

Term 2 Newsletter - Year 3/4

7 May 2021



Nau mai hoki mai we would like to welcome you all back to term 2! We've had a great first week back, with lots of lovely sunshine, happy kids and we are back into our classroom routines for learning.



Our inquiry topic for this term is Matariki. Our big idea for this topic, which we want the children to understand by the end of our learning is 'Matariki has an important part in Aotearoa's past, present and future culture.' We will be answering questions such as: What is Matariki? How was Matariki celebrated in Aotearoa in the past? Why is Matariki an important time of year? How should we celebrate Matariki today? How do other cultures celebrate the new year? As part of our learning we will be visiting Te Papa and taking part in sessions with a Te Papa educator as well as having time to explore some of the exhibitions ourselves. This trip will take place on Wednesday 26th May and we will require 4 parent helpers from each class. There is a separate newsletter about this trip that will be emailed home with more

information. Please let your child's teacher know if you can help on the trip.

Our literacy programmes will be tied into our big topics and will draw on students interests, strengths and needs. Our maths programme in term two will cover multiplication and division problem solving strategies, fractions and time (calendars, telling time, measuring time)

Our P.E programme consists of daily fitness, bike riding sessions as well as structured lessons. This term our focus for P.E lessons will be cross country fitness and running and large ball skills (catching, throwing and striking). Please ensure your child has appropriate shoes to run in each day for cross country running and fitness sessions. School Cross Country is on Tuesday 18th May from 11:15.



Jill teaches in our classes three times a term and focuses on sustainability learning.

Pink Shirt Day

This year we are thrilled to be supporting Pink Shirt Day at Te Kura o Haewai. Pink Shirt Day is a national anti-bullying event that focuses on being an upstander, and helping to make Aotearoa a kinder place for all New Zealanders. Students and whānau across the school are encouraged to wear pink on Friday the 21st of May as a way of celebrating together. We will be gathering a koha to gift to the Mental Health Foundation on the day, so if your child would like to contribute to this, it would be greatly appreciated. The koha will go directly to support the MHF to continue providing bullying prevention resources to schools.

Zones of Regulation

This term we will continue working on Zones of Regulation, where students will learn to self-assess their emotions and create a road map on how they can self-regulate. Students will begin to think about what they can do to get back on track for their learning and notice when they are not in the 'green zone.'

Home Learning

Home learning expectations are the same as last term which is:

Daily reading (15 -20 minutes a night is ideal)

- readers from school for some students
- chapter books, quick reads or nonfiction from school library visits (we visit the library once a week)
- books from home

Occasional writing tasks or other tasks (such as preparing to share news, preparing mihi...)

Optional home learning

- practise spelling essential words



- practise basic maths facts
- Lists for these will be in home learning books and tests will be done once a term. These will be practised during class time too.

We ask that home learning books are returned to school each Friday for checking and to put new home learning sheets.

Reminders:

- Please remember to send children to school with a drink bottle, a piece of fruit or vegetables for fruit break and good running shoes.
- We ask that students arrive at school between 8:30am and 8:50am. This gives time for the children to catch up with friends and settle in before the day begins at 9:00am. Teachers are preparing for the day and in meetings before 8:30am.
- Please remind your children that they are not to bring toys to school, including pokemon cards, rubik cubes and fidget toys.

Teacher Contact Information

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Please get in touch with your classroom teacher if you have any questions, concerns or comments about your child, their friendships or their learning. We are always happy to organise a time to meet with you. Pop in before or after school for a quick chat, teachers are in their classrooms from 8:30. If you'd like more time, please get in touch to organise a meeting.

We look forward to a great term 2!

Ngā mihi,

Stephanie, Emma and Ashleigh

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