



Annual Report 2023

General Managers
report

Board Chairs Report

Our Kindergartens

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year



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General Managers Report

Kia ora koutou, ngā mihi mahana kia koutou katoa. Ko Corina Naus tōku ingoa, te kaiwhakahare o ngā whare kohungahunga mai Wairau ki Waitohi.

It is with pleasure that I present the report on the management and operations of Marlborough Kindergarten Association (MKA) for the year 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Over the past 20 years I have had the pleasure to work alongside many great board members. All of whom have shown unwavering commitment to kindergarten and to governing in a way that ensures that the Marlborough community have provision of a quality ECE service. Times are changing and the legislative requirements on boards have increased, as has the amount of time required to govern the association effectively. As a result, and after due diligence, the board has made the decision to ask the community to vote on joining the NZK network board. I'd like to thank the board for their mahi/work and bravery in making this decision. There has been a lot of thought, discussion, and honesty in the process to get here, but we believe this change will put us in a good place to navigate the future ECE space.

As long as you seek to retain the beautiful wahine who run Waitohi Kindergarten I think you will have a winning formulation. This team have worked with our family through challenging times and helped to shape our little girl into a confident and strong person and we are very grateful!

– Whānau feedback

This year has seen the shortage of trained ECE teachers significantly impact on us. High levels of sickness have meant at times we have had to juggle staff to ensure we maintain our child:adult ratios.



I'd like to acknowledge our teaching teams who have stepped up when we are short staffed and deferred their professional time, the part-time staff who have stepped in to do additional hours, the teacher aides who have worked on the floor at short notice, our amazing relieving teachers who are so accommodating regarding their availability, and to the Senior Teacher and Office Manager who have taken on managing the process to ensure that we have been able to keep the kindergartens open and staffed.

Every evening when I ask James how was Kindy? he enthusiastically says Fantastic or Great! Tonight, he told me all about how tuna are able to survive out of water and can make their way across the land between awa. The strength of the programme that you have developed for the tamariki is evident in how much James is learning and sharing with us.

– Whānau feedback

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In July we hosted Jase Williams to run a series of Trauma Informed Practice Workshops. We kept the cost low to ensure anyone in the community could access these workshops and were delighted when 241 people joined us across the three sessions. Participants came from a diverse range of groups across the community including all MKA teaching staff. Jase advised that this was the largest number of attendees in one region he had presented to.

This workshop enabled us to work effectively and proactively within and across the community. It also highlighted for our community that we seek to lead education best practice.

– Participant feedback

We continue to actively collaborate with our local Kāhui Ako (Communities of Learning). In January all our educators (including teacher aides) attended a teacher only day which was run by the Piritahi Kāhui Ako. More than 500 educators from around Marlborough came together to attend quality professional development with speakers from around the motu which included the introduction of [Ngā Kawataau me ngā Tumanakotanga o Te Tauihu– the Aspirations and Expectations of Iwi of Te Tauihi](#). This professional development gave our staff the opportunity to attend a diverse range of workshop alongside their colleagues from the primary and secondary sector.

I think we are so lucky to be included in this PLD, we had some of the most knowledgeable people in the country as speakers. The Marlborough/ Tasman region are so lucky to have the document Ngā Kawataau me ngā Tumanakotanga o te Te Tauihu gifted to us.

– Kaiako/Teacher feedback

In 2017 MKA began providing management and senior teacher services to Awatere Early Learning Centre (AELC). AELC first opened in 2013 after the

local community saw a need for an Early Childhood Centre, fundraised to upgrade a local church building and set up a board to oversee the management of the centre.

Damage from the Christchurch and Awatere earthquakes meant the church building was no longer suitable, so using grant funding, earthquake insurance and fundraising the community built a community hub which houses AELC, Playcentre and Plunket. This beautiful facility is owned and run by a community trust.

In 2022 the AELC board requested we investigate bringing them under the MKA umbrella, and after a process of due diligence on both sides, this came to fruition in April 2023. We are delighted that the Awatere community have entrusted us with the education of their tamariki.



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The addition of AELC sees us with a roll of 338 tamariki, 44 teaching staff, 11 teacher aides/administrators and a management team of 4.

I love that you embrace her Māoritanga. She's very excited about Taiopenga, she sees her sisters on stage and I know she's very excited for it to be her turn. We'll support this at home as well to hopefully give her enough confidence to do what I know she can do.

