

Kidditech Newsletter

A DAY AT KIDDITECH

The day here starts at 8am, then children cruise in, most arriving before 9am. We have a hui/mat time and then morning tea before free play inside and outside. At around 10am two teachers lead project learning and exploration based around our planned curriculum and following the children's interests. After this there is more time for the children to choose their own play. A quick story to calm down before lunch time 11:30 - 12 and then a play before change of session at 12:30.



In the afternoon we have another hui/mat time around 1pm and then free play. We have project time followed by afternoon tea together as a group and then time to choose own activities again until the children start heading off home before 5pm.

A NOTE FROM LOU AND MATT KIDDITECH OWNERS

We're well into 2016 now and we've been pretty busy and had a lot of fun so far. Our boys Riley and Tom are getting older and still challenge us with lots of tricky questions and creative ideas. One weekend we built and painted a complex box rocket, which takes up a lot of the lounge now.

At Kidditech Matt has been working on lots of new IT systems and equipment to support the team. Lou has been leading the project work and supporting the team in building rich relationships with all of our families.

PROJECTS

We use our mat times as a way to come together as a group, share ideas, practice turn-taking and be involved in fun group activities like music and movement or story telling.

Our project work is based around children's interests and incorporates planned ideas and working theories as well as spontaneous ideas from the team, parents and children. Project work is a big part of our unique science and technology based philosophy and is a great way to incorporate a wide range of teaching and learning strategies and concepts.

During our project work the team will find out what it is the children want to know and discover, to build on what they already know and understand. We then plan activities and experiences to enhance the children's knowledge and we do this through a wide range of resources and curriculum areas. We include, sensory experiences, messy play, maths concepts, literacy, music and movement, science and technology, carpentry and creation as well as focusing on sharing knowledge through relationships and using resources in our community.



BRR WINTER IS NEAR...

It's getting colder in the morning so please remember to bring a jacket for your child. It's a good idea to dress your child in layers as it often gets quite warm in the afternoon, and layers make it easier for children to regulate their body temperature.

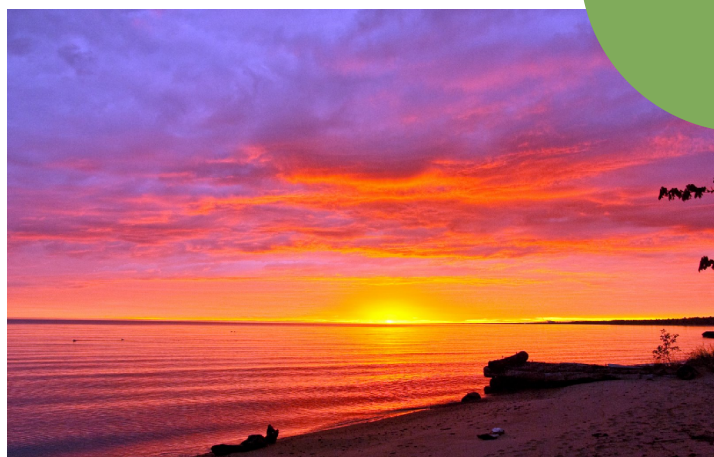


LUNCHBOX IDEAS

What a great job you're all doing providing nutritious food in your children's lunchboxes. There is a lovely variety for the children and we aim to provide a healthy variety for the children's snacks here too.

If you're stuck for lunch box ideas or just need a little inspiration we're happy to share some ideas so feel free to ask a teacher.

HAVE A GREAT DAY



JUST A BITE EARLY

Please ensure you wait until 8am before coming into Kidditech in the morning. Some parents have been arriving early, this puts stress on the teachers who are rostered to start before 8am as this is their time to set up ready for the day. Thank you for your understanding.

POTATO SMILEYS

The children loved these when we made them.

Mashed potato

2 Tbsp cornflour

2 Tbsp breadcrumb

1 egg

salt & pepper to taste.

Mix all ingredients together, then roll out (about 1cm thick) on baking paper dusted with flour. Use a circle shaped cutter to make the shape, a straw to cut the eye holes, and a spoon to shape the smile. Fry in hot oil until golden and set aside to drain and cool. Lovely served with sauce and a great activity for children to help with.



TAKEAWAY EVENING

We have these evenings at least once a term and it's a great chance for children to have dinner with friends and for our parents to meet other parents. It's a nice time to have an informal chat with the team and for everyone to get to know each other better.

Keep an eye out for the dates of these, we put them up on the screen calendar and often post about them on our Facebook page. We would love you to come along to the next one on the 6th May - 5-6pm.



HEALTHY FOOD ACTIVE BODIES PROJECT

Following up on the children's interest in yoga and sport our project was designed to explore Healthy Food & Active Bodies. Our goal as a team was to share our love of being healthy and active with the children, to involve them in more gardening, to support the development of healthy attitudes towards food and positive body image and staying active. We have investigated a wide range of topics and had so many new experiences relating to food and being active, we've been on trips and had visitors come to

Kidditech. Each child will have the project story in their portfolios that summarises the term 1 Kidditech project that the children, team and many parents have been involved in. There has been so much fun, creativity, inspiration and development of ideas and interests. This project has enabled a huge range of learning experiences; health and well-being, physical skills, investigations and experiments, getting out into our community and bringing the community into Kidditech.



WE LOVE
PARENT
INVOLVEMENT

Thank you to all the parents who got involved in our project during term 1. Thank you to those who came along to our shared healthy lunch and those who made suggestions of ways to make our project work richer.

We would like to make a special mention of Anna and Nigel from ProActive Martial Arts who ran a martial arts session at Kidditech, Nicole's boyfriend Lee for running a football session at Pioneer Park, and Anahita and Wish who made Ashik (Afghani pasta) with the children.

WELCOME

We would like to offer a very warm welcome to the following children and their families who have recently joined Kidditech.

Eden & Makenzie, Sadaf, Israel, Harlow, Ella, Eloise & Michelle

SELF REVIEW & POLICIES

As part of running an early childhood centre we as a team plan, implement and evaluate reviews of areas of Kidditech (eg. our curriculum, philosophy or outdoor area). We have a meeting once every 4 weeks to discuss our self review and to review our policies and procedures. During this process we may ask for parent contribution in the form of conversational questioning or more formal written questions or surveys. We really appreciate any/all feedback we receive as it helps us understand the wants and needs of our families/whanau and tamariki and helps us make changes to improve the quality of the service we provide. During terms 2 & 3 we will be reviewing several policies and procedures as well as a centre self review on our programme planning and curriculum. We will be asking for your feedback and what you want for your children while they are with us.

MAY 2 - TERM 2 PROJECT

Venturing into our next project from the children's interests - bugs and insects - animals and how they balance our ecosystem.

JUNE - KIDDITECH DISCO

Winter will be well and truly here so why not make it fun with our annual Disco at Kidditech.

JULY 4 ERO VISIT

The education review office will be coming to Kidditech to review the centre and provide us with feedback on how we're doing.

JULY 11-22 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

At the end of another term we don't close during school holidays but instead run a different programme with themed days and a focus on fun.



LOU FYFE

Kidditech owner manager and early childhood teacher



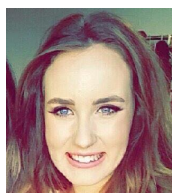
ANNE DOWLE

Early childhood teacher and person responsible.



CHERRILL WILLIAMS

Early childhood teacher



NICOLE BATTY

Early childhood teacher



SARAH MCEACHEN

Early childhood teacher



NATURAL RESOURCES

If you are out adventuring in nature could you please keep in mind that we need some more natural resources at Kidditech for children to use in their play. We would really appreciate them.