



# The Learning Link

Term 1 2018

A warm Owhiro Bay Learning Community welcome to all our families, especially if you are new to our school. This *Learning Link* contains home learning suggestions to help you support your child's learning at home. Remember, Owhiro Bay School **ROCKS - Reading, Outside play, Conversations, Keeping up** with school work and **Service** form our home learning for the week.

**Reading:** We are learning to read and understand printed text. Your child will bring home a reading book, poem or their own writing every night. They will also bring home a school library book on a Wednesday and they can keep this for the full week. Please return it to school the following Wednesday.

**Learning Link:** *Make time to sit comfortably with your child and read with them. Occasionally ask them to retell the main parts of the story to you, or ask some simple comprehension questions such as "When did...?" "Who was...?" "What happened after...?"*

**Oral Language:** We are developing confidence and ability in speaking and listening skills.

**Learning Link:** *Please have a conversation with your child about what they are learning at school and support them to develop relevant vocabulary.*

**Writing:** We are learning to record our ideas in a way that other people can read. We are beginning to add more detail about things we have done or things we are learning, and to think how we can make our writing interesting for our audience. We are using full stops and capital letters more consistently; developing sentence structure and recording all the sounds we can hear in a word. We aim to include 5Ws in our recounts (when, where, who, what, why)

**Learning Link:** *Have a conversation about special moments and interesting things you have done together as a family. Who was there? When and where did it happen? What did you do and why?*

**Spelling:** We are checking that we know all the sounds and letters of the alphabet. We will be paying special attention to vowels, blends, digraphs and endings. We will also learn to spell commonly used words.

**Learning Link:** *Take your child outside to write words and letters with rocks on the beach or use a paintbrush and water on the deck or path. Look out for a list of words in the reading clearfile.*

**Mathematics:** We are learning how to display statistical information, as well as developing our number knowledge and addition and subtraction strategies. Later in the term, we will also be measuring the length of objects.

**Learning Links:** *Have a conversation as you use real objects to build up simple block graphs on the table or floor. For example, sort DVDs into groups, sort Lego bricks into colours, sort the laundry into people piles. Count forwards and count backwards to 10, 20, 50 or 100. Talk about and compare the lengths of objects using "shorter / shortest" "tall / taller / tallest" "kilometers".*

**Key Competencies:** We are learning how to participate and contribute. This includes being a active group member and contributing to all our learning activities..

**Learning Link:** *Encourage your child to participate in family life and give service by contributing to chores.*

**Inquiry:** Our focus for the year is citizenship through enterprise. Our definition of enterprise is “Working to create a solution for the betterment of our community.” So we will be looking into ways of ensuring our school has a healthy physical and social environment.

**Learning Link:** *Have a conversation with your child about positive social behaviours as well as keeping physically safe.*

**PE:** We are developing small ball skills by throwing, catching and hitting with various types of sports equipment.

**Learning Link:** *Get your child to practice throwing and catching different sized balls at the park or on the school field. See how far you can get it by throwing underarm and then overarm. Remind them to cup their hands when catching the ball and to watch it as it travels towards them. Another great outside activity!*

**Te reo Māori and kapa haka:** We are gaining confidence to use a variety of te reo vocabulary, including greetings, numbers and responding to simple instructions. We will be learning simple pepeha and will present these with self portraits.

**Learning Link:** *Keep up with school work by greeting your family and friends in te reo Māori. Ask your child about “Ata marie”, “Tena koe / Tena korua / Tena koutou” and “Nga mihi”. Ask your child to share their pepeha with you. Please let us know if you have a preferred pepeha format.*

**The Arts:** We are developing ideas by using paint to create self portraits of us on our beach towels. We will use crayon and dye later in the term. Our music learning includes singing songs about the sea, the school song and karakia.

**Learning Link:** *Watch out for inspiration inside and outside - e.g.talk about portraits you have in your home and the features of them. You may like to take a trip to the National Portrait Gallery and see Frances Hodgkins wonderful portraits until Feb 14th or the Adam Portraiture awards from March 1st.*

### **Some important dates for your diary:**

Wheels’ Day	Every Wednesday
Coffee group in staffroom	Last Friday of each month 2.15pm
Wheels Day	Every Wednesday
Pōwhiri	Friday 9th February 9am
One Learning Community Picnic	Friday 9th February 6pm
Coffee group in staffroom	Friday 23rd February 2.15pm
Easter Break	Friday 30 March-Tuesday 4th April

We are going to have a great term! Please ask if you have any questions or concerns. Please contact us if you have any information to share about your child. You can e-mail us at:

[sylvia@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:sylvia@owhiro.school.nz); [hazel@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:hazel@owhiro.school.nz).

Noho ora mai ra - stay well and healthy, Sylvia Reynolds, Hazel McCulloch