– Whānau feedback

June saw the Education Review Office visiting 7 kindergartens (with AELC visited in August) to complete reviews which focussed on compliance and teaching and learning. The review process has changed since our last reviews in 2018 and had a high level of focus on ensuring we met the compliance aspects of the licensing criteria. We are still awaiting the final reports however ERO commented favourably about:

- The positive interactions between tamariki and kaiako
- The quality of the Professional Development we offer our staff
- Our bicultural practice
- The established relationships with Kāhui Ako
- How well resourced our kindergartens are
- Our outside areas and in particular the amazing sandpits

I would like to thank the Picton school Principal and Board for allowing us to extend the Waitohi kindergarten boundary out by 3m into the school grounds which increased the outdoor area significantly. The installation of new soft-fall and a purpose-built storage shed has greatly enhanced the environment for the tamariki.

Other work undertaken at our centres has included:

- Upgrading bathrooms at Springlands and Seymour kindergartens
- Exterior painting at Redwoodtown and Renwick Kindergartens
- New carpet at Redwoodtown Kindergarten
- Interior painting at Redwoodtown Kindergarten

As an organisation we continue to advocate for tamariki across all areas of our community. Our teachers work to lead education best practice which supports our tamariki to thrive. We invest our funds into employing trained teachers, providing quality professional development opportunities for staff and providing learning environments that are well resourced and well maintained. Our administrators and management team work hard to remove barriers to participation and work proactively within and across the community to provide the best possible education experience we can while keeping to a tight budget.

As I reflect on the past 12 months, I am incredibly proud of MKA. No doubt 2024 will bring with it challenges within the ECE landscape, however we will continue to focus on our vision that every child will meet their potential and use that lens to support our decision making.

Unuhia te pō, te pō whiri Mārama, tomoki ate ao, tea o whatu tāngata, tātai ki runga, tātai ki raro, tātai aho rau.

Haumie e, hui e, taiki e!

From the confusion comes understanding, from the understanding comes unity, we are interwoven, we are connected, together we learn.

Corina Naus
General Manager

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Marlborough Kindergarten Association Board Chair Report 2023

On behalf of the MKA Board I would like to thank everyone involved for another successful year. Corina, Gwenda, Head Office, and all of the incredible Teaching Staff, you do a fantastic job to meet the needs of our local tamariki. I would also like to thank the MKA Board for their valuable contribution to the Association over the past year.

We have continued to face challenges with a lot of staff sickness and disruption to teaching teams, and lower than average attendance rates from tamariki. We are extremely grateful for everyone's hard work with minimal disruption.

For the year ending 30 June 2023 MKA achieved a profit of \$114,585. Despite lower attendance rates, the Management team have proactively sought additional funding. We have received more favourable interest rates on our investments, offset by inflationary pressures, this is an excellent result. I would like to thank the MKA Management team for their effective and prudent financial management.

MKA is a member of New Zealand Kindergartens (NZK) who provide support services, lobby and advocate on behalf of kindergartens. As mentioned in the previous Chair Report, NZK has been piloting a new governance model with a number of member associations over the past year. As a Board we have been actively observing this and following lengthy discussions we are recommending MKA join the NZK Network Board. MKA will continue to be our own entity retaining all our assets, liabilities, constitution, and ways of working.



I would like to formally welcome the Awatere Early Learning Centre (AELC) into the Association. AELC joined on the 1st of April 2023 and we are very excited to be able to offer quality early childhood education in the Awatere region under the MKA umbrella.

A focus this year has been on building the MKA profile. We are proud of the rollout of the new logo with the three koru representing our values: Leader, Community and Kaitaki. Our soon to be launched website looks fantastic and showcases the excellent service we offer Marlborough tamariki.

On the property front we are extremely pleased with the upgrade and expansion of the Waitohi Playground earlier in the year. The Redwoodtown Kindergarten has also finally received a much-needed exterior facelift and more work is planned there over the coming months.

Finally, I would also like to acknowledge our whanau. Thank you for enrolling your tamariki with MKA and entrusting us with their education, and thank you for all the work you do in supporting the Association. There have been some incredible fundraising initiatives throughout the year and we are extremely grateful.

