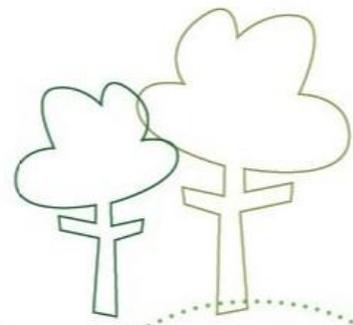


# Tots News



## July 2019

Dear Parents and Whanau

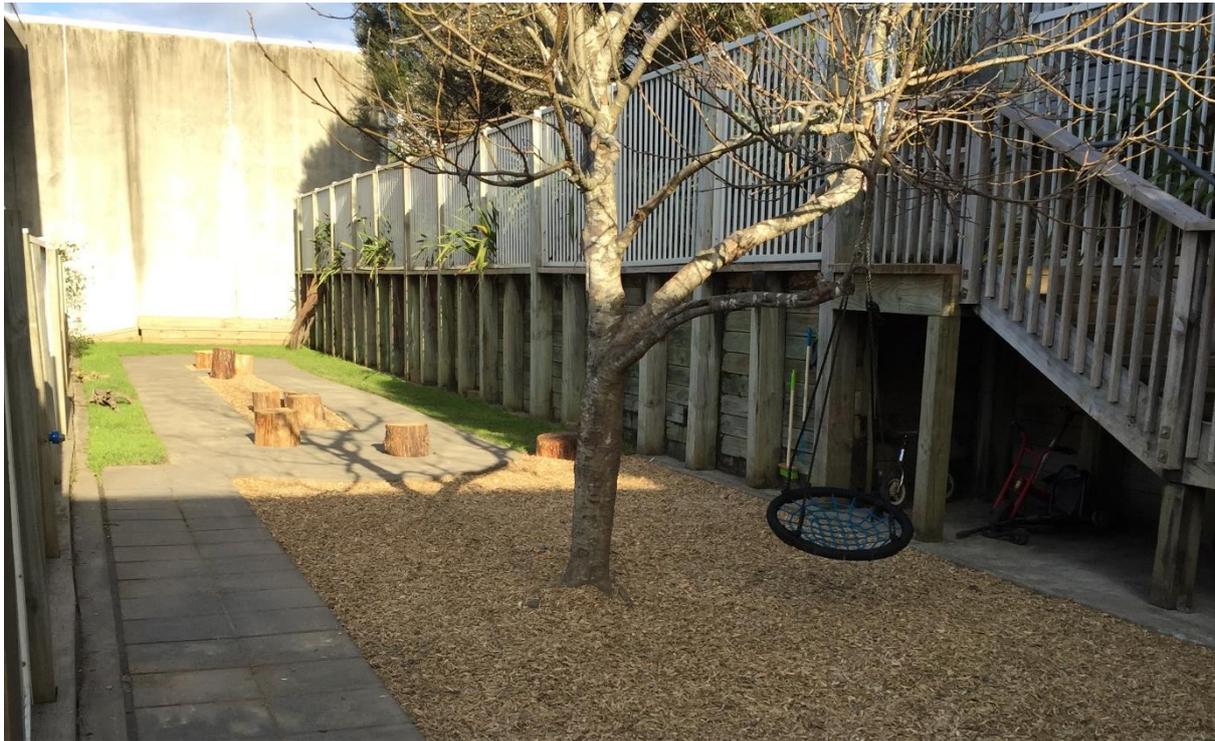
The past month has gone in a blur with lots of activity in many areas.

The level one and two preschool grass areas have been resurfaced creating all weather play areas which can be used for many different types of activities. There is a wonderful smell of wood from the cushion fall and the children have enjoyed the new medium on which to play.



With a combination of grass, cushion fall and garden area, the level two area is a great place to explore. The garden with herbs and various flowers and vegetables will get some extra attention in the months ahead as we plan our summer crops. Yesterday the children proudly harvested the crop of radishes they had grown.

This week's project will be to make a Monache butterfly garden inside the gate on level 3 which we hope will attract many butterflies over the years.



There is a wonderful array of native birds that live in our little pocket of native bush and we want to continue to add to this so that there is something flowering throughout the year for our birds and bees. All of which adds a richness to our curriculum for the children to be a part of and to learn from. As we continue to plant and grow more natives you will see learning stories about these along the way.

Classroom curriculum areas are at the forefront of our focus in the months ahead as we review indoor and outdoor areas and activity ideas. The early childhood curriculum provides a plethora of information on the value a well-balanced curriculum plays in the holistic development of children in particular the environment as the third teacher. Tots certainly provides us with an amazing facility in which to extend children's interests through open ended exploration.

Matariki continues to influence our activities as the preschool are preparing their own concert inspired by the Te Reo Singalong show that came to our Centre a few weeks ago. The children were captivated by their performance, all eyes on the entertainers for the entire show.



Stories, flax weaving, painting and chalk drawings that extended out into the carpark were exciting activities that we also did to celebrate Matariki.



Last week we took charge of five fertilised eggs complete with incubator, instructions and learning eggs that contain information about the development stages that the eggs are going through. We are at Day 5 and while we had a few teething problems with the incubator being turned off when the afterhours safety switch is activated, we still seem to have some chickens growing. Watch this space!

We farewell Kayleigh this week, her last two weeks spent assisting the Kauri and Rimu team and fussing after chickens. All the best for the future Kayleigh, Kayleigh will post her own message of farewell.

The first week of August we welcome Madhavi as team leader in Kiwi room. Her experience teaching infants and toddlers underpinned by her Bachelor of Arts and Education, Master of Education (Special Needs) and Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education. She will be a great addition to our team and is excited about the opportunity to work more closely with the natural environment and a Reggio inspired philosophy.

Finally, we will keep you posted as to when the Fire Department will visit, there was huge disappointment when we were told they had double booked our planned visit. Until then, keep practicing stop, drop and roll.

Ngā mihi