal & island tour valued at \$290.

4th Lush Photography family shoot valued at \$200.

5th \$150 Countdown grocery voucher.

6th To 9th \$50 Harry and Her clothing voucher.

10th Hay Honey 2kg Manuka mix.



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countdown

COROMANDEL OCEAN ADVENTURES

We are a not-for-profit, community owned centre and appreciate all your support.

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MAORI MUSIC SESSIONS

# Waiata Mai

Come learn some Māori waiata!

Suitable for ages 13+ who would like to sing and learn Māori songs

Tairua Annexe building every Monday 5.30pm

Koha (gold coin donation)

Cup of tea and biscuits provided

to register your interest, email: ptbettymay@gmail.com



"It was one of those  
March days when the  
sun shines hot and  
the wind blows cold:  
when it is summer  
in the light, and  
winter in the shade."

- Charles Dickens,  
Great Expectations

*Arohanui from us all at Whenuakite Country Kids x*