Emma Marsden
Board Chair

Awatere

It has been an extremely exciting year for us at Awatere Early Learning Centre. We are now proudly an official member of the Marlborough Kindergarten Association. Our first teachers only day was met with nerves and excitement as we were being welcomed in MKA with a mihi whakatau/ official welcome speech. As a team we stood with pride as we reciprocated our mihi and introductions, followed by a waiata/song we had been learning for this significant occasion.

To be part of Marlborough Kindergarten has long been a dream for our kaiako/teachers and to see this become a reality is very special, not just for us but for our tamariki/children, their whānau/extended family and the Awatere community.

We hosted a Pink ribbon day Saturday 19th of May. This was led by one of our Kaiako and raised \$3,370 for the Breast Cancer Foundation. It was a well-supported event attended by centre whānau and members of the community. A big thank you to Leah for organising this event that is close to our hearts and Ashley for her support.

This year we hosted our Matariki celebration at the new Yealands memorial hall – a great venue that Awatere community are very proud of. The tamariki and kaiako planned for the evening by learning waiata, preparing kai/food for the hangi and baking cakes – the excitement was almost too much. Tarf and his whānau put down a hangi, while we waited for it to be delivered, we were entertained by live musicians Doubleshot. It was a great evening attended by whānau and kaiako.



What our whānau said:

"The set up and atmosphere, music and getting the community together, the food was divine!"

"The star room was very well thought out."

"Was good to meet other parents, see the kids enjoying each other outside preschool. The room with all the lights were very impressive and a huge hit with the children."

"The kids performing but also the band was awesome! The lights and glow sticks were cool, it was all very cool!"

"Seeing the photo slide show and the kids performing."

Recently our tamariki have been focussed on hunting. This is something that many of our centre whānau do regularly and often the tamariki are part of it. This became a large part of our programme for the next month. Kaiako set up a display in the foyer and whānau brought animal hides and skulls to share. Almost every child engaged in this new learning, from obtaining a gun licence to building a maimai and hunting for animals/ducks – the learning was endless, and all led by the tamariki.

A very big thank you to our Awatere family and community. We look forward to seeing what the new year will bring and the new families we will meet.

Awatere team



Mayfield

It's been another great year for tamariki, whānau and staff at Mayfield Kindergarten.

October 2022 saw Mayfield Kindergarten take part in Taiopenga. It's a very exciting experience for the tamariki to showcase their performance in front of a large crowd. Many of our tamariki stepped up, taking on leadership opportunities, leading our chant, and introducing waiata. They also showed great skill and responsibility when engaging with the poi, participating in pukana, and role modelling how to do the actions and represent Mayfield in a positive way. We would not be able to participate in this event if it wasn't for the tremendous support of our whānau who arrived early ensuring we had time to get ready and were kept safe when out in the community.

Ko o tātou tamariki, tō tātou oranga – Our children our future.

In January 2023 the Marlborough Sustainable Housing Trust started construction next door – this has been of big interest for tamariki. Builders, roofers, plumbers, painters, bricklayers, digger drivers, have all taken the time to kōrero/talk with the tamariki and answer any questions that arise (and there have been a lot).

This interest spills over into their play with construction increasing in the environment. Tamariki have created a number of large vehicles which have transported the house trusses, roofing iron, solar panels, and scaffolding. Concrete has been made (in the sandpit) and then it has been shovelled and poured to make roads and paths. The tamariki have displayed great team work, communication and collaboration. Tamariki have been devising theories about how things work and then trying them out and by making purposeful use of resources available.



It has been a great learning experience for the tamariki to be able to watch the whole process from wo to go

To everyone in the Mayfield Kindergarten Community, for your patience and support over the last year. It has been a pleasure and privilege to work and learn alongside your tamariki.

Mayfield Team

Redwoodtown

Redwoodtown Kindergarten has been a hive of activity this year, with lots of learning, fun and memory-making. Some of the highlights include raising monarch butterflies, which encouraged plenty of teamwork between Kindergartens and families. Some families brought in eggs and caterpillars they found at home, while others helped feed them with swan plants. For many children, arriving in the morning and checking on the caterpillars supported their belonging. Caring for animals was continued, with children and teachers bringing in pets to visit. We have had rabbits, guinea pigs, baby chickens, ducks, dogs and a frog spend time with us.

Another highlight was connecting with children's cultures and celebrating diversity in our community. We learnt about Chinese drumming, judo, Rohingya heena, Samoan songs, and Māori pūrākau/stories. We were fortunate to have Lapu come in once a week throughout term 2 to lead a music group to teach us Samoan and Tongan songs.

