

Kia ora 2023!

And just like that - we say e noho rā to 2022 and haere mai to 2023! It was so great to see everyone last month and to hear about everyone's holiday adventures!

It has been a rocky start to the year - with the recent floods causing a lot of damage and devastation for some. We have been thinking about everyone and our hearts go out to you all - particularly those that have been most effected.

Last year we undertook our first ERO Review - a big thank you goes out to the homes that ERO visited - and we are pleased to announce that we are meeting all areas of compliance (which confirms what we already know) and continuing to ensure we are providing you with a quality service. If you would like to read this report please head to their website: <https://ero.govt.nz/review-reports>



We loved seeing you all out our Christmas Party last year! Thank you for coming and spending the day with us at Kiwi Valley!

What's in this issue:

- Latest KiwiEd. update
- Important Dates
- Kai (food) Time!
- Hanga (create) Time!



Even though our summer has been unpredictable we loved seeing photos of how you were able to make the most of it - Beau and Riley loved spending time swimming in the pool!

Level 4 Training

This month KiwiEd. is focusing on promoting Level 4 ECE courses and encouraging our Kaiako to enroll in these courses. The government is working towards 80% qualified Kaiako in Home Based Care and next year our percentage of qualified Kaiako increased to 60%.

Please talk with your VT about which course will be suit your needs and the training incentive KiwiEd. is offering.

Important Dates

Chinese New Year Sunday 22nd January

Waitangi Day Monday 6th of February

Wildlife Day Thursday 3rd March

Children's Day Sunday 6th March

Women's Day Tuesday 8th March

Activity Ideas

Kai (Food) Time!

Breakfast Popsicles

Too hot for the usual breakfast? Try these to help cool you down - popsicles for breakfast! All that's in these frozen beauties is yogurt and fruit – that's it!!

Ingredients:

Low fat vanilla yoghurt
Fruit, thinly sliced (kiwi, strawberries, blueberries)

Directions:

1. Add a little yogurt to mould, slide fruit slices down the sides if you want them to show and look pretty. Add more yogurt and then more fruit until mould is full
2. Note: You can also chop your fruit small and combine it with the yoghurt, then pour into moulds and freeze (works better with small, narrow moulds)
3. Unmould and serve with muesli if desired



Hanga (create) Time!

Mason Jar Aquarium

This mason jar aquarium is a fun pretend play toy to make for kids! They will love taking care of their fish without the fuss!

What you need: Mason jar, blue food coloring, filtered water, aquarium plastic figurines or toy fish, blue & white glitter (optional), aquarium rocks and plastic plants.
Instructions

- Step 1. Add rocks, plants to your mason jar.
- Step 2. Fill with water and add some plastic sea creatures.
- Step 3. Add some blue food coloring until you are satisfied with the color.
- Step 4. Add glitter if using.
- Step 5. Screw lid and glue shut (to prevent choking)
Gently swirl to see your sea creatures swim!



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