



Kārearea Newsletter, Term 3, 2018

Kia ora koutou,

It has been a busy start to Term 3. Kārearea have been exploring a range of learning contexts that have been 'entrees' for what is to come throughout Term 3, including some Geometrical Art, Team building exercises, Holiday Remixes and Design and marketing activities to name a few. We are halfway through our year and I would like to emphasise that it is time for some students in Kārearea to take control of their learning and strive for a successful second half of the year, I am here to support, encourage, guide and cheer for you all of the way, however I cannot do the mahi for you! You only get out what you put in and like we say in Kārearea, 'Mauri mahi, Mauri ora- Do the mahi, get the treats!'

Our **LEAD** focus in Kārearea is to **Dare to Dream**. This means encouraging the students to take risks, try new things and believe in themselves. There are a number of opportunities coming up throughout the term and it would be fantastic to see everybody having a go at something new! Some of these activities include: Rangitaiki Hockey and Soccer, Tough Guy and Gal Challenge, Indoor Bowls for the Year 7/8s as well as a Mandarin Speech Competition on August 17th. These are just a few of the opportunities that will be available for the students in Kārearea, remember, "Opportunities are never lost, they are taken by others". Jump at every opportunity you get, or else someone else will!

Teaching and Learning

We are learning to collaborate and be self-directed by...

- Working in a range of learning contexts; *individually, in small groups and as a whole class*. **Participating and Contributing**
- Using LEAD to develop self-managing and interpersonal skills both inside and outside of the classroom. **Managing Self and