Te Kamo Kindergarten Staff Community Report

High quality learning delivered - Learning outcomes for children; The learning environment both inside and out; professional learning undertaken; purchases, plans for change, Te Ao Maori

Learning Outcomes for Children:
- The relocated art area is working very well. The area is quieter, with less interruptions for tamariki.
- Completed self-review around kai times, with the intention of finding out if we needed to 'close' the kai area between morning tea and lunch times. Used time sample to see when children are eating.
- Curriculum Design - The new system is working well providing kaiako with an easy to refer to system that is regularly being added to, and used to guide assessment.

Professional Learning:
- Shane - attended PD on the 9th of September – Boys In Literacy with Marshall Diggs and is attending Incredible Years training over 10 days at NKA head office with Rika Currie and Jacqui Organ, head teachers of Hikurangi and Te Timatatanga o Te Mataranga Kindergartens.
- Paula - completed Learning Language and Loving It PLD.
- Hayley - attended Evaluative Writing at NKA Head Teacher hui with Barbara Watson

Purchases:
- Plants (grasses, vegetable and herb seedlings), compost, puzzles, horses, glue guns, match box cars, bubbles, plates, cutlery, laptop, screws for carpentry

Learning Environment:
- Kaiako and tamariki have participated in Dalton’s sunflower competition. Seedlings were grown from seed and transplanted to an existing grass area, that was dug and turned into a temporary garden.
- Crew Cut continue to be reliable and provide a tidy service. This has resulted in outdoor areas being tidy, maintained and kaiako and tamariki take pride in this space. They have also been requested to do more detailed services when required. For example, doing a more thorough tidy up of the back garden.
- Tamariki and kaiako have refreshed the soil near the swings and planted grasses. This has made this area much more vibrant and colourful.
- We continue to repot our containers and planter boxes with seedlings.
- Kaiako and tamariki have made planter boxes with wooden offcuts donated by Scooters Plywood and Joiner Supplies Ltd. This has given us more room for vegetable and sunflower plants.

Relationships – Strong sustained relationships and partnerships: Community Engagement:

Transition to School visits:
- On the 19th of August, Shane and 1 parent helper took our 5 eldest children on a walking visit to Kamo Primary. The tamariki spent the morning engaged in play and learning experiences alongside their older peers in the new entrant class.

Visitors into kindergarten:
- Roimata MacFarlane, Gay Easterbrook, Kim Townsend, Sharon Collier (Speech Language Therapist with MOE, who is supporting Paula on her Learning Language and Loving it course), Karin Scott (NKA’s new social worker), Adrienne Hill (student teacher from Te Rito Maioha). As a result of their visits they have supported not only kaiako in their practice but also been available to individual tamariki and whānau.

Special events:
- Our whānau evening this term was on the 18th of September at 5:15 p.m. We provided pizza, hot chips, vegetable sticks, apple crumble and ice cream. Fundraiser sampler was raffled off and drawn on the night. There was a good turnout of current tamariki, their parents and siblings.

Pumanawatanga:
- As a result of support and guidance from Roimata MacFarlane, we have continued to integrate and extend our use of Te Reo me nga tikanga Maori in our daily practice, wall displays and assessments.
- We continue to welcome siblings and extended whānau into the kindergarten resulting in a supportive and welcoming environment.
- On the 12th of August we hosted our termly Whakawhānaungatanga to welcome new tamariki (Te Kohatu, Mikail and Maia) and whānau and Adrienne Hill (student teacher) to Te Kamo Kindergarten.
Promotion – Lifting the profile of the kindergarten within the community: newspaper stories and photos, open days, kindergarten out in the community, promotional flyers sent out, etc

Transition to school:
• Our termly transition to school visits to Kamo Primary certainly makes us visible in the community as we are clearly identified with the children wearing their high visibility vests.

Advertising:
• We continue to advertise our Kindergarten through Facebook and Seesaw. We are also looking into other ways to advertise in the wider community.
• This term we have maintained a full roll and have a waiting list of 17.

Finance – Financial Stability: Management and administration (roll numbers, variation report explanation, fund raising, grant applications etc

Management and administration:
• Kelli Scott transitioned smoothly to Te Kamo, and has formed good relationships with whānau and kaiako.

Roll numbers:
• At the conclusion of this term we have no children leaving and a full roll moving forward to term 4. We have 13 over 2’s and 4 under 2’s on the waiting list.

Fundraising:
• This term we fundraised through Mish. The products were environmentally focused, with lots of interest from whānau. We had to purchase sample items, which were then raffled off at our termly whānau evening. We sincerely thank our whānau and community for their ongoing support in this area. As a result of this fundraiser we have raised $231.09, which will be used to purchase new puzzles and books.

Services – Services delivered that are relevant to the communities they serve: Ensure our services meet our communities’ needs. Working alongside of NKA: PPM, speech and Language therapist, Pou Whakarewa Tikanga Maori visits. Environmental sustainability,

Speech and Language Therapist:
• We have continued to communicate and work alongside Gay which has resulted in her visits throughout the term.

Pou Whakarewa Tikanga Māori:
• As a result of visits from Roimata we have continued to add te reo Maori to our wall displays. Kaiako have learnt how to use the Maori new year calendar and try to incorporate this into our planning and daily activities.

Working alongside other outside agencies:
• We have continued to work with Abi from the Heart Foundation, using regular email attachments in our newsletters to share with whānau.
• Whaea Maureen from Totara Grove Primary attended our termly whānau evening, taking time to meet whānau and tamariki.
• NKA’s new social worker Karin Scott spent a morning with us to introduce herself to whānau and get to know kaiako and tamariki.
• Paula has continued to work with Sharon Collier, a speech language therapist from the Ministry of Education who is supporting Paula through her Learning Language and Loving It PLD.

Food Rescue Northland
• This term we joined Northland Food Rescue. Food Rescue Northland collects short dated and surplus food items and then distributes it to non-profit organisation. So far we have received boxes of fruit and vegetables, bread and other food items such as flour, sandwich spreads, etc. whānau seem very appreciative of this, and children take pride in bringing Food Rescue food to Kindy as part of their lunch.

General Comments:

We continue to enjoy the support, encouragement and guidance of the NKA management team, including Kim, Roimata and Gay. As well as support and guidance from Sharon.

Acknowledgements:
A huge thank you to:

Annette Eastgate for her continued flexibility and support of our team as a reliever this term

Our amazing whānau who continue to contribute in many ways including fruit, vegetables, collage and other resources. As well as supporting our various fundraisers and attending whānau evenings! Your support is truly valued and appreciated by the kaiako and tamariki.

Food Rescue Northland for donating many boxes of food to the Te Kamo whānau. The food is well received by tamariki and their whānau, and has encouraged parents to bring in any surplus fruit that they have.