

Nelson Tasman  
**KINDERGARTENS**

NGĀ KOHUNGAHUNGA MAI WHAKATU KI AORERE

*For the best possible start*

**2020**

*72nd Annual Report*



*For the Year Ending 30 June 2020*

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*Board Members*



**From left:** Raewyn Dodd, Andrew Pullen (Deputy Chairperson), Venus Sood Guy (Chairperson), Alan Hounsell, Stu Dalton, Karl Hadfield, Debra Robson (Treasurer), Joanna Holer, Monique Clayworth (Board Secretary).

<b>Patron:</b>	Estelle Courtney
<b>Governing Board:</b>	
Chairperson	Venus Sood Guy
Community Trustees	Alan Hounsell
Parent Trustees	Stu Dalton Joanna Holer
Teacher Trustee	Raewyn Dodd
Healthkids	Karl Hadfield

*Management Team*



**From left to right:**  
 Craig      Tricia      Kathryn  
 Sarah      Margie      Sara  
 Brenda      Virginia      Hayley

**Management Team:**

Chief Executive Officer	Craig Vercoe
Senior Education Advisors	Sarah Hewison Margie Meleisea Sara Murray Hayley Pemberton
Finance Manager	Tricia van der Mescht
Kindergarten Services Manager	Kathryn Sclater
Whanau Facilitator	Brenda Holdaway
Head Teacher Relievers	Virginia Oakly

**Honorary Life Members:**

F Grace	J Wells	S Stephen
J Reid	D Wade	B Stringer
T Rowell	W Hollyer	G Mattsen
J Baker	J Miles	L Smith
D Craze	M H J Clarke	S Hicks
N Fransen	E Powell	L Cadenhead
L Sheldon	S Evitt	P Wylie
J Cross	B Cameron	H Bashford
E Bartlett	E Courtney	R Lovell
C Inglis	J Price	K Sclater
P Fargher	P Gargiulo	W Logan
N Marshall	J Bromell	M Bartlett
G Collingwood	K Hartshorne	B Curtis-Sullivan



*Vision*

Nelson Tasman Kindergartens is the leading provider of  
Early Childhood Education in our region.

*Mission*

We provide children with the best possible start  
in life for their learning.

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## Board Report 2020

Tena koutou katoa, namaste, hello to all of you.

It is a pleasure and privilege to present my first Chairperson's Report to you all. Being Chairperson of our Nelson Tasman Kindergarten Association has not only been an honour for me but has also been an opportunity to learn, reflect and lead. It seems a strange time to reflect on the past when so much of our thoughts now are focused around an unsettling past/present and an unclear future due to COVID-19, but it is the nature of AGM reports to review what has already happened and reflection can sometimes provide much needed perspective or at the very least, a pleasant reprieve from the now.



The purpose of any Annual General Meeting is usually at least three-fold. One is to fulfill the legal compliance with legislation (Charities Act etc) and secondly report to the members the financial position and activities of the past financial year. Thirdly, to appoint or elect the committee to govern the entity for the coming year. There is also usually an opportunity for members to ask about matters of interest or concern to them.

My first year of being a Chairperson has been rewarding, a huge learning curve and challenging in some ways especially because of COVID-19. The 2019/2020 year was in the end dominated by the virus but more than that, the earlier twenty four weeks of the year were a time of generally smooth operations and I would like to congratulate you all on our collective work of staying safe and healthy which has given us all New Zealanders a reason to be proud of ourselves.



### *Patron & Life Members:*

I want to acknowledge and say thanks to our Patron Mrs. Estelle Courtney and all of our life members. You have all done great job for the organization and I am fully aware that now responsibility sits on mine and my fellow trustees' shoulders. I and the board is committed and we are making decisions in the best interests of the association.

I would like to say special thanks to previous Chair Belinda Curtis-Sullivan, who was awarded our life membership in 2019.

### *Our Management Team:*

I am proud to say here today that our association has had a very successful year. Success would not have been possible without our CEO, Craig who has lead the organization with his strong, effective leadership. I would also like to congratulate our outstanding Management and support team who have worked hard to remain at the heart of our communities. Our association has 100% qualified teachers who are committed and responsive to the aspirations of children and their whānau ensuring every one of them has the best possible start in life.



*National:* Without mentioning the ongoing support from National Office this report will be incomplete. The NZK Board connects with all of the organizations quarterly and we are all committed to grow and strengthen the kindergarten movement in Aotearoa. NZK CEO, Jill Bond is always available to support us grow with her unique leadership and governance skills.

*Finance:* I am quite pleased with the work Craig has put into carefully managing our funds. While we were in deficit last year, we have managed to steer the ship in the right way and we have a healthy operating surplus at end of our financial year. I am thankful for the board's lead, direction and Craig's due diligence for his good management of finances.

*Governance:* Our board of trustees are fully committed to governance. We make sure that we do due diligence before we make any decisions for the association. At the end of last year, the board had a one day strategy session and we also underpinned our values for the association. We are committed to learning, leading and listening to you all. The Board has made an effort to visit all of the kindergartens and connect with you all but COVID got in the way. That is still a work in progress. I and my fellow trustees meet 9 to 10 times each year to make sure that our association serves our community by strengthening quality sustainable learning environments.

#### *Highlights of the year:*

- The Association continues to offer and grow our programmes to meet the needs of working families.
- To increase our reach to the remote/regional areas we successfully opened Tapawera Kindergarten and are also looking at other potential areas.
- The Association has been successful in bringing Motueka Early Learning Centre and Tahunanui Community Centre under NTK's umbrella to ensure the children and families in this area continue to have the opportunity to have ECE that meets their needs.
- The Association has also identified an opportunity and after due diligence it has been decided to convert the Courtney St property to a kindergarten as a potential future opportunity.
- High quality of teachers, programmes, supporting staff has seen a relatively high attendance which has resulted in a positive position at the end of this financial year. This allows the association to invest more money back into the resources within our kindergartens while also taking advantage of opportunities.
- We have positive and close working relationships with the Ministry.
- Effective leadership from the top by Craig and good performance by SEA's, office staff, head teachers, teachers, relievers and good reflection of team work has resulted in a successful year for the association.
- The Board of trustees has been working hard to ensure that we provide the right direction to the Association. As with each year, there is movement within our board. We appointed Andrew Pullen as Deputy Chair Person and Debra Robson as our treasurer. Alan Hounsell, one of our community trustee with vast experience in management and insurance has decided to step down





from his role and we will miss Alan’s knowledge, expertise and skills. We have however been fortunate to retain Joanna Holer as a community rep. Stu Dalton is continuing his role in his current position. Raewyn’s positive and realistic views are always appreciated. We have to sadly lose Karl Hadfield, who joined us as a special trustee from Healthkids. Karl’s, skilled and thoughtful views will be missed. On the other note, I am very pleased to say that after much searching, looking and due diligence, we have been successful to fill our Māori Trustee role this year. Jenna Neame is joining us as a Māori Trustee and she has experience in governance as well as passion for the wellbeing of our tamariki.

### *Challenges of the year:*

While it has been a challenging, tough and stressful time for some of our families, we all know that challenges brought by COVID-19 will impact our communities for a while. We as an association are working together with our Ministry, our national organization and most importantly our whānau. Amongst these challenges, our association will remain strong, committed and supportive of our tamariki to give them the opportunity for the best possible start of their lives.



### *To sum up:*

I don’t want to dwell on the challenges instead I want to close my report with the positives. For our association, I would like to use the garden metaphor in terms of our growth and maintenance and we all need to continue this work to get a successful harvest.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge and thank all of our management team, teachers and staff, volunteers, supporters and their families for their support. Thank you all, for all the good work you have done and will continue to do for our future generations. I also acknowledge the support of board secretary, Monique Clayworth who

supports me immensely and makes sure that the board has all of the information in a timely manner. I would also like to say thanks to Andrew, Jo, Alan, Raewyn, Stu, Debra and Karl for their support and due diligence. Lastly I would like to say thanks to Craig for his leadership and being available to the board as and when needed.

Kind Regards

*Venus S Guy*

**Board Chairperson**





# Management Report 2020

## *CEO's Report*

Kia ora koutou,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the CEO report for the year ending June 2020.

An unprecedented year in terms of uncertainty and disruption, and a year full of challenges and opportunities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every staff member and volunteer within the Organisation for their trust in our communications, for their flexibility and for their ongoing commitment and drive to continue to provide the best possible start for children.

