

NGA WAI 2023

///TERM 2 NEWSLETTER



Kia ora e te Ngā Wai whānau, and welcome to Term 2.

We have been so impressed with efforts and results from our ākonga (learners) in Term 1, and we are looking forward to more amazing work with them.

Our visit to Capital E was an absolute highlight, and we will soon be able to see the results as we are currently in editing mode. This opportunity gave the students the chance to revisit and fine tune their research and presentation skills in a professional environment.

As always, we appreciate the help and support we received in Term 1, and it was great to meet with you and work alongside your children in the parent conferences. We do welcome you to join us this term as well as opportunities arise.

This term is one where a lot of growth and learning occurs, we begin to hunker down and settle into a groove with a more settled events timetable.

As Maramataka (Māori Lunar Calendar) states;

Pipiri (May-June). Kua piri nga mea katoa i te whenua i te matao, me te tangata.

All things on earth are contracted because of the cold; likewise man.

Hongonui (or Hō ngongoi, June-July). Kua tino matao te tangata, me te tahutahu ahi, ka painaina. Man is now extremely cold and kindles fires before which he basks. <https://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-BesTime-t1-body-d1-d2.html>

Swimming

We begin swimming this coming Monday (May 1st). Students are aware that it is their responsibility to have their swimming gear ready on the Sunday night prior.

The first session will be a swim test. These tests are administered by the swimschool. We have let the students know that they need to show all their skills in this session.

We will travel to the pool by bus. If your child is unable to swim, please advise the classroom teacher.

Cross Country

Hopefully you will all have already read the recent newsletter regarding the Hataitai School Cross Country on Tuesday, 9th May. We will be endeavoring to ensure the students are ready for this as best as they can be through running practises leading up to the event. It is essential that they wear shoes suitable during these times. If they don't wish to wear these shoes during the day then having them readily accessible in their school bags is a good idea!

Literacy and Mathematics.

The first three to four weeks of Term Two will see our Literacy sessions focus around oral presentations and storytelling. We will be using mythologies as our context and incorporate the ideas and understandings provided in the new Aotearoa/New Zealand Histories area of the curriculum. The context also allows us to integrate other areas such as Science, Art, Drama and Languages.

Following this unit, we are planning to explore the concept of power and how we can have a say in local community decisions.

The NZ Curriculum is currently undergoing a broad "refresh" and we will be sharing our journey as a school via the school website in the coming weeks. We feel that having the community involved in the process is important.

Mathematics this term will be transitioning from addition and subtraction to multiplication and division.

We are also changing our timetable on Thursdays and Fridays. For part of Thursday and the Morning sessions of Friday, we will be dissolving our classes and working as a whole team. This offers students the opportunity to work with friends in other classes. It also provides us with the time and space to work with small groups on focused tasks in either extension, support or simply a task that is best undertaken in a smaller group.

Thursdays

Our Thursday afternoons of awesomeness continue this term. Croquet is replaced by table tennis, botany makes way for technology and physics, and Garden to Table continues.

Table tennis is adjacent to the Croquet green so we will be walking up through the town belt. Students will need good walking shoes and a raincoat. We will make a call on the day if the weather is too bad to travel. To ensure this activity is safe, we do require parent support on the walk. So if you feel like an afternoon stroll followed by some serious table tennis action, contact your child's teacher.

Cursive Club

This week we congratulated the first cohort to graduate from Level 1 of Cursive Club which is run by our multi talented teacher aide Mohammad. They will now move onto Level 2 and we welcome our new group to Level 1. If this is something you would like your child to participate in, please let us know and we will add them to the waitlist.

Study Ladder/Sumdog.

We had hoped to continue using Sumdog as our digital mathematics tool but unfortunately they changed their structure on us and removed the free version. We noticed the engagement and uptake was very high with the gamified tasks, and the back end offered us with some interesting data. We are looking at ways to access the full version for our team.

In the meantime, we will establish StudyLadder accounts for our students. This is a free option that offers free access during school hours and a small amount of free access at home, enough for it to be worthwhile for our learners.

Another site that is worth visiting is Typing.com. Some students have an account, and it is a very valuable skill to develop.

Seesaw

We will continue to use Seesaw as our way of sharing learning with you at home. We welcome your comments and input to student work. We will also use Seesaw as a means to distribute most information to the parent community. If the information is of urgency or importance, this will also be delivered via email.

Raincoats, good footwear

Despite the fact we are now entering the wetter months of the year, the students will still have opportunities to go on various trips throughout the term. Therefore it is important that your child comes equipped with a named raincoat. Please ensure your child also comes to school with adequate footwear for these cooler months.

Emotional Intelligence Workshops - Thursday mornings



In Year 5 - 6, ākonga are introduced to the 'The Zones of Regulation' framework that helps develop awareness of feelings, energy and alertness levels while exploring a variety of tools and strategies for regulation, prosocial skills, self-care, and overall wellness. This curriculum provides us an easy way to think and talk about how we feel on the inside and sort these feelings into four colored Zones, all of which are expected in life. Once we understand our feelings and zones, we can learn to use tools/strategies to manage our different Zones in order to meet goals like doing schoolwork or other tasks, managing big feelings, and healthy relationships with others. The simple, common language and visual structure of The Zones of Regulation helps make the complex skill of regulation more concrete for learners and those who support them. If you would like further information please check out <https://www.zonesofregulation.com/index.html>

Important Dates

Monday 24th April

Tuesday 25th April

Wednesday 26th April

Teacher Only day

ANZAC day school closed

School begins

Tuesday 9th May

School Cross Country @ Treasure Grove

Monday 22nd - Friday 26th
Curriculum Celebration Week

Literacy Week "World of Words"

Friday 2nd June:

School Closed - King's Birthday

**Monday 5th June
Tuesday 6th June**

**School Closed - King's Birthday
School Swimming Sports (Y4-8)**

**Tuesday 27th/Thursday 29th June
Friday 30th June:**

**Parent Conferences
Student Record of Achievement-Term ends**

And finally.....In Ngā Wai we love a good quiz. Our team offers up a bunch of intriguing questions every week at our waiata sessions. So, in light of that, here are a few to test your knowledge. Send all answers to your child's teacher.

Which author gave us this quote?

"The right word may be effective, but no word was ever as effective as a rightly timed pause."

Who arrived in Bluff and began a five week tour of New Zealand on November 5th, 1895?

What term was used to describe a water depth of two fathoms?

Who hid in this rock? And who was he hiding from?



**Akuanei!
The Ngā Wai Learning team
Glen, Megan and Paul**