



# Māhuri Learning Link

Room 1 & 3  
Term 4 2017

Our Home-School Newsletter  
with class learning focus points and ideas to support learning.

Wow, Term 4 is upon us!! Last term's Wearable Arts performance was great, and the children have used their creativity to create pieces made from recycled materials as part of our focus on Sustainability. This term we will be looking at this concept through a health lens, with the big question being 'How might we sustain our well-being?' Our term's kaupapa is 'Ko au. Ko tāku hauora. Ko tāku manawa'; 'Me. My well-being. My heart'.

**Reading:** As part of our reading programme, all of the children will be participating in 'Literacy Circles' or book clubs. The students will be grouped and each group will be reading a book/novel, and have regular meetings to discuss what is happening in the book, focusing on different comprehension strategies. We are encouraging the children to talk about what they are reading and discuss their understanding and thoughts about it.

**Learning Link:** *Read at home with your children! Talk to them about what you are reading and what you think about it.*

**Writing:** We will be writing narratives this term, focussing particularly on the use of different sentence types, lengths and beginnings. All children have a writing goal that they are also working towards, and workshops will be held throughout the week to teach specific skills and conference their ideas. Our literacy times will be spent across both classes, with students organising and timetabling their learning.

**Learning Link:** *Reading and writing are very closely linked. So as well as, reading a variety of texts, try writing in a wide variety of genres.*

**Spelling:** We will be concentrating on implementing our new spelling knowledge in our writing. We will also be recapping spelling patterns for different sounds and will be looking for this learning in their writing.

**Learning Link:** *Encourage your child to attempt to spell words they don't know when writing at home, and discuss spelling patterns.*

**Mathematics:** We will be starting the term off with a focus on Geometry - Position, Orientation and Transformation. This will include reading maps, following directions and plotting coordinates. We will also be running maths workshops in a variety of areas of maths, with students identifying their next learning steps and booking themselves into these workshops. This is a good chance for students to take stock of what they have learned this year, and plan what next

**Learning Link:** *Continue to discuss how you use maths in everyday life and talk about the maths workshops your child has chosen to attend. Continue to learn the basic facts - there are plenty of activities on Maths Buddy for those that would like more practice!*

**Sustainability:** This term we are learning about sustaining our well-being and exploring 'He Tapa Wha'. This talks about our well-being in 4 areas: Te Taha Hinengaro (psychological health), Te Taha Wairua (spiritual health), Te Taha Tinana (physical health), and Te Taha Whanau (family health). We will be learning about how we fuel ourselves to keep us healthy and strong. The whole school will be participating in 'Mindful Mondays' where the students will be doing different activities to sustain our well being.

**Learning Link:** *Talk to your children about what you do to sustain your well-being and take time for the family to do these activities together.*

**Physical Education:** We will be focussing on 'Run, Jump, Throw', as we prepare for the school athletics day (and some children will be selected for SZ Athletics). These lessons will be across the whole school during the first few weeks of term. We are also swimming at Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre every Tuesday.

**Learning Link:** *Practise your Run, Jump, Throw techniques by throwing tennis balls, jumping as far as you can, and having running races. Please encourage your children to get themselves organised for swimming on Monday night, so that they are ready to go on Tuesday.*

**Te Reo and Tikanga Māori:** We will be specifically focussing on asking and tell the time in te reo this term, linking into our maths learning around time. This will also include days of the week, months of the year, and reading a calendar.

Mātua Henare will be continuing to lead Māhuri Kapa Haka on a Tuesday afternoon. Mo will be working with some of our kōtiro for our powhiri in week 2.

**Learning Link:** *Ask them to retell what they have learnt about tikanga and Te Reo at school. Encourage them to use their learning at home with you.*

**The Arts:** From Week 3 we will start our visual art unit. We will be amalgamating this unit with our inquiry based on health and well-being. We will be focusing on what helps us to be who we are, maintain our well-being and promote self-esteem.

**Learning Link:** *Discuss with them what is important to them, and ways of showing that by using symbols rather than words. This will help them with their reading comprehension by being able to visualise and infer meaning.*

#### **Important Class dates:**

Swimming	Every Tuesday
Parentlink Coffee Club (staffroom)	Last Friday of the month 2:15pm
School Athletics Day	Wednesday 1 November
Southern Zone Athletics	Tuesday 7 November
Country Fair	Sunday 19th November
ASB Getwise Programme	Wednesday 30th November
Big Day Out	TBA
Prizegiving	Wednesday 13th December
Last day of year	Friday 15th December 2pm
First Day 2018	Monday 29th January

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries. To contact us please see us before school or make an appointment, alternatively by Email: [vikki@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:vikki@owhiro.school.nz) or [niky@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:niky@owhiro.school.nz)

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