The start of the year began with a rethink from the board around strategic direction and what was important to us as an Organisation. We landed on 3 important values: Sustainability, Growth and Quality. In hindsight this was a particularly prudent move given what was to follow during the year.



## *Sustainability*



There has been a continued progression of transitioning kindergartens from the traditional model of term breaks and sessional kindergartens into all year models to ensure that we remain relevant to the community and meeting the everchanging demands that families are under.

We have had several staffing changes within our Kindergartens but have ensured that these times of transitions are well managed and with as little disruption to the teams, children, and whānau as possible.

We continue to provide additional support services to whānau and children through Speech and language, bicultural support, parenting and behaviour,

Social work, counselling, and additional teacher aides which further enhance the wraparound care and support for children. This has never been as important as it is now given the ongoing effects we have seen from Covid-19, as well as those we are likely to see in the future.

Internally, we have made and continue to make ongoing changes and updates to our systems to provide efficiencies and economical shifts to ensure that we keep up with legislative changes and technology advances.



## *Quality*

We continue to be well represented amongst the Kahui Ako working alongside schools to further enhance a child's learning pathway. There have been numerous opportunities for cross sector engagement and learning with several of our kindergartens involved with these.

We continue to put in place a robust system of property maintenance and whilst we cannot get everything done at once, we do manage these projects effectively to ensure that the children have a safe and healthy environment.

NTK continues to provide ongoing Management support to Westport Kindergarten, Bridge St Early learning, and several other smaller Organisations with varying contractual obligations.

Several Ministry of Education SELO contracts have also been undertaken by us which will be noted in the Education and Financial reports.



## *Growth*

We have had an incredible year of growth which goes against the national trends of ECE. We have opened a brand-new Kindergarten in Tapawera, acquired Tahunanui Community Centre, Healthkids and Motueka Early Learning Centre. This growth is something to be celebrated and certainly upholds our mandate of ensuring that children remain at the heart of the decisions we make.

We have continued to grow the quality of our environments and have made a significant investment into this for the forthcoming year.

There have been several Professional Learning opportunities offered to our staff to grow them professionally and although a confusing and muddled year I feel we have done the best we can given the circumstances.

Our presence within the educational and social community continues to grow as we build on and establish strong relationships across the sector.

## *What Next?*

As we continue to navigate our way through the new normal of alert levels, zoom meetings, masks, and hand sanitiser we wonder what the next year will bring.

We have done incredibly well to build a protective wall of financial security around the organisation and will continue to look at ways of doing this as we live in uncertain times.



### *Conclusion*

Quite a tumultuous year, but a year to be incredibly proud of. We have come through this year very well financially and to the board, I thank you for your ongoing commitment to ensuring that Nelson Tasman Kindergartens remains a leader in Early Childhood in the area. Your passion for excellence, and your courage to make some difficult decisions, and the time you give up ensuring that we give children the best possible start is much appreciated.

To all the staff, I thank you very much for your hard work and dedication to the job in what has been and may continue to be uncertain and changeable times.

And finally, to the families, I thank you for continuing to choose Nelson Tasman Kindergartens as your child's Early Childhood provider. Your trust in our organisation is much appreciated.

Ngā mihi maioha,

*Craig Vercoe*

**CEO, Nelson Tasman Kindergartens**





# *Property Report 2020*

## *Programmed Maintenance*

Priority arboring was undertaken following full annual inspection of established and heritage trees. Fire extinguishers were replaced or renewed as part of the annual inspection of Fire Protection equipment.

Annual building warrant of fitness were completed following monthly security and fire alarm testing. An annual cleaning contract with Crest was renewed for 17 Kindergarten buildings. A baseline survey was completed and will be used annually to measure satisfaction, quality and price. Covid-19 resulted in additional cleaning of playgrounds and high touch surfaces being carried out by staff in addition to routine cleaning.

Building washdown and paint touch ups at Nayland and Tahunanui, and building and environment washdown at Golden Bay.

Shade sails were installed at the beginning of summer and taken down for cleaning, repair and storing at the end of summer.

## *Major Property and Playground Improvements*

Once again, thanks to FLG fundraising efforts, business support and grants, improvements have been made to a number of Kindergarten environments, including: Waimea Te Awa’s new nature reserve and carpark landscaping; Waverley Street replacement of carpet in mat area and loose carpets in family corner; outdoor carpet installed on Grove Street verandah area, 2 heat pumps for Stoke, and painting of Greenwood’s wooden fence.

### **Auckland Point Kindergarten**

Finishing to the building renovations including vertiface on walls, shade blinds on new windows/doors, and revamp of a shade sail under the verandah.

A storage shed was built by Nelson College Trade Building. Modifications were made to the perimeter fence for access to the shed, which has been located in the staff carpark.



**Auckland Point**



**Golden Bay**

### **Golden Bay Kindergarten - The**

office was reconfigured to enable all staff to be accommodated with a designated desk space. Storage capacity was added for resources with the building of new units.

**Greenwood Kindergarten -** The child-size toilet was relocated to the children’s bathroom, and the adult toilet was replaced.

**Grove Street Kindergarten -** Adaptations were made to the change table, and storage area created for a hoist and aids to support a child with a physical disability.

**Healthkids Kindergarten -** The under 2 playground was remodelled and resurfaced with artificial turf, along with natural grass on a raised level around the tree. Furniture in the teacher resource area was replaced and reconfigured to increase useable space.



**Healthkids**

**Murchison Kindergarten** - The FLG fundraised and completed a rebuild and extension of the sandpit, together with new shade poles to support a made-to-measure shade sail for over the area.



**Before  
& after  
Murchison**



**Nelson Central** – Outdoor carpet was replaced in the verandah / entrance area. New lunch box storage unit was made for inside the kindergarten, and new hooks.



**Richmond**

**Richmond**

The roof was replaced, along with the north end cladding and windows. Insulation was installed in the roof.



**Nelson Central**

**Tahunanui Community Centre** - Nelson Tasman Kindergartens purchased this building with support from the Ministry of Education. As part of bringing it up to relicensing standards, building improvements were made to the

- children’s bathroom - new toilets and cubicles, shower, paint, vinyl, fan, lighting and change table
- sleep room – painting, furniture and heating
- main play room – the end walls were painted, and new vertiface attached.
- Kitchen – new sideboard and door entranceway
- Playground – new artificial turf laid, fort removed, playhouse restored and relocated, removal of dead trees, new planting and softfall.



**Tahunanui**



**Tahunanui**



**Tapawera** - Playground earthworks were completed, including concrete, softfall bark, sandpit, paving and sowing grass. A shipping container was installed onsite for equipment storage. The doors have been modified and shelving added to improve access and storage configuration. Fruit trees were planted at the blessing, as a start to the garden. Building finishing included outdoor carpet on deck/ ramps; gates and fencing, along with indoor kitchen joinery and the purchase of indoor furniture with support from Learning Spaces Global.



Tapawera

### *Property and Playground Maintenance*

Roofing repairs were carried out at Hira, Murchison, Nelson Central, Nayland, Pinegrove, Victory and Waverley Street Kindergartens, and downpipes/guttering replaced at Laura Ingram, Tahuna and Waverley Street. Minor damage from vandalism was incurred at Nayland, Nelson South, Birchwood and Pinegrove. Greenwood Kindergarten’s fence required repair after a car ran into it. Security lights were installed at Pinegrove and replaced at Birchwood and Nelson Central. Cracked window glass/door panes were replaced at 5 sites. Lighting was changed over to LED at Waimea and Auckland Point teina. Nine Kindergartens received new replacement whiteware appliances e.g. fridge, dishwashers, washing machine, 2 hot water units and 1 cylinder were replaced. Change tables were completed and retrofitted into Birchwood and Hira Kindergartens. Children’s privacy doors were retrofitted at 2 Kindergartens, so all now comply with today’s licensing requirements. Replacement heaters were installed at Nelson Central office and sleep rooms at Healthkids and Tahuna Community Centre.

To meet Playground safety requirements, softfall bark top-ups were completed for Auckland Point, Birchwood, Grove St, Healthkids, Nelson Central, Pinegrove, Richmond, Stoke, Tahuna Community Centre, Tahunanui, Waimea Te Awa and Te Puna. Sandpits were also topped up for Nelson Central, Victory, and Auckland Point. Fences were increased in height to comply with playground standards at Grove Street (behind swings) Pinegrove and Victory.

Painting and repairs were carried out to a number of playground boxes, foam shapes and verandah curtains. Nelson College Trade Building built 3 nailing houses and a storage shed. A tunnel from Healthkids was repaired and covered with artificial turf as a mobile playground item that can be shared by Kindergartens.