Ngāti Kuia gave Kaiako the opportunity to attend waiata and kapahaka sessions to support us in teaching tamariki. A small group of tamariki were able to attend a trip to visit Omaka marae to learn waiata that are linked to Ngāti Kuia pūrākau about Matua Hautere and Kaikāiāwaro, also leading a waiata session at the kindergarten for all children. We plan on showcasing this waiata at Taiopenga – the Māori cultural festival held in October. While growing our own kumara we also learnt the Rangitāne pūrākau about Te Hau and his kumara, tamariki felt connected to this pūrākau as it connected some of them to their tīpuna/ancestors and for others being able to see Te Hau/The Ned from their home and travels around the Wairau.

From this tamariki have developed knowledge and respect for their own and others' cultures, and have further developed confidence in themselves and their relationships with others.



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Tamariki are developing empathy and kindness which is developing a strong foundation that will support them throughout their lives.

We planned opportunities to engage with our Kindergarten families and community, including holding a Matariki celebration with the children performing for their families. We also held an unveiling for our new Tāwhiri-mātea art display, where we performed the pūrākau of Tāwhirimātea's eyes turning into the Matariki star cluster.

Over the past year, Redwoodtown kaiako have worked alongside whānau and the community to establish priorities of learning to ensure we are providing a curriculum that enables all tamariki to reach their full potential.

A huge part of this is supporting and acknowledging that each tamaiti/child comes with their own cultural knowledge and supporting them to grow and develop a strong sense of pride in who they are and where they come from. We have welcomed whānau from all over the world this year and our tamariki have been embracing their own and other cultures and have enjoyed getting to know different aspects of each other whakapapa/heritage.

Reflecting on our highlights this year, we can see a theme coming through, and that is connections. We understand the importance of connecting and building relationships with each other, connecting with our environment and connecting to the diverse cultures that make our kindergarten so special.

Waiho i te toipoto, kua i te toiroa – Let us keep close together, not wide apart.

This whakatauki/proverb speaks to the importance of keeping connected, of maintaining relationships and dialogue so that we can keep moving forward together.

Redwoodtown team



Renwick

Over the past year, Renwick Kindergarten has accomplished several remarkable achievements that have filled us with immense pride and gratitude. One of the standout moments was our cyclone relief effort, which saw an overwhelming display of whānau and community engagement and generosity. The response from people who received the care packages in the Esk Valley and Dartmore regions was heartwarming, and it reaffirmed the strength of our community's compassion and solidarity during challenging times. We even had a visit at kindergarten from a couple that received one of our care packages (Sue and Graham)!

"To the pupils and staff of Renwick Kindergarten, we would like to thank you for the boxes of food and essentials that were flown into our farm straight after cyclone Gabrielle hit. We kept some of the boxes on our farm and took the rest to our local rural hub at Putorino where they were dispersed to families in need. What we especially loved were the letters from your pupils, that was a really lovely thought. Thank you all for your generosity and kindness." – Sue and Graham.

A key aspect is undoubtedly our dedicated and passionate team of teachers and support staff. Their unwavering commitment to the well-being and development of our tamariki has created a nurturing and inspiring environment where each child feels valued and encouraged to explore their potential.

One of the most significant milestones we achieved this past year was reflecting for Beyond Green/Gold and sharing our journey in an Enviroschools sharing zoom. This accomplishment reflects our deep-rooted commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship.



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At Renwick Kindergarten, we believe that true sustainability goes beyond just reducing our carbon footprint; it involves creating a culture of respect, inclusion, and practices that enhance the mana of people, places, and things.

We once again had an amazing turn out of whānau for our annual Matariki celebration with a star hunt at Rousehill reserve followed by a breakfast of waffles and hot drinks at Kindergarten. We had fantastic support from our whānau, with more than 30 families attending.

What our whanau said:

"We love learning about Matariki, making star themed crafts and the early morning celebration and shared kai at Kindy. Always a fabulous celebration, thank you" – Tamara

"It's always a morning we look forward to, it's so much fun and yummy food afterwards" – Trelise

"I have loved the confidence Florence has developed in her Matariki learning. She loves to teach others about the stars and it has been a good way to begin thinking/ processing the concept of death for her. We are impressed with the increase of her reo at home." – Rose.

