

TERM 3 NEWSLETTER 2020

Kia ora and welcome to Term Three in Nga Wai.

We had an incredible final four weeks of learning last term. Students invested, photographed, researched, demonstrated, designed, acted and presented their way through our curriculum-based workshops. The results were phenomenal!

This term we are shifting back to a conventional timetable structure so we can focus on consolidating core skills in Numeracy and Literacy. Conventional does not however mean boring.

Literacy

During literacy this term, we are focusing on the technical sides of reading and writing. For writing this term we are concentrating on the conventions of writing (punctuation, spelling, grammar), how to write interesting sentences and how to construct a paragraph. We are using this information as a way to prepare for our speeches. We will be writing our speeches in Term Three but presenting them in Term Four.

During our reading, we are taking part in novel studies. This will allow us to look at the bigger picture when reading, and work on our comprehension skills like predicting, making inferences and creating connections between ourselves, world and text.

Through the term we will assign short Oral Language tasks as homework. Some class time will be provided as well. We welcome you to help motivate and support your child with these. The conversations these tasks will provoke with you will be invaluable to their understanding.

Maths

For Maths we will be focusing on our core skills with basic facts and exploring proportional numbers, like decimals and fractions. We will also incorporate Matariki, fundraising and our Waste Warriors initiative to offer real-life contexts for students to work with numbers.

PE and Fitness

Our daily 20 minute fitness sessions return this term. These sessions are run by our Year 6 leaders. PALs (Physical Activity Leaders) will also return, operating for two lunchtimes a week. PALs is run by both Year 5 and 6 students. Both of these activities offer fantastic leadership and social learning opportunities for our students. For PE we will be working on our Hockey skills and ball skills through Netball and Basketball. Towards the end of term we will be warming up for school athletics in Term Four.

Language and culture workshops

Starting Week 1, students will have an option of learning either New Zealand Sign Language, Japanese, French or Te Reo. Through engaging lessons exploring geography, art, music, traditional food and architecture, students will finish the weekly lessons with a more worldly point of view! Be sure to ask them what they've been up to every Friday!

Wellington Waste Warriors : Reduce, Re-use, Recycle

Following on from the Senior School Production last year and various other environmental initiatives we have done in recent years at Hataitai School we are continuing to 'walk the talk' by looking forward to the Wellington Waste Warriors programme which is an exciting, engaging education programme offered by Wellington City Council to Wellington schools. The programme consists of a whole school performance, waste audits, free visits to local landfills and recycling centres, dedicated sessions focused on specific waste activities, and a whole school project. This will happen throughout the term. We feel that this is a great opportunity for the students to have a better appreciation and understanding of how they can personally make a real difference to their world and hopefully encourage others to do the same!

Visual Arts

New Zealand artists are in the spotlight this term. We've begun by studying the "kiwiana style" of Glenn Jones - taking a Kiwi icon, for example, a chocolate fish, a batch, or a gumboot and reinventing it! Rita Angus' landscapes, the geometric and Maori-inspired style of Gordon Walters as well as the skateboarder-turned-artist Ed Templeton will also be studied. Students will be experimenting with watercolour, graphite pencils and oil pastel. Stay-tuned for our calendar art fundraiser!

Self-Management/ PB4L

Mana, Manaaki and Ako -respect for self, others and our learning continue to be our central driving values in the Nga Wai whanau. Expected behaviour that is conducive to learning is praised and acknowledged through our Dojo-point reward system.

Camp

The organisational wheels are beginning to build momentum as our Term Four trip to Camp Makahika draws closer. Details for this camp will be released over the course of Term Three. Sally Duxfield, the owner of Camp Makahika, will be coming into the school for a parent information evening in September. This meeting is very informative and well worth attending. To reduce the cost of the camp we will explore fundraising opportunities with the students and the wider community. As mentioned, this will tie in to our Maths program.

Camp Makahika is such an incredible experience for our Year 5 and 6 students. It builds resilience, independence and confidence. Keep an eye on your email for information in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher via email.

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Regards

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