Kim Harris and Ben Cox ably undertook a wide variety of day to day repairs and maintenance to buildings, gates, fences, locks, latches, furniture, equipment, playgrounds and gardens. They cleaned heat pump filters, replaced water filters, cleaned gutters, sumps and drains, disposed of rubbish, installed whiteware, retrofitted change tables and toilet privacy doors – you name it, we are fortunate to have their capabilities as problem-solvers and workmanship across a diverse range of mediums to an affordable budget.

*Kathryn Selater*  
**Kindergarten Services Manager**





# Education Report 2020

## *Nelson Tasman Kindergartens Strategic Goal:*

### *Quality - Whakakounga*

Systems and practices have been a focus of Nelson Tasman hui for kaiako over the last year. Groups of kaiako have worked alongside the SEA team to refine and simplify whilst adding depth and improving outcomes to Planning, Internal Evaluation and Appraisal. Looking forward, the next NTK hui will have a focus on formative assessment to strengthen the documentation of teaching and learning that happens for individual and groups of children.



In addition to this PLD, Kaiako from within and beyond NTK have engaged with SELO (Strengthening Early Learning Opportunities) on Cultural Diversity offered by the Ministry of Education and delivered by the Senior Education Advisory team. Storypark was used not only as a platform to connect with tamariki and whānau but also created the space for kaiako to share ideas, readings, resources, and webinars. Contributors extended to include Hayley Pemberton’s three posts on Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Catherine Campbell has been accepted into the University of Canterbury Masters of Science programme with the School of Psychology, Speech and Hearing. Catherine is researching kindergarten Kaiako beliefs and knowledge of oral language. We look forward to her findings and the application of the results to enhance

kaiako understanding and practice in this area.

Positive reports were received for Stoke, Victory, Grove Street and Auckland Point Kindergartens from the Education Review Office. ERO reviewers engaged with the team at Nelson Central to gain insight into the ways in which relationships, teaching and learning were continued during the various Covid-19 Alert Levels.

## *Nelson Tasman Kindergartens Strategic Goal:*

### *Sustainability - Whakauka*

Kaiako did outstanding work in response to Covid-19. Kaiako continued to work remotely and utilized a range of mediums to keep connected with their teams, with NTK management and with tamariki and whānau. Kaiako continued to learn, engaging with online professional development, and progressing their inquiries and Kindergarten Internal Evaluations. Kaiako were diligent in their efforts to understand





and apply health and safety practices at each of the Alert Levels. As a result of this and the ongoing interactions with tamariki and whānau most children have returned to our kindergartens and have done so with ease keen to engage in the amazing programmes offered.

Alongside Kaiako, Brenda Holdaway worked with whānau who were having additional challenges over rāhui (and beyond.) Through the provision of effective parenting strategies and liaison with other relevant services Brenda was able to aid these

potentially vulnerable whānau. Similarly, Catherine Campbell continued to work with whānau to deliver therapy to tamariki to continue the progression of their speech and language goals. Over the past year Catherine has supported more than one hundred tamariki, their whānau and their Kaiako in oral language development.

The delivery of two Incredible Years programmes over the last year has further increased the number of NTK kaiako who have completed the programme. This supports the growth and sustainability of Incredible Years practice by kaiako to be intentional, consistent, and nurturing of tamariki social and emotional competence.

In her role as Kaiārahi Māori Hayley has been working with kindergarten teams on several themes. For some the focus has been on place-based curriculum kaupapa creating those strengthened connections to people, places, and things in the kindergarten’s local community. For other Kaiako they have been evaluating and responding to the level of bi-culturalism seen and heard in their kindergarten while others have been exploring pepeha. As mentioned during rāhui teams engaged with professional learning around Te Tiriti o Waitangi and He Māpuna te Tamaiti. Some were able to explore bicultural practice further through the Cultural Diversity SELO that she, Margie and Sara delivered. Ongoing engagement with teams will create the sustainability required for programme and practice whilst also increasing the quality of what is being delivered.



Progress has been made in the EnviroSchools Space with Richmond Kindergarten committing to the Kaupapa, Wavery Street reflected for Bronze and Waimea completing their Silver reflection. As a result, passionate and enthusiastic teachers and teams are enhancing kindergarten programmes and deepening their teacher practice. A Green Gold workshop was held in November to support those kindergartens on this journey. Rāhui put some uncertainty around whether some Green Gold reflections would occur but recently Hira Kindergarten became the first to do so in the Nelson cluster.



## *Nelson Tasman Kindergartens Strategic Goal:*

### *Growth — Whakatipu*

Nelson Tasman Kindergartens opened Tapawera Kindergarten and appointed Gina Head to lead the team to connect with community and design an exciting and engaging programme for tamariki. The organization has also welcomed what was formerly Motueka Early Learning Centre and now is Motueka Kindergarten. Kaiako under the new leadership of Matt Shea are strengthening their programme and practice for tamariki.

Hayley Pemberton joined the Senior Education Advisory team in a part time capacity which is complementing her role as Kaiarahi Māori. This move is supporting the cultural responsiveness of the team and will grow consistency in practice.



In response to community needs we have had Birchwood, Nayland, Tahunanui and Grove Street move to the full year-model. Currently there are a further three kindergartens working through the consultation process or about to move to the full year model.

We would like to thank kaiako, teacher aides, administrators, and Association staff for all the amazing work that has been done over the last year. Covid-19 stretched people, increased anxieties and was stressful for most however, NTK recognizes the professional, committed, and diligent way our staff responded to the pandemic. This was achieved by keeping tamariki at the heart of all that we do.

*Sarah Hewison, Margie Meleisea, Hayley Pemberton, Sara Murray*

#### **Senior Education Advisors**

*Hayley Pemberton*

**Kaiarahi Māori**

*Brenda Holdaway*

**Whānau Facilitator**

*Catherine Campbell*

**Speech Language Therapist**

*Andrea Goodwin*

**Enviroschools**





“Thank you all so much from the bottom of our hearts for your time, patience, love, knowledge & guidance you have provided during their time at kindergarten. We are forever grateful to you all for your amazing work and we truly appreciate all that you do.”

*Golden Bay Kindergarten*

“As far as I am concerned Grove Street Kindy is the best Kindergarten in Nelson. The teachers are amazing, they are always providing the children with fun activities to help them learn. The teachers know my children so well and provide them with resources that they know my kids respond well to. I honestly couldn’t praise the Kindy more, it’s AWESOME!!!”

*Grove Street Kindergarten*

“I like how this philosophy recognises that children are inquisitive and have a thirst for learning. These are gifts that all children are blessed with. As this is recognised, Greenwood Kindergarten can provide a safe, fun place to learn for all.”

*Greenwood Kindergarten*

“Words cannot express how grateful we are as a family for all you have done for us. Thank you for welcoming us so warmly, for supporting us through our ups and downs and for the loving care of our boys. Thank you for encouraging the boys, allowing them to express themselves, take their time with things they were unsure of, giving them a wide range of learning opportunities, for cuddles and wiping lots of tears, for embracing us as a family. We are truly grateful. “

*Nelson Central Kindergarten*

“We really wanted to say a very heartfelt thank you for looking after our girls, and making their time at kindergarten so special. Stoke kindergarten has been such an important part of our family, and we love and appreciate each and every one of you. It’s been so lovely for the girls and we’ve felt so welcome and connected here. You are all such beautiful, generous and kind souls. Much love and thanks”

*Stoke Kindergarten*

“We feel so fortunate that our son has had such an amazing start to his learning journey with the best teachers. I believe it takes a village to raise a child & all the amazing teachers will always be a part of our village.”

*Waiimea Kindergarten*

“We have always felt welcome by all staff & other families at the kindergarten. The activities & adventures that the children get to experience are absolutely amazing. We are glad we choose here for our family to attend”

*Waverley Street Kindergarten*



# Our Kindergarten Highlights this Year

## Auckland Point Kindergarten

The last year has seen some new challenges for us all but ones we have been able to grow and learn from in ways that have enriched our connections with our whānau and tamariki.

Covid-19 Lockdown and alert level changes created very new challenges and changes. The team thrived through this and from the shared difficulties, bonds with whānau have deepened. Zoom was utilised a lot over lockdown and has become a great back up addition to meetings.

We have received very positive and constructive feedback so far from our involvement in the Rongohia te hau/bi-cultural practice project. We all look forward to the full results.

We had a successful Matariki which saw the first use of our new drum hāngi. Wonderful participation and partnerships in action!

Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten continues to be an amazing and well used resource for us.

Teachers attended nurture training - this was held in regards to supporting tamariki who have experienced/are experiencing trauma. A fantastic and timely professional development opportunity.

We are in the process of increasing parent involvement in their tamariki planning. These plans are all to be shared on StoryPark.

Ongoing mahi towards our inquiry focus on Partnership. This was also greatly supported by the recent SELO course we participated in as a team.

We have begun the process to review our cultural diversity practices which again ties in to our partnership focus.

We have a new shed installed in the Pakeke outdoor space. This has given great extra storage.

Climbing equipment purchased for both Pakeke and Tēina has allowed for extended play options.

A Tamariki library has been set up in Pakeke to allow books to go home.

Renovations in the room last year have been a huge success. Having the large kitchen has allowed for so much more whānau interaction and cooking. It has also allowed for more staff interaction in the space.

Duffy Books in Homes are still being utilised and are greatly received.

*Helen, Jo, Kate, Michele, Rachel, Ruth, Leanne, Lorraine*

‘Whakatū tō kainga ki te kōhanga o Matangi Āwhio’

**Raise up your community to nurture those of Matangi Āwhio.’**



### *Birchwood Kindergarten*

What a wonderful year we have had here at Birchwood Kindergarten.

We are so fortunate to have the most incredible outside environment. We have celebrated that this year by committing to continue our Enviroschools journey and being in and appreciating nature.

We have collected and stocked up on 'loose parts.' This has become an interest for many with imagination, creativity and ingenuity on display daily.

Kapa haka continues to be a fortnightly experience we value. Our tamariki have grown in mana and look forward to this experience. When we had our mihi whakatau, the Birchwood School kapa haka performed for us. This was powerful for our tamariki to observe.

To support our oral language program, our weekly walks out and about in our community are a much treasured weekly ritual. Picnics, library and cafe visits, nature appreciation and collection, are highlights.

We have created a new Christmas tradition of visiting the Nelson Cathedral Christmas tree display, followed by a shared feast back at kindergarten. This filled us with so much Christmas joy and cheer.

Matariki is always a much loved and anticipated celebration in our kindergarten community. This year we were thrilled that we could celebrate. We had a night time disco and transformed our outside environment with fairy lights, reflective shapes to discover with torches and glowing stars to discover throughout the garden. This was a great success.

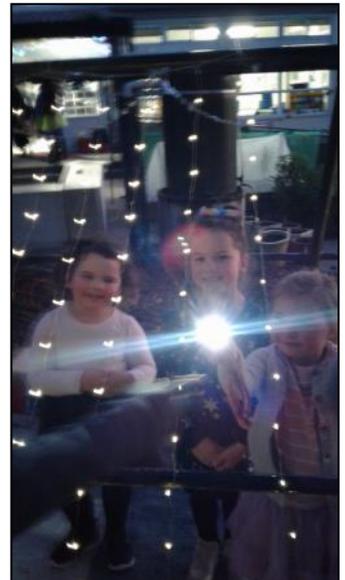
We look forward to another year of joy and aroha.

*Purdie, Linda, Elaine, Jojo, Marjolein*

### *Golden Bay Kindergarten*

We have a strong commitment to providing our kindergarten community opportunities to learn about te ao Māori. We planned an excursion to Waikoropupu Springs where we learnt about Huriawa our local Taniwha and sang our gifted Kindergarten waiata 'Waikoropupu'. What a beautiful place to explore with our tamariki and their whānau. Our main focus was learning about and re-telling our local legends that are unique to this place and part of our local heritage. The core of our philosophy is about gaining a deep respect for the environment. Our kaupapa is about creating a healthy, peaceful, sustainable world through learning and taking action together.

Our commitment to the Healthy Heart program continues and we have once again been awarded the gold standard Pā-Harakeke. This level sees us weave sustainable healthy eating and physical activity practices into all aspects of our environment as well as engaging our community. *continued...*



*Golden Bay Kindergarten continued*

We continue to really embrace the many visitors that come from our local community - we have had St John's Ambulance, our local volunteer fireman and their fire truck, hip hop with Jess, Ronnie from our local library, Cathy our Story Gran, Hennie with her violin, and CJ who is our local Enviroschools leader. Our Enviroschools focus was getting our worm farm back up and running and also learning more about Māori Atua - the guardians of all things around us.

Our guinea pigs Ro-Ro and Pixie are a huge part of our daily program and loved by so many tamariki. We are all fostering ways in which we can connect within nature and our environment, growing our understanding about caring for animals and also learning how to look after and nurture them with love and kindness.

We continue to offer a hikoi/walk to te ngāhere/the bush where the tamariki spend the morning immersed in nature, literally igniting their curiosity. During the winter period the older children have the opportunity to extend their bush skills by having a small fire where they learn about fire safety and being creative with cooking kai on an open flame.

Our team would really like to acknowledge our commitment and dedication towards all our families during the Covid-19 Lockdown. Technology became a big part of our lives more than ever and we used it to the best of our ability to engage regularly with all whānau. Whether it was via phone calls, face time, zoom calls, virtual home visits, text messages and posting regularly on Story Park.

To end this financial year we got to celebrate a much awaited Matariki evening. This is our first big get together since moving to alert Level 1. We have a lot of new whānau so it was a great time for them to all come together and make new connections and strengthen relationships.

*Rebecca, Lesley, Rochelle, Anneliese, Casey, Megan*

*Greenwood Kindergarten*

Greenwood Kindergarten continues to flourish within the Motueka community. Over the last year the teaching team has been developing a new philosophy. The plan was to have whānau, tamariki and teachers build a sense of ownership that the old philosophy did not afford them. The development of the philosophy took its inspiration from the waharoa at the entrance way to kindergarten, and after much consultation and rewrites the new philosophy was blessed at our Matariki lunch at the end of term 2, 2020.

It has been a busy time for the teaching team with all teachers having now completed the Incredible Years programme and are now looking to the Incredible Years Autism as a next step as well as other opportunities for PD that have presented themselves over the year.

*continued...*



*Greenwood Kindergarten continued*

Covid 19 has presented the Greenwood Kindergarten community with many new and unusual circumstances to work through. The hardest day was putting the sign on the gate that Kindergarten would be closed until further notice! The Teaching team went on a steep learning curve working from home. Zoom and Storypark came into their own as major tools for work and we soon became proficient in their use. The whānau and tamariki were contacted each week and videos of the teachers delivering stories, music and life at home became everyday events that were shared with all.

We would like to thank our CEO Craig for keeping us all up to date with the fast-changing situation and how we could best work within these changes and also to the Senior Education Advisors who were always at the end of the phone or so willing to meet by zoom, always so supportive and aware of teacher well being, thank you.

*Sandie, Shayne, Lisa, Alice*



*Grove Street Kindergarten*

This year our kindergarten has been focusing on two of our core values, whānaungatanga and manaakitanga. Our strong relationships and support for one another in our 'kindergarten family' have held strong, especially through the challenging times of Covid-19.

Once again we held several successful events with year with our whānau and tamariki, including Matariki, cross country, snow day and our Christmas party.

Other highlights include trips into our community planned through our place based curriculum focus and Transition to School strategic evaluation. They have included walks to the Centre of NZ (our Maunga), the Maitai River (our awa), library visits, lots of school excursions and a theatre show.

Regular programme additions have included kapa haka sessions, music with Anne, bike days, cooking/ baking, visits from our story grans and a range of visiting animals.

This year we also got our verandah carpeted and a new greenhouse for our keen gardeners.

We look forward to another wonderful year.

**Manaaki Whenua, Manaaki Tangata, Haere Whakamana**

*Care for the land, care for the people and go forward.*

*Sarah, Karen, Lara, Melissa, Ruth*



### Healthkids Kindergarten

What an exciting year it has been for us here at Healthkids and we have had so many highlights!! Relationships are the heart of our philosophy and we wanted to further build our relationships in our wider community. We were invited on an excursion with Nelson South Kindergarten to Pics Peanut Butter Factory which our tamariki absolutely loved. Since then we have stayed connected and visited each other's kindergarten and we must plan for some more excursions soon!

Another way we have strengthened our relationships in our community has been attending the twice yearly NTK hui. Our team has greatly appreciated this time to make connections with other teams and having the time together to learn with and alongside each other.

Another highlight has been the outdoor development in the Infant and Toddler environment which includes a big flat space where turf has been placed and the ground has been levelled and a wooden whare has been built. The change in the environment has provided so many more challenges and opportunities for learning.

