

## John Street Kindergarten – Kaitaki/Guardian

The tamariki were involved in planning and planting our vegetable garden in November and December 2020 ready for our summer harvest.

Our usual crop of strawberries was popular and our 'bunny' garden had a great supply of carrots and 'controlled weeds' that our rabbits enjoy being fed by the tamariki. We also produced beans, potatoes (and made yummy homemade chippies), kale, borage, mint, beetroot and tomatoes that are just ripening. Especially exciting for the tamariki has been watching our spaghetti squash grow from flowers to large 'pumpkins'. This has intrigued our tamariki who after returning from Christmas break were stunned with the rapid growth and we look forward to trying these soon.

We love watching our tamariki watering, weeding and eating from our garden that they have actively helped care for, as kaitiaki. Our vegetable gardens at John Street Kindergarten have been extended over the past couple of years and the extra space has enabled us to add more variety to what we can grow. It is exciting to reflect and see that our vegetable gardens are now a part of our place and can be sustained over the seasons.

