



Muddy Puddles

What a great day to explore a muddy puddle. Today we went to a big school down to the back fields and found a very big muddy puddle. To begin with E and her friends checked out the puddle by poking at it with sticks they found under the big trees. She looked at her reflection in the puddle and how it distorted when she moved the stick around. E stood up and put her toe into the edge of the puddle, all the while looking at me to see what my reaction would be. I smiled and nodded and although no words were spoken, E knew it was ok to explore a little more.

To begin with, E dipped a toe into the puddle and then jumped in and made her way to the other side of the puddle - a little unsteady on her feet at times but that didn't deter her.

It was very exciting and E really seemed to find joy in splashing about in the puddle. She had so much fun!

So much fun that a warm shower was needed when we got back to kindergarten.



E, I'm so proud of how you explored the big puddle today. When we were at big school last week the puddle wasn't there. We had so much rain throughout the week, and it created the puddle we could explore today. I wonder if the puddle will still be there next week? Do you jump in puddles at home too?

I have noticed your independence grow each week we go to big school. I wonder if you remember how you used to stay close to the kaiako when we first began our walks? Not anymore! You seem to have so much fun with your friends, listening to them, talking to them and giving things a go!

Ka pai to mahi E!



One of Froebel's key principles is Freedom with Guidance - children having opportunity to think for themselves, make choices but have the security of knowing a kaiako is right there if they need help or reassurance.

Weather conditions such as rain and wind are seen as exciting learning experiences, not as reasons to stay indoors. This leads to opportunities to jump in puddles and look at the outdoors a little differently.

Playing and exploring outside offers rich, sensory first-hand experience which is essential for growing minds.

Kaiako – P 28/07/22