*Kimberley, Laura, Jenna, Deborah, Rachel, Maria, Alanah*

### Hira Kindergarten

Our team, children, teachers and families have been working towards our Enviroschools Green Gold award. We are looking forward to the Reflection later this month. The Enviroschools journey which we have taken over the last ten years has been rewarding one, one which is closely aligned with our Kindergarten kaupapa... A strong commitment to enriching our community through nurturing partnerships, children and the natural environment.

Regular visits to Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten has been another highlight. What an amazing resource we have in our back yard.

Our committee has decided to put fundraising on hold for the rest of the year, as in these uncertain times they thought that it would not be appropriate to ask our community or local businesses for more donations but instead to pay back by supporting local businesses and by showing kindness and care to all.

*Trish, Claire, Linda, Karen*

### Laura Ingram Kindergarten

Another busy year has passed at Laura Ingram Kindergarten and it's time to think back on the highlights of the past year. The first thing that springs to mind is that time certainly flies when you are working with children.

Covid 19 has added an interesting dimension to teaching; distance learning was new to all of us. During Lockdown

*continued...*



*Laura Ingram Kindergarten continued*

we were very privileged to be able to supply home activity packs to each child with the support of our local PaperPlus. During Level Three we practiced our social distancing while still enjoying Kapa Haka with the Whānau Class from Parklands School.

Bella our Kindy cat continues to be an essential part of the programme supporting children with emotional regulation and empathy skills. When we came out of lockdown we couldn't decide who was more pleased to see each other, the children or Bella.

Tiegan from the Motueka Recreation Centre has visited regularly over the year to support and extend the physical skills of the tamariki. Tiegan's visit complements and extends the physical programme we offer. The children look forward to her visits.

We have enjoyed getting out and about in our wider community including the Memorial Park where the 'Hill' is a favourite of the children having fun rolling and running. Each year we take part in our communities Starlight Float Parade. This year we turned into Peter Pan and the Pirates. A group of parents worked really hard in creating our ship.

Over the past year an ongoing interest of learning for the children has been building in a variety of areas and using a variety of resources. The children have had so much fun learning to be engineers and builders, all the while deepening their skills of playing with and alongside other.

*Gayle, Leah, Kate, Lisa*



*Motueka Kindergarten*

Formally the Motueka Early Learning Centre, Motueka Kindergarten is reasonably new within the NTK whānau coming on board early February 2020. It has been an unusual arrival into the Association with ¼ of our existence being in lockdown under Covid Alert Level 4.

We have a lot on our agenda with a large focus on creating a warm welcoming environment for tamariki and whānau coupled with establishing an engaging program to keep everyone busy.

Parklands School Kapa Haka group have become regular visitors to the Kindergarten and we have also been lucky enough to be invited to participate with the new entrant's group at the school.

Science has been a massive hit with the tamariki, and our new building frame has reignited the tradie zone. Ben "The Builder" has spent some time here since lockdown working on a number of projects and has become a bit of a cult hero amongst the tamariki. We may look at starting an apprenticeship program in 2021.

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*Motueka Kindergarten continued*

We have some exciting projects in the pipeline with a new entrance to our infant and toddlers’ classroom; and Parklands School has donated some of their back field so we can extend our outside area. We aim to get out into the community more spreading aroha, visiting local schools and strengthening the reputation of Motueka Kindergarten. You will have to wait until next year for an update!

*Matt, Caroline, Kylie, Sam, Steeve, Nicola, Devon, Jo*

*Murchison Kindergarten*

Our main focus this year has been establishing our environment as our ‘third teacher’.

Our Family Liaison Group have worked immenently hard during the year to raise funds to improve our inside play area, including both our family & art areas. Fundraising events included raffles, catering as well as securing sponsorships. We are extremely grateful for all the hard work undertaken which has meant we now have an amazing new learning environment in which our children are thriving.

The natural wood and green tone of the furniture was inspired by our natural environment in Murchison. The design of the equipment was to ensure that children could have easy access to aditional resources and allows our increasing numbers of 2yr olds to have the same visual scope as our older children.

For the A&P show this year we focused on the story of the book ‘the dot’. This book illustrates the power of teacher student relationships and how creativity can be unlocked. It also demonstrates to our tamaraki the power of collaborative art. The childrens’ dots were connected to create a map of New Zealand to highlight further our culture and how we connect together within a multi-cultural nation. The children were delighted when they were awarded rosettes for their efforts as ‘champions of the A&P Show’.

*Angela, Amanda*

*Nayland Kindergarten*

Nayland Kindergarten has had an eventful year. Moving to an all year service in January 2020 we now cater for our local community during school holidays, only closing for a three-week period over Christmas.

We said goodbye to Mary Faulkner and Fay Vaughan who have been a valued part of the team for many years as they move to share their expertise with Tahuna Kindergarten and Preschool. We welcomed Roger Wilde from Auckland Point Kindergarten and Nicholas Derecourt from Learning Land to our teaching team in term one 2020. *continued...*



*Wayland Kindergarten continued*

We spent time with Kiri Pounamu singing waiata and storytelling in preparation for a marae visit. In November 2019 we went to Te Awhina Marae, inviting our whole kindergarten whānau to attend.

We were able to attend Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten a few times where the children got to experience nature and learning in a different environment. For some of the children and adults this was the first time they had experienced a farm, farm animals, paddocks, and pine trees.

As a large group of our kindergarten whānau transitioned through to primary school we were lucky to receive this amazing hand-made child sized boat donation in March from the Comer family. We also had many new families join our Family Link Group.

For the Kindergarten and Family link group covid-19 lockdown put a hold on many of our planned events, so upon our return we began to plan for Matariki 2020 which was able to go ahead. The turnout was heartening as everyone reconnected for the first time in months. We are so grateful to our community and the support they give us.

*Amanda, Lynne, Nick, Roger, Kirstie*

*Nelson Central Kindergarten*

What a busy exciting past year we have had here at Nelson Central Kindergarten. This past year we have continued to provide positive learning opportunities for all our tamariki and whānau.

Our new whānau group have provided us with ideas and thoughts on what they would like to see happen here at Kindergarten. With that in mind we organised a successful trip to Natureland for all the tamariki and whānau in term four of 2019, along with regular trips to the museum.

Another highlight for us has been becoming more visible in the community. We took part in the New Zealand Look 4 a Book event where we hid books in and around our community for others to find.

Our regular whānau events such as bike day , breakfasts and our annual Christmas party have strengthened our relationships with our whānau.

Our regular visits to Teal Valley have continued over this last year and are hugely successful. Tamariki get to explore nature based play and become familiar with the whenua and programme during regular visits.

Our annual plan over the last year has been focused on strengthening social and emotional competence in early learning. As a team we have looked at our practice and strategies to support tamariki in developing their social and emotional skills to support their learning. This has seen a

*continued...*



*Nelson Central Kindergarten continued*

change in some of our routines and created new rituals to support our learning community.

I'm especially proud of all our team who supported both whānau and tamariki during the covid-19 crisis by ensuring we provided learning opportunities through stories , videos and Zoom . These continued connections during this difficult time gave tamariki and whānau a sense of familiarity and a connection to our learning community.

We recently held a successful Matariki celebration which gave us a chance to reconnect and reflect on the past and look to the future. This was well attended by whānau and gave us all an opportunity to celebrate our achievements over the last year.

I would like to thank all our whānau and the team for their continued support as we continue to provide the best outcomes for all our tamariki.



*Kellie, Raewyn, Regina, Celia, Sue, Cheryl, Emma,*

*Nelson South Kindergarten*

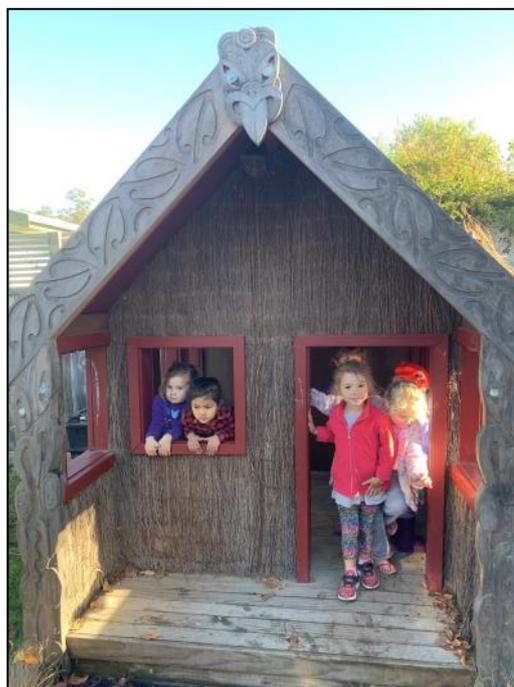
Over the past year Nelson South have continued many excursions including; The Grampians, Isele Park, Pils Peanut Butter Factory, Nelson Provincial Museum, Elma Turner Library, Stoke Library, Flaxmore Rest Home, local primary schools and have added in new excursions to the Modellers Pond and Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten. Our teacher aide and only male staff member Patrick Neate finished as the children he was working with headed off to school.

