



## ***A small act of kindness with big impact***

Out in the garden, Harper is feeling frustrated as one of the back wheels has derailed off the path. Eloise, close by, hears the sound of displeasure and immediately comes over to help so that Harper can continue to enjoy riding the bike. Oh Eloise, your little act of kindness warmed my heart but also alerted me to the fact that you are one empathetic, caring, beautiful soul. This is the ako I take from this moment: your wonderful ability to 'read' Harper's emotions and intuitively act to reassure and support her, to let her know that all was ok by solving her problem. I know your generosity of spirit has been acknowledged before in previous learning stories, alongside your quiet leadership skills. However, I do wish to share here my perspective on your learning, the active role you played here in consolidating our culture and community of kindness towards our younger tamariki. You see Eloise, I see our space here as a ngāhere where the strength of our many (ngā) connections (here) is given by the diverse acts of aroha, manaaki and awhi we give to each other. But to be the best that WE can be, we need mokopuna like you, Eloise who can step up to nurture our teina, while modelling what it means to be a great learner. I have a feeling, your younger brother Archie has experienced your ways of being on more than a few occasions.

Looking into the near future, as you prepare to start school, I hope you will continue to make a difference to others learning lives with your kindness and wholeheartedness. You see Eloise, every community needs citizens like you and, as long as we acknowledge each others' efforts to make difference, we, as a global community, will become better and better and better. There can never be too much kindness.

Cu afectiune/Arohanui, Cat

November 2021