

NGĀ WAI TERM 3 NEWSLETTER

2023



Kia ora tatou e te whānau and welcome to Term Three in Ngā Wai. We have ahead of us an extremely busy term. The calendar is packed full of events and the direction of our learning in Ngā Wai gives us plenty of information to explore.

It was such an awesome atmosphere atop Tangi te keo earlier this week. Catching a glimpse of Matariki far off in the Milky Way, watching this beautiful city wake up from slumber and the surprise appearance of Starlink made our first morning Matariki at Hataitai School one to remember.



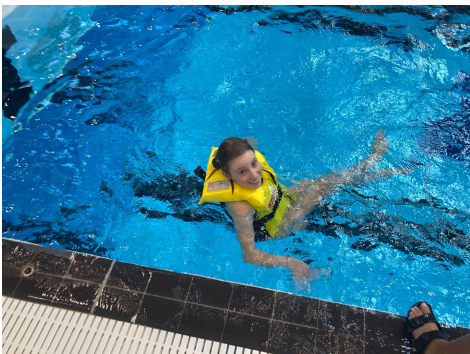
This term our classroom focus is driven by the new Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum. It provides us with rich contexts with which to learn through and a solid foundation for understanding our country's past from Te Kore (nothingness) to the present day. We have packed a lot into that timeframe so we have plenty to work from.

Last Term's exploration into Māori mythology and storytelling has paved the way to this Term's work on civics and the beginnings of human occupation on this whenua. We will explore the roles and structures of present day Local and Central Government, and look back at the arrival of the first Navigators approximately 800 years ago and their societal structures. Let us know if you have any connections or expertise in these areas, we'd love to hear from you.

Interwoven into all of this will be opportunities for students to develop critical thinking skills, written explanations and ultimately, with their understanding of how they too have a voice to be heard, look at how they can have their say in their communities; within the school, in Hataitai or beyond.

Our Thursdays and Fridays will look a bit different this Term. Thursday sees our team rotate as year groups in the morning, and in mixed groups for the afternoon with Garden to Table, Extension Writing and Technology sessions. Our walks take a break as the weather worsens.

Friday morning sees our team spend the morning as one whole group, donning our lab coats and exploring the scientific aspects of our world and beyond.



Artsplash and Tournament of Minds

Another major event, which we have no doubt you have heard about, is Artsplash.

The entire school is abuzz on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons with dance, choir and visual arts. This is a mammoth undertaking for students and teachers alike, so if you have the time up your sleeve, let us know, we'd love to include you and tap your creative abilities. Contact your child's teacher if this sounds like you.

Running alongside Artsplash is Tournament of Minds. This is an annual competition where groups of seven students work independently to create a response to a challenge question. It is not for the faint hearted as teams work independent of adult help in their quest. Their responses are





presented in front of judges in September at the Regional event. Ngā Wai and Ahi have a total of five teams entered in this event.

Mana, Manaaki and Āko

In Ngā Wai we hold these values very high. We are constantly on the lookout for students who display these in their everyday interactions. We have also implemented a new award that reflects many of the attributes that underpin our values; respect for learning and others, perseverance, initiative, helpfulness, and self management. This award is presented during our Thursday waiata sessions.

Communications

As always, keep an eye on Seesaw and your email for notices and information. We do our best to have students publish work weekly.

Study Ladder

Each class has established a StudyLadder account Mathematics and Literacy. Students are able to login via their personal code, with many having saved it as a bookmark. StudyLadder is implemented into classroom rotations and students can access three(3) activities daily when outside of school hours for free. Contact your classroom teacher for details.



Thank you

We would like to extend an enormous thank you to Herve Michaud for his help with table tennis during Term 2. Our students benefitted greatly from his support and expertise.

Also, thank you to Rachel Wingate, Joanne Grove and Sacha Wilson. The Matariki Soup and our Garden to Table experiences are so rich because of your work.

Important dates

Learning Conferences Tuesday 25/ Wednesday 27 July	Eastern Zone Swimming Wednesday 23 August
Grandparent's and Special Person's Day Thursday 3 August	Table Tennis competition Friday 25 August
Curriculum Celebration Week - Science 7-11 August	Tournament of Minds Regional Event Saturday 2 September
Ahi (Year 7 and 8) Open Day 9:30-12:00 Tuesday 15 August (more details to follow)	Artsplash! Michael Fowler Centre 7:30pm Choir - Tuesday 12 September Dance - Wednesday 13 September
School Photos Monday 14, Thursday 17, Friday 18 August	Te Wiki o Te Reo September 11-14

Thank you all for your continued support in the journey of learning for your child. You are an essential cog in the machine that makes everything work smoothly. We look forward to seeing you at Parent Conferences next week, and grabbing the opportunity to celebrate your child's successes, their awesomeness, and to set and assess goals for the remainder of the year.

Akuanei!
Ngā Wai kaiako
Glen, Megan and Paul