There have been five new story grants start, bringing our total to eight story grants coming in each week. We have continued our annual events of Family Picnic Night, Sparkle Dance Party, Matariki and our Kindergarten Christmas-party.

The covid-19 lockdown provided children and teachers with an opportunity to teach and learn online.

Nelson South has now shifted to the full year model of operation which now means that our part time teacher Christine Lee is here a lot more often as she covers staff absence.

Recently Nelson South said goodbye to two long serving staff members. Anthea Kershaw retired after 51 years of teaching in early childhood. Most of this time was spent working at Nelson Tasman Kindergartens. Our Head Teacher Kylie Johnston moved to the North Island to pursue a Head Teacher opportunity at Dargaville Kindergarten.



*Kylie, Steph, Jenna, Debbie, Christine*



### *Pinegrove Kindergarten*

Pinegrove Kindergarten happily continues to maintain full rolls with a reasonable waiting list. We are saying goodbye to a very large group of children during term 3, however thankfully we will be able to maintain our full rolls.

In working robustly within our annual plan we are making regular trips to Snowdens Bush. We are enjoying exploring this beautiful, natural local environment throughout all seasons. The chilly winter trips are also enjoyable, even if we can't feel our toes when we get back to kindergarten.

We continue to enjoy all aspects of having our four lovely and lively chickens. We sometimes bake with the eggs (scrambled eggs for morning kai is such a delicious treat on a cold winters morning!) or we give them to our families or visitors to kindergarten. The tamariki are involved in planting quality kai for the chickens and after caring for the plants over time they are able to pick the produce to feed the chickens. Families bring in their food scraps which the chickens enjoy and we also collect food scraps from our kai times at kindergarten too. Egg collection every morning is always a highlight! The whole community involvement in caring for our chickens and also receiving the very tasty eggs sits firmly within our green-gold Enviroschools kaupapa.

We are very fortunate indeed to be literally wrapped in warmth by the Wakefield Craft Group. Throughout the year Julie arrives with bags full of the most beautiful knitted items for our tamariki. Our children delight in choosing some hand knitted slippers or a hat. Cosy jumpers, cardigans, blankets and toys are knitted too and there is enough for younger siblings. Our families are astounded and incredibly grateful for the generosity of this group of people who spend time knitting garments for children within their local community.

Of course 2020 has been a highly unusual year with kindergarten being closed for many weeks due to covid-19 lockdown. The Pinegrove team worked hard to remain strongly connected to our kindergarten whānau. Feedback we received was that we were very successful in doing this.

For many of our kindergarten tamariki they have had to deal with two enormous events in their short little lives. In the summer of 2019 the Pigeon Valley fire took hold on our doorstep affecting many of our families and only 12 months later covid 19 hit. As a kindergarten that is deeply connected to its local community we have worked to support all of our families through these trying times. Happy, settled, empowered motivated learners and parents who consistently share beautifully positive feedback tells us that the whole Pinegrove team is most certainly doing what it needs to be doing to create the best outcomes for children.

*Leanne, Annie, Paula, Deidre, Karolyne*



### *Richmond Kindergarten*

Wow 2020 has been a year that no one will forget in a hurry. It is great to work with a stable and passionate team who support the tamariki to be active, passionate and curious explorers.

Covid-19 threw a spanner in the works for many but Richmond Kindergarten team took it in their stride ensuring that daily learning opportunities were available for all our tamariki via Storypark. Many families engaged with the new 'online' Kindergarten enjoying the different experiences on offer. Because of this connection with whānau throughout lockdown we saw tamariki return to Kindergarten happy, content and excited about learning back in the physical Kindergarten environment.

Once again our tamariki have had a fun filled year with many things happening in and out of the Kindergarten. We have regular excursions into the community including fortnightly trips for gym at the town hall, visits to the mall and local schools. We would like to thank the regular visitors we have to Kindergarten including students from Waimea Intermediate, Waimea College and our three wonderful Story Grans.

Once again we have been involved in community events including entering the A & P show and contributing to the Christmas display for the children's ward at the hospital. Our termly whānau events have been well supported with big turnouts at our annual event at the Tahunanui Trains and the wheel-a-thon. huge thanks to all those that have come into our Kindergarten sharing their time and skills with our tamariki.

Finally a huge thank you to our parents who support our Kindergarten by providing parent support on trips, bake to welcome new families, support our fundraisers and share their skills and knowledge.

*Rochelle, Angela, Tracey, Susan, Rachael*

### *Stoke Kindergarten*

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa. 2019 and 2020 at Stoke Kindergarten has been a busy year.

There are many highlights but the one of significance that has come to the forefront for us was navigating our way through a global pandemic. This unknown certainly provided challenges within our team but as we worked our way through a new normal with amazing support from our management team and CEO, we found relationships with our families only grew stronger.

We are very grateful for these wonderful connections. We have continued to build on this resulting in increased

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*Stoke Kindergarten continued*

whānau engagement in our programme and festivities such as Matariki. Matariki this year started off with the children making damper bread with whānau. The highlight for the children was cooking the damper bread and toasting marshmallows on the fire pit. We are so fortunate to have supportive families who are deeply connected with our kindergarten community so that this celebration was a huge success. Whānau expertise is used to further extend children’s learning around physical development as well as fostering children’s interest in the arts.

The team have been working hard developing the nature discovery programme in the reserve. This has led to collaborating with our local community to further develop the reserve so that learning opportunities will be more meaningful. We have been well supported with whānau attending and helping in the reserve.

Our (HPP) Hei Awhiawhi Tamariki ki te Panui Pukapuka, programme is back up and running again. Specifically, HPP builds vocabulary and language concepts, supporting children to develop the skills to retell stories in sequence. Children’s oral language skills are assessed before and after their engagement in the programme to track progress. It is very rewarding to see the benefits of this programme as children’s confidence grows.

*Vanessa, Sue, Kay, Toshi, Rose*

*Tahunanui Kindergarten*

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa.

I would like to start by acknowledging our teachers Fiona and Kirsty. Both have been with Tahunanui Kindergarten for over 10 years and while the majority of this time saw little change to staffing, there has been a lot of teachers, and head teachers for that matter, come and go in recent years. I would like to thank you both for your strength and resilience in ensuring that what makes Tahunanui is still alive and relevant.

Fay Vaughan and Sue Tutty joined our teaching team and we have been moving forward with planning and inquiring into areas of education that interest and challenge us. This in turn has moved our knowledge, understanding and practice. Kia kaha tonu ki a matou mahi pai! Let’s keep up our good work!

We welcomed Mary Faulkner and Libby Wright into the fold during covid-19 lockdown. Mary is our curriculum leader at preschool and is leading the team in creating a new programme, and environment. Together with Denise, Sarah and Sue they are creating a very special place for our

*continued...*



*Tahumanui Kindergarten continued*

younger children to learn, develop and flourish.

The recent purchase of the preschool has seen many changes to its environment; the new children’s bathroom probably being the most noticeable.

Having two settings under the same kaupapa has brought challenges as well as joys throughout the year. Whānau are enjoying having more flexibility in the hours their child can attend. In creating an environment and programme that specialises in 2 – 3 ½ yr olds that complements our existing kindergarten we have found ourselves with no vacancies and a growing wait list.

One of the most outstanding events for us in 2019 was our visit to Te Āwhina Marae. We experienced powhiri, made connections with the wider world of te Ao Māori and it provided another authentic experience of mihi and whakapapa for our tamariki. It was the first time for many of our whānau to visit a marae so for them it was a new, exciting and somewhat scary experience. Our children were well prepared for this incredible experience and it showed from the way they sat and listened, sang waiata to performing hongī, they were amazing!

We continued to take 2 groups of our eldest children to the Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten, alternately once a fortnight. What an amazing experience we are able to give these children. Nature is the perfect place for children to learn confidence in themselves, resourcefulness, and a love for nature and the world around them.

Kapahaka was another programme regular. Kiri Pounamu enthralled our tamariki with her waiata and personality.