Thanks again to our amazing Renwick community for making our kindergarten the amazing place of fun and learning that it is.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui/be strong, be brave, be steadfast.

Renwick team



Seymour

Manākitanga/Integrity, Kindness and Kaitiakitanga/guardianship are a huge part of our kaupapa at Seymour – our edible gardens are a special place where we are able to grow kai and harvest our crops which we share with each other and the extended whānau and community.

Tamariki are set up with gloves, tools and enthusiasm as they dig in our gardens, giving them the opportunity to be kaitiaki of the environment, and acknowledging Papa-tū-ā-nuku – our earth mother – by looking after Papa-tū-ā-nuku she will look after us.

Our season has been abundant, we have grown kūmara for the second season, and even though they were a little late planted, we were still able to have Kūmara chips for morning tea. Whānau shared kamokamo seedlings with us, which ended up growing like trifids. We shared the excess crops with our whānau and one of our Nanas came in and made delicious kamokamo pickle.

Our miniature fruit trees have given us nectarines, peaches, oranges, lemonades, lemons, pears, fejoas and we were able to harvest over 900 apples off our apple tree. Our blackberries and blueberries were made into muffins, so our morning teas were a very special treat. How lucky our tamariki are to be able to plant, grow, nurture, harvest, bake and eat, sharing with each other, whānau and our community.

Having our composting bins and worm farm has definitely been a huge part of our mara/garden success. Tamariki have learnt about sustainability; the benefits to the environment of recycling, supporting them to protect our earth for future generations.



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Our Matariki evening was a great way to finish off the term. As a community we came together, shared home made soup, freshly baked rolls, sang waiata and enjoyed each others company at such a special time – the Māori new year. We were so proud of our tamariki as they sang at the top of their voices showing confidence to perform. Tamariki were involved in activities including planting, gardening, harvesting, learning new waiata and reading about the matariki. These activities supported them to make connections between each star and our environment, learning the concepts of being kaitiaki, manaaki/caring for each other and aroha/love and respect for everything around us and ourselves.

What our whanau said:

"Thank you too all the staff and all the tamariki for all the effort that was put on to make Seymour Matariki Whanau night special! Was truly magical and amazing!"

"We love celebration, because we believe every celebration bring everyone together, bring happiness and make memories."

Ngā mihi,
Seymour team



Springlands

We have continued to connect with our wider community by visiting and being kaitiaki of our local McKendry Park, where we study the shift in seasons and learn about what each stage of the year brings us. We take care of the park environment, picking up any rubbish and respecting the plants/trees that grow there. Tamariki have quickly learnt when they are able to climb trees (when there are no buds or fruit) and share this understanding with any new tamariki that join our kindergarten whānau – great tuakana teina learning. Our learning at McKendry helps our Risky Play programme, where tamariki learn how to take risks in a safe and considered way.

We are excited to finally be able to return to Ashwood Park Retirement Village where tamariki can share stories, do artwork and share waiata with the residents. It is beneficial for both our tamariki and for the residents, especially those that don't have family/young children visiting.

Our Matariki learning this year was fantastic where tamariki and kaiako worked together to learn how the different stars are connected to all areas of our lives. This year we used Matariki as a vehicle to guide our learning around the pūrākau/ancient story Rata and the Waka. Tamariki loved the dramatic play and retelling in their own words as they learnt about the different Atua and whetu/stars that relate to growing trees, respecting nature and caring for Papatūānuku. We finished our learning around Matariki by having a Matariki breakfast at kindergarten. We had a great turnout of whānau who joined us for kai and then were entertained by the tamariki singing waiata.



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Thank you to all our whānau who arrive each day with smiles and encouragement for our kindergarten, our teaching team and our tamariki. Thank you – your tautāwhi/support makes our jobs even more worthwhile. We look forward to continuing our journey with you all in a fun-filled year ahead.

Mihi ki tetahi roopu
Springlands Team



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Waitohi

Tēna koutou katoa,

There are so many highlights to share, but on top for us has certainly been the expansion of our playground and the new soft fall and space. We have also officially renamed our kindergarten to Waitohi Kindergarten, reclaiming our town's original Māori name in honour of our local Māori history and culture.

Connecting with and working in partnership with whānau, community, and local iwi has been important for us in developing our new priorities for children's learning this year. Through lots of consultation and kōrero/conversation, we now have three new priorities. Here are ways that we are working towards meeting these priorities.

