



# The Learning Link

Term 2 2018

A warm Owhiro Bay Learning Community welcome to all our families, especially if you are new to our school this year. This *Learning Link* contains suggestions to help you support your child's learning at home.

**Reading:** We are learning to decode printed text and to understand what we read. Your child will bring a school reading book, or a poem home every night. To support this they have sight word flashcards to practise at home. They will also bring home a school library book once a week and they can keep this for the full week.

**Learning Link:** *Make time to sit comfortably with your child and read with them. It's important that they read successfully and enjoyably at home. Thank you for writing comments in your child's reading diary and returning the book bag to school each day.*

We would really appreciate help with **putting reading books away**. This is a great way of supporting class teachers. Please let us know if you are able to help for 20-30 minutes every 2 or 3 weeks. We would also love some parents to **listen to children reading** in class. Let us know if you would be available.

**Oral Language:** We are developing confidence in both speaking and listening skills. We have News most days where those who want to share some important event can speak to the whole group.

**Learning Link:** *Please talk to 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.

Initially, we plan our work with a picture, record words or letters we know, put a full stop, write our name and always re-read what we have written. As we progress, we write more detail about things we have done or things we are learning. We use full stops and capital letters more consistently; develop sentence structure and record all the sounds we can hear in a word.

**Learning Link:** *Talk about things that interest you and your child and encourage them to record it in any way they like whether it's a drawing that they can explain or sound in words they can hear.*

**Spelling:** Initially, we are learning or revising the sounds and letters of the alphabet. After that we will be learning blends and digraphs. We also learn to spell commonly used words.

**Learning Link:** *Support your child to increase their knowledge of letters, sounds and words. Ask them about the sounds and words written on the windows in our learning spaces.*

**Mathematics:** We are developing our number knowledge by using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division strategies. Later in the term we will be learning about shapes in Geometry by experimenting with making different shapes as well as describing shapes. We will also be learning about probability.

**Learning Links:** *At home play lots of board games together, make it harder by using 2 dice. Practice adding two numbers together and see how quick you can answer them.*

**Key Competencies:** We are learning to manage ourselves, to relate to others and to understand the process of thinking.

***Learning Link:*** Encourage your child to pack and unpack their own school bag to promote self management.

**Inquiry:** Our focus for the year is Citizenship through Enterprise. We are exploring the concepts of ako/teaching others and whanaungatanga/relationships. This term Harakeke will be exploring these concepts through The Arts. They will be using the inquiry process to compose a dance for a whole school production in Week 9.

***Learning Link:*** Discuss different ways you see people work together, various dance forms and Matariki. This will help the children with their composition.

**PE:** After the fun run we will be developing large ball skills through kicking in soccer, and catching and passing in touch rugby, basketball and netball.

***Learning Link:*** Get your child to practice kicking a soccer ball or passing and catching a rugby ball or a basketball, at the park or the school grounds to develop their hand eye coordination.

**Te Reo Maori and Kapa haka:** We are gaining confidence in using a variety of Te Reo vocabulary, including greetings, numbers and simple questions.

Harakeke class are joined by children from the kindergarten with Whaea Rachel to sing songs, do haka, give our mihi and hear a story together.

***Learning Link:*** Regularly practice greeting your family and friends in Te Reo Maori. Ask your child how to introduce themselves.

**The Arts:** We are exploring pastel as well as observational drawing and pencil sketching.

***Learning Link:*** Watch out for inspiration as you are out and about this term - e.g. look at murals and art at festivals and fairs.

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

Wheels Day	Every Wednesday
Fun Run	Friday 18th May
Queen's Birthday	Monday 4th June
Life Education Caravan	Tuesday 12th-15th June
Matariki Disco	Friday 15th June
NZEI Paid Union Meeting	Tuesday 19th June
Production	Week 9
Last day of Term 2	Friday 6th July
First day Term 3	Monday 23rd July

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: [chloe@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:chloe@owhiro.school.nz); [nicola@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:nicola@owhiro.school.nz); [amie@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:amie@owhiro.school.nz)

Noho ora mai ra - stay well and healthy  
Chloe Fretwell, Nicola McKevitt, Amie Roberts.