We also celebrated Matariki, the end of the year party, and our wonderful Story Grans and Grandad.

Children created a bee garden, and a mud pit sort of evolved with the help of wet weather and children in gumboots, what fun!

We had wacky hair and dress up days, Irish dancers visiting and so much more.

With the advent of Covid -19 we had to change the way we worked and communicated. Zoom hui or Zui’s became the norm and teachers, using the Storypark platform, soon became singers, online story readers, challenge setters, and a resource for children and whānau alike.

Ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa.

Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

*Sue, Kirsty, Fiona, Fay, Sue T. Mary, Libby, Denise, Sarah*



## Tapawera

It's been an exciting first year here in Tapawera spent developing relationships with tamariki, whānau and the wider community, especially the school.

Our first few fundraisers have helped to strengthen these relationships as well as help us fund a much needed shade sail and some popular new resources for children.

Our school environment provides us with plenty of opportunities to explore - from the sports fields, bike track, the library, new entrant classroom as well as invites to assemblies. It's not unusual to have a class pop in to see us and to share their learning with us, and it's been great to welcome our first senior students who now come in regularly for work experience.

Our first ten graduates have all successfully transitioned to school, making great use of weekly school visits for our older 4 year olds. Having them come to visit us at our fence to say "Hi" to their friends and to tell us how they are getting on is just a wonderful bonus of being located in school grounds.

Inside our own doors so many new friendships have developed and a great sense of tuakana teina has been established amongst tamariki. There is always a kind friend ready to support one another and as some of our younger tamariki settle in they have some older children to look up to.

Our kindergarten days are flying by in a flurry of activity. Dramatic play is alive whether inside or out, and whatever we add inspires plenty of twists and turns. Fishing in the bark and campfires are a popular pastime and we are never short of muffins and coffees in our family corner and sandpit!

As we work on our social competencies, we get lots of practice playing some of our new board games and interacting with some stories to help prepare them for all of life's journeys.

Our first year has flown by and the team are excited to continue building our curriculum and growing our presence within the community.

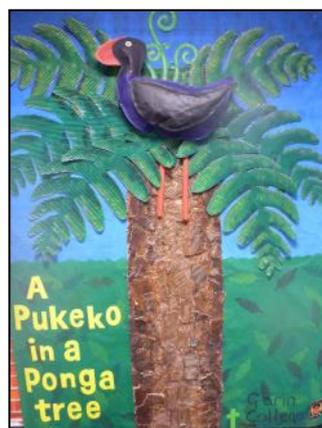
*Gina and Jane*

## Te Whare Manaaki

Te Whare Manaaki Kindergarten is a unique part of Nelson Tasman Kindergartens and continues to grow and be well supported by Nelson Marlborough Health.

Along with the provision of 'typical' early childhood education services within the Children's Ward at Nelson Hospital, we also provide tamariki and whānau with education and support specifically around medical procedures.

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*Te Whare Manaaki continued*

Firstly, we'd like to repeat a huge thankyou to those kindergartens that along with Garin College, contributed to our 12 Kiwi Days of Christmas themed ward decorations for Christmas 2019. The ward looked amazing – and tamariki and their whānau were so engaged with checking out the different pieces and even recognising their own kindergarten art. We were awarded a prize for Community Involvement – thanks to you.

We were delighted to have a group from Stantec Engineers volunteer their community service time to us this year. They sourced donations of timber and paint – and spruced up the outdoor space and creating a whare from the existing outdoor playhouse. Menzshed Nelson collaborated with them to construct some extra seating around the tree. Our next steps are to have turf laid and some outdoor mahi toi installed. Exciting!

Like every other kindergarten, our service was interrupted by the noho rāhui related to the COVID19 pandemic. During this time we took opportunities to participate in professional learning and development, as well as ensuring our planning and reviews were up to date. Regular ZOOM hui – or zui – kept us in contact with the Association, other Head Teachers and kaiako. Of course the ward remained open for children needing urgent treatments, and Sue remained available to tamariki as well as the nursing staff via email and/or phone and video calling as necessary.

Sue continues to attend professional development and other learning opportunities that arise, including attending the Hospital Play Specialists biannual conference in March this year. This was a fantastic opportunity to network, learn and share with others working within hospital settings.

We are pleased that our staffing has been stable over the last year with no changes. We love our mahi, and the opportunities we have to be involved with children and their families while they are in hospital. We are sometimes able to document hospital visits and stays on Storypark, so tamariki and whānau can share their experiences with their kaiako at kindergarten. These connecting links are important and valuable.

Finally, we'd like to acknowledge the incredible support we get from the Association team. We couldn't do our mahi without this team behind us. Thank you for all you have done – especially under the trying circumstances the global pandemic sees us navigating. You are appreciated.

Ngā mihi mahana

*Sue, Tania, and relievers Jenna, Virginia, Susan*



### Victory Kindergarten

As you know it has been a very interesting year for us all. One of the awesome things that came out of covid-19 lockdown was the success we had in getting the majority of our whānau engaged with our online communication system. This has made the sharing of news and events so much easier.

One of the things we noticed when we returned to level 1 is that it took some of our whānau a while to feel secure about leaving their tamariki with us, and we as kaiako also felt the residual effects of worrying about the world around us and how things have changed.

However, once we settled back into Kindergarten life, we organised an amazing Matariki evening where we shared kai, waiata and Hayley spoke to us about Matariki. Some of the team then went out for a well deserved celebration dinner.

The tamariki have also enjoyed a visit to Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten where they were able to explore all that nature has to offer.

We have had transition to school visits to Victory and Hampden Street Schools. We continue to have full rolls and a reasonable wait list with tamariki from various ethnicities attending our Kindergarten.

Our teaching team have welcomed Felicity to our teaching team to cover Deidre who is currently working at Pinegrove Kindergarten to covering parental leave.

We also said farewell to our Family Support Worker Charmaine, who has been based at our Kindergarten for the last seven years. Charmaine’s work has been invaluable for our team and whānau and we thank her for her awahi and aroha.

*Donna, Luise, Alesha, Sarah, Bev, Pip*

### Waimea Kindergarten

The year has brought celebrations, challenges, and connections for Waimea Kindergarten.

At the end of last year we started reviewing our philosophy and curriculum priorities and developed new ones after the NTK hui on ‘The Big Blueprint’ in October 2019. These were developed in consultation with our whānau as we reflected on and recognised what learning we value for our tamariki in our kindergarten. For kaiako this was an exciting and inspiring process to do together. We all contributed to what we wanted to see reflected in our teaching practice, environment, planning and assessments now and going forward.

We had regular excursions to Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten. We value learning in nature for our tamariki.

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*Waimea Kindergarten continued.*

They have developed responsible attitudes around risk-taking while learning more about the natural world. Our whānau also value the opportunity for their tamariki to go to the ngahere and have sponsored some of our excursions to make this possible.

We engaged in weekly Just Gym sessions and kapa haka sessions, and regularly visited classes at the schools on the same education campus as us – Henley School & Waimea Intermediate School.

Again, we created a pūrerehua whare at kindergarten this year. With the support and assistance from our community we converted our outside whare in to a safe butterfly enclosure with swan plants where Monarch eggs, caterpillars, chrysalises and butterflies could be viewed by the tamariki and whānau. Our tamariki were captivated watching the lifecycle of our Monarch butterflies play out in front of them. There were many teachable moments and learning opportunities that brought joy and delight to our tamariki, and with that a growing interest in kaitiakitanga - caring, respecting and being guardians for the caterpillars and butterflies. Our tamariki knew how to identify whether a butterfly was male or female by looking at its wings.

Our children were also kaitiaki for our sunflowers that we grew with the Daltons sunflower competition. With our 3.2 metre tall sunflower bloom, we won the national tallest sunflower award in the Daltons late bloomers competition. We think our success was from our wonderful worm wees we showered them with from our worm farm.

Our whole team had the opportunity to participate in SELO professional development on strengthening our kindergarten’s curriculum to support and inspire the learning of diverse cultures. We engaged in hui, reflected on on-line readings and participated in Zoom hui as part of our commitment to growing our practice and confidence in providing a culturally responsive curriculum for all children.

Rāhui (covid-19 lockdown) was an unprecedented situation for everyone. We creatively provided new learning experiences for tamariki and their whānau via distance. We connected with everyone through Storypark, Zoom hui, texts, phone calls and emails. On reflection of this time, we felt that we made some deeper connections with our tamariki and whānau as we shared more of our personal lives with them and them with us.