Kaitiaki ki te taiao: Children will become caregivers of the natural environment.

We have been working with Mish and Nige from Wild Waikawa – Protecting Papatūānuku and regularly visit their property in Boons Valley, underneath our maunga/mountain called Piripiri. Here we explored the bush, hunted for rongōa (Māori medicine) plants, spotted native plants and manu/birds and weeded around new saplings. The tamariki designed and planned our new mara kai/food garden, which was built by one of our Kindergarten Whānau. Planting on our new mara kai was linked to Matariki, and so was our learning about the awa/river and harvesting tuna/eels. This is customary practice for local Māori, who harvest tuna from Lake Rotoiti. Some of our kindergarten whānau were part of the 2023 harvest, which inspired us to learn more. We engaged in the annual Sea Week learning and celebrations once again. This time taking a group of tamariki to clean up Shakespare Bay with the new entrant class at Waikawa Bay school.



We made reusable beeswax wraps to reduce lunchbox waste and had Tash teach us how to take care of a stranded whale.

Whakaako pāpori me te wairua: Children will learn social and emotional skills.

We have been learning all about manaakitanga and what this Māori concept looks and feels like at kindergarten. This has included caring for ourselves, others and pets, also learning strategies for solving conflict, being inclusive and identifying and regulating emotions. Part of our Matariki learning was remembering loved ones who have passed away, which sparked lots of kōrero around feeling sad and missing them. We created a wall display of photos of our loved ones and told stories about them to connect with this aspect of wairuatanga/spirituality and whakapapa /genealogy.

Ngā Pūkenga tūāpapa ā-reo, ā-pāngarau hoki: Children will learn the foundation skills for literacy and mathematics.

We are constantly weaving literacy and mathematics learning into all areas of our curriculum. This has included baking for our Matariki celebration (measurements, following a recipe). We had a group from Manaaki Tāpoi teach us mau rākau/patterns. We also had Candice from First Signs Aotearoa teach us animals and greetings in sign language. We have also explored sequences when developing individual morning routine visuals to take home. Speech and language learning has been supported through the reintroduction of wā kōrero, where children introduce themselves in Māori and share their news.

Overall, our year at Waitohi Kindergarten has been packed with memorable moments and learning opportunities. ERO noticed all of these highlights and many more positive points, which has led to us receiving great feedback.. The learning never stops, and we cannot do it without the ongoing support from our kindergarten whānau and the wider community.

Waitohi Team.



Witherlea

We have had a strong focus this year around transition to kura/school. As a result of an internal evaluation, we have made some changes to how we support and facilitate transition to kura for our tamariki. We have always taken our eight oldest tamariki to Witherlea school for a visit in the classroom each term allowing them to become familiar with the environment, tamariki and kaiako – making the transition a little less daunting. For most tamariki this visit occurs before they have begun their own solo transition visits. As a result of the internal evaluation, we decided to extend our transition visits, so we are now staying at Witherlea school until morning tea time, allowing our tamariki time to engage in morning tea as well as play time before we hīkoi/walk back to the kindergarten to continue our day.

Another fabulous Ngāti Kuia SELO (Strengthening Early Learning Opportunities) contract, allowed a small group of tamariki and kaiako to visit Omaka Marae for a session of poi and waiata. We experienced a powhiri/welcome and the tamariki from Te Pā Wānanga sang waiata and performed haka while we had a kai to finish the powhiri process and move us from tapu/sacred to noa/ordinary. Mātua Tom and Vanya shared their knowledge and expertise of waiata and poi and taught us some new waiata which we were able to bring back to the Kindergarten and share with the tamariki, we are looking forward to performing these at Taiopenga later in the year.

We arranged our Christmas party quite differently last year! Following on from a very strong interest around cafes we created our very own "Blossom's Cafe" (suggested and voted by the tamariki). Ngā tamariki spent some busy weeks making pizza, sausage rolls, lolly cake and biscuits which were then served as platters to their whānau.



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Our whānau really enjoyed this change to the norm and attendance was high with only a handful of families unable to attend.

As planned our edible gardens have been established in planter boxes, although the birds have ruined our winter crop darn them!! We will plan this better for our summer crop and ensure we get some netting on them to prevent those cheeky manu from snacking on them. Having edible gardens means we are able to teach our tamariki about sustainability and caring for ourselves, as well as being a part of our wider community as we share our extra produce with one another, particularly our excess fruit from our apple and peach trees.

Witherlea team.



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What we did this year

1,636 hours

of professional development were
provided for our teaching staff

84 hours

of first aid training

304,692

Hours of Early childhood
education was funded by the
ministry of education

We maintained

100%

registered and certificated
teachers in every kindergarten

There were

12

planned excursions and

81

regular excursions into our
community during the year.

2,476 hours

of additional support were
provided to support children
with diverse needs

Financials

Revenue

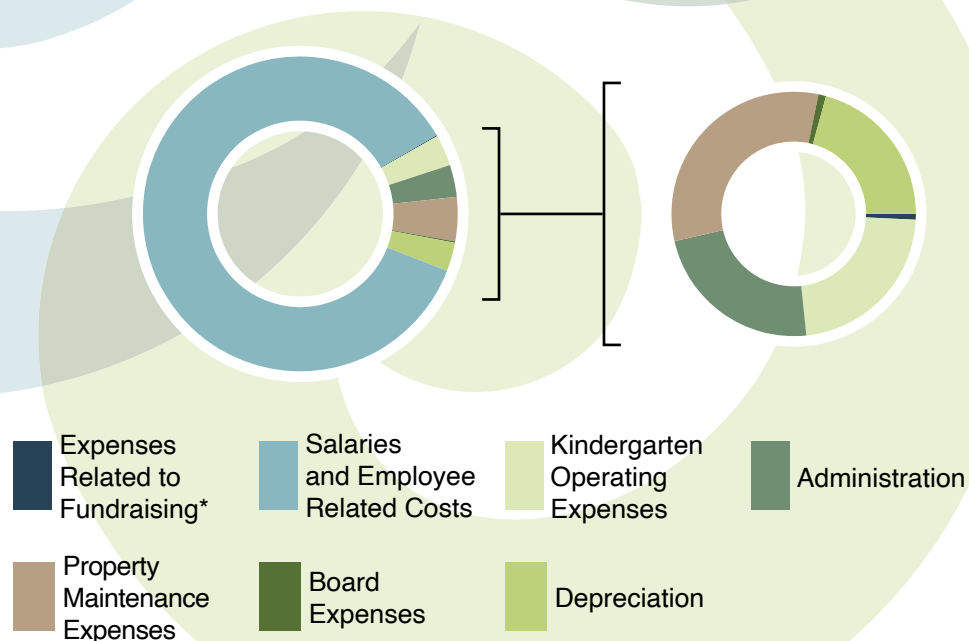
Increase of \$151,598

Expenditure

Increase of \$185,299

Surplus/Deficit

Decrease of \$33,701



Our Supporters

There are many groups and individuals who support our Association and individual Kindergartens, giving time and resources. We would like to make special mention of:

- The team at Ministry of Education in Nelson particularly Sue Hone, Michelle Harwood and Elizabeth Hamilton
- Jane McKinnon and the team at Ministry of Education Learning Support
- Simon Trotter | Project Director – Te Tātoru o Wairau
- The team at REAP
- Annie McDonald (MDC), Ramona Millen and Katie Higgins (Toimata Foundation) who support our Enviroschools journey
- Jase Williams for running Trauma Workshops for our staff and community
- Jill Bond and the Board of New Zealand Kindergartens
- Jennyth Spence – HR support
- School Start Best Impressions – for continuing to support Kindergarten tamariki
- Leanne from Vanilla Hayes who supported us in developing our new website
- Rita Powick
- Kahui ako – Piritahi and Te Wheke Akoranga, in particular Phil Funnell

Awatere thanks

Mike Newman from Meaters Marlborough, Gavin Williams from Williams green grocers and to our very supportive management team at MKA for helping to prepare the kai for the hangi. Musicians Simon & Darcy from Doubleshot, Tarf and his whānau for putting down and delivering the hangi. Without the support from our community, we wouldn't be able to have such significant celebrations.