In level 3, we opened for a ‘bubble’ of tamariki. We thoughtfully planned an element of surprise for their return to kindergarten after being home for weeks with their families. We created magical fairy gardens. Discovering fairies had moved in to kindergarten sparked their imaginations and curiosity.

*continued...*



*Waimea Kindergarten continued.*

The wonder continues as our fairy gardens have now become villages with new additions from the tamariki, whānau and the wider community.

One of the highlights for us this year was becoming a Silver Enviroschools. As part of our Enviroschools journey we transformed two tired garden spaces into inviting places where children can investigate, discover and learn more about the bugs and insects that reside there. With contributions and efforts from our community we now have wonderful gardens with a bug hotel, weta house, and insect tunnel that tamariki can curiously explore.

Our annual Matariki celebration was once again a wonderful whānau event that was well attended. It was lovely to have everyone back together again at kindergarten where we shared kai, sang waiata, toasted marshmallows and celebrated the Māori new year.

We supported transitions to school for 46 tamariki last year. Our rolls across Waimea continue to remain full and our afternoons at te awa have been increased to 45 tamariki to meet the needs of our community.

Whāia te iti kahurangi  
Ki te tūohu koe, me he maunga teitei  
Pae tawhiti, whaia kia tata

Pursue your dream  
The unquenchable thirst for excellence  
Or whatever it is that you desire  
If you are passionate enough  
Committed enough  
Anything is possible

*Rebekah, Karen, Kath, Kathryn, Rebecca, Kate, Amanda,  
Leslie, Janeen, Kellie, Melinda*

*Waverley Street Kindergarten*

This year has been busy for us at Waverley St. We welcomed many new families into our kindergarten whānau as well as fare welling some of our tamariki as they begin their learning journeys at school. An exciting achievement for us has been to receive our Enviroschools Bronze reflection. Working towards gaining this award was a wonderful learning opportunity not just for the tamariki and kaiako, but the wider community as whānau embraced the learning alongside us. Our focus to achieve the reflection was growing our knowledge around ways we can reduce our impact on the environment. We narrowed this focus to consider how we can promote practices that encourage sustainable ways to manage lunchbox packaging. This led us to creating beeswax wraps with the tamariki as

*continued...*



*Waverley Street Kindergarten continued*

our end of year gifts to their family and it is pleasing to see these continue to be used in lunchboxes at kindergarten everyday.

With the Enviroschools kaupapa underpinning our learning, we have been growing and eagerly harvesting many different foods from our gardens. This has inspired tamariki to try out a wider range of foods that they have been involved in growing and also encourage whānau to try growing more foods at home.

Another highlight for us was beginning regular visits to Teal Valley Forest Kindergarten. Nestled in the forest there are endless opportunities to inspire our children's learning, - learning about new ways of doing - learning about the environment and their role as kaitiaki, and being open to try out new experiences. Our visits to Teal Valley provide a place for our children that sparks their curiosity, stretches their imaginations and inspires them to take on new challenges with courage, determination and delight. We would like to acknowledge our appreciation to Sharron Goodman-Page for facilitating these amazing trips; and the work she puts into continually striving to create a magical learning place for our tamariki.

Our focus around supporting children's developing physical capabilities emerged from our wheel-a-thon earlier in the year. After the event tamariki expressed an interest in learning more about bikes/wheels and also growing their riding skills. This led to the Family Liaison Group purchasing bikes for use at kindergarten, and to add a bit more challenge for our learners we also purchased bike ramps. We have been having regular 'wheels' days at kindergarten and the tamariki have embraced the opportunity to bravely tackle the ramps with many now doing this at great speed!!

The covid-19 lockdown earlier in the year brought about some challenges for most of us in Aotearoa. The teaching team considered how we could best support our tamariki and whānau during this time. Through the creative use of media - videos, messaging, calls and fun zoom meetings with our tamariki, we found ways to authentically connect with our kindergarten whānau that was meaningful for them and their children. We have had wonderful responses from whānau who really valued the work that we put in to ensure they felt connected and informed during the lockdown period.

*Yvonne, Leah, Kelsie, Tessa*





## *Finance Report Overview*

### **Finance Report**

For the year ending 30 June 2020, the Association generated an operating profit of \$196,023 after depreciation, compared to the deficit of \$66,511 for the previous year.

### **Income**

Income for the year was \$11,943,783 an increase of 22.94% on the 2018/19 year. The main reasons for this increase was due to most of our Kindergartens moving to all year services. We received additional funding from the Ministry of Education due to COVID 19 and the Association took over the Licenses for Tahunanui Community Preschool and Motueka Early Learning Centre.

### **Operating Expenditure**

Total expenses at \$11,747,759 were 20.10% higher than in the 2018/19 year. This was due to increased salaries & employee related costs related to the additional two Kindergartens and reflects the investment in higher numbers of support staff and specialist staff during the year. Also included is the provision for annual leave for all employees as this was not included previously due to most Kindergartens been operating during term time only.

### **Capital Expenditure**

During the year over \$265,992 was invested in assets.

### **Family Liaison Group Funding**

Throughout the year, family groups representing each Kindergarten undertook fundraising activities to support their Kindergartens. The funds raised by these groups are an important addition to the funding subsidies and fees, enabling Kindergartens to carry out improvements and upgrades to their property that would otherwise not be achievable.

A total of \$34,169 was raised by these groups during the year. Total expenditure by the groups was \$39,432. This amount included \$24,978 shown as donations to Nelson District Kindergarten Association representing the purchase of assets for Kindergartens, that are transferred to the ownership of the Kindergartens.

**Full Financial Statements enclosed.**

Nelson Tasman Kindergarten Association

Financial Information

2019 -2020

Financial Performance	2020	2019	2018
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
MOE Bulk Funding	10,513,697	8,848,521	8,503,634
MOE Funding - Other	209,895	-	-
MOE Equity Funding	200,172	187,612	179,030
MOE – Motueka ELC Funding	47,090		
MOE Targeted Funding	57,719	52,936	25,545
Fees	377,258	247,753	358,247
Family Contributions	136,565	144,223	136,283
Interest	38,055	44,283	66,138
Grants/Donations	91,627	37,826	89,466
Support Contracts	246,728	136,347	117,725
Sundry/Other Income	24,977	15,699	52,519
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>11,943,783</b>	<b>9,715,200</b>	<b>9,528,587</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employment Related	10,095,581	8,272,189	8,079,486
Property & Grounds	337,389	311,552	306,854
Administration	382,007	350,845	348,771
Operating	681,449	593,847	537,730
Depreciation	251,333	253,278	236,196
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>11,747,759</b>	<b>9,781,711</b>	<b>9,509,037</b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>196,023</b>	<b>- 66,511</b>	<b>19,550</b>
<b>Financial Position</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Current Assets	996,848	727,959	606,373
Fixed Assets	6,665,418	5,816,478	5,563,793
Less Current & Non Current Liabilities	986,855	914,788	543,701
<b>Total Association Equity</b>	<b>6,675,411</b>	<b>5,629,649</b>	<b>5,626,465</b>





- Can Plan
- Estate of Laura Ingram
- Fuji Xerox
- Fulton Hogan
- Glasgow Harley Barristers and Solicitors
- Nelson Bays Primary Health
- Nelson City Council
- Learning Spaces Global
- Mitre 10 Helping Hands
- Pics Peanut Butter
- Rata Foundation
- Solly's Freight
- NBS
- Burnsco
- Arron Cox - Mike Pero Real Estate
- Raewood Fresh
- Kowhai Cafe
- Golden Bay High School
- Takaka Primary School
- Takaka Community Gardens
- Nelson College Trade Building
- Pomeroy's Coffee
- St Andrews Family Trust
- Strengthening Families
- Massy University—IY Autism
- Menz Shed Nelson
- Jorgensen Accounting Specialists Ltd
- Network Tasman
- Trillian Trust
- EECA & The Warehouse
- Rural Women
- Lift 'n Shift
- Daltons
- Mad Butcher Stoke
- Stantec New Zealand
- 4 Square Tapawera
- Drummond and Etheridge
- Tapawera OP Shop
- Bay Subtropicals





**We acknowledge the Ministry of Education aspiration statement outlined in *Te Whāriki* that children have the right to:**

***“Grow up as competent and confident learners and communicators, healthy in mind, body and spirit, secure in their sense of belonging and in the knowledge that they make a valued contribution to society.”***

*Nelson Tasman*  
**KINDERGARTENS**

NGĀ KOHUNGAHUNGA MAI WHAKATU KI AORERE

*For the best possible start*