Mayfield thanks

- MKA office team
- Pat Clay – handyman
- Marlborough Sustainable Housing Trust
- Glen and Megan Cameron
- Karli and Chris Murphy
- Sarah McLees
- Nanny B
- Vicky Gane
- Jacqui Hitchcock

Redwoodtown thanks:

- The amazing team at the Ministry of Education for supporting our Kaiako, Tamariki and whānau.
- Ngāti Kuia and Rangitāne for professional development opportunities
- The dedicated team at Marlborough Foodbank
- Cowie family for donating carpentry supplies
- Dave Foley for taking us for Judo
- Lapu Oliver for teaching us Pasifika songs
- All of the parents and whānau who help out with the washing, donate money, food, clothes, toys and much more

Renwick thanks:

- Sarah Murray
- Scott and Kathy McDermid
- Renwick Super Value
- The Burleigh
- Renwick Coffee Shack
- Matt Valk & Dulux Marlborough
- Melissa Mcfarlane and Whānau Group
- Framingham wines
- Shandon Road Christmas Tree Farm
- Renwick Volunteer Fire Brigade
- Hayden Gordon
- Our awesome whānau and wider Renwick community

General Managers report

Board Chairs Report

Our Kindergartens

What we did this year



Seymour thanks:

- Amanda and Daniel Morton
- Kurtis Jenkins
- Crafar and Crouch Construction
- Aroha and Kurt Crafar
- Ricky So
- Marlborough Wood workers Guild
- Rod Shoemark, Kevin Rowe and John Cleary
- Phillipa Avery
- Meaters Butchery
- Sounds Air Matt Eastham
- Blenheim Subway
- Amanda and Benjamin Noble
- Janna McDonald
- Reece plumbing

Springlands thanks

Rachel and Andy Gray from Gray Floral and Nursery Centre who have donated plants and pea straw for our gardens. They have also loaned us large trees and ponga when we have set up play spaces for the re-telling of local pūrākau.

Brigit and Grant Beattie – Brigit volunteered to come and do our gardens and also helped Kate to organise and run our Rogaine fundraiser (\$1100) which we have used to purchase wet-weather gear and other outdoor items. Grant kindly built us two vegetable boxes which tripled our mara kai area.

Waitohi thanks

- Candice from First Signs Aotearoa
- Shannon and Sarah Huntley
- Ryan Mills
- Lianne Adams
- Picton School
- Waikawa Bay School
- Tom Alasana (Ngāti Kuia)
- Vanya George (Ngāti Kuia)
- Ana and Tukutai Beech
- Julia Kennedy
- Tash Luxton
- Fulton Hogan
- Meg Stenchmann
- The Picton Flower Ladies
- Amee and Hayden Hall

All of the kindergarten whānau who donate time, money, and resources to our kindergarten. This includes doing laundry, fundraising and whānau help on trips.

Witherlea

- Symon Beattie and the team at Witherlea school
- Morries munchies
- Williams Green Grocers
- The Travelling Tuatara s
- Centreland
- Mitre 10
- Rapaura Timber
- Mike from Meaters
- Michael Rangi

Our whānau who source wood, shells and bits and pieces for our collage area, and our wider community who continue to support our programme through donations of resources

Te Reo used throughout this report:

(Translations using Te Whaake: Te Aka Māori-English, English-Māori Dictionary)

atua.....ancestor with influence/God
awa.....river, stream, creak
hikoī.....step, stride, march, walk
kai.....food/meal
kaiako.....teacher
kaitiaki.....custodians, guardians
kaitiakitanga.....guardianship
Kaupapa.....topic/plan/policy
Korero.....to tell/say/speak/talk
kura.....school
manaaki.....to support, take care of
manaakitanga.....integrity, kindness
manu.....birds
māra kai.....garden food
maunga.....mountain
mau rākau.....patterns
mihi.....greeting
mihi whakatau.....official welcome speech
moana.....sea, ocean
noa.....to be free of the extensions of tapu, ordinary, unrestricted

ngā.....the
Papa-tū-ā-nuku.....earth mother and wife of Rangi-nui
pōwhiri.....to welcome, invite
pūrākau.....ancient story, legend, myth
rongōa.....remedy/medicine
tamaiti.....child
tamariki.....children
tapu.....sacred
tautawhi.....come to the assistance of/support
Tāwhiri-mātea.....atua of the winds, clouds, rain, hail, snow and storms
tīpuna.....ancestors
tuna.....eel
waiata.....song
wairuatanga.....spirituality
whānau.....extended family/family group
whetū.....star, celestial bodies
whakapapa.....genealogy
whakatauki.....proverb
Taiopenga.....Māori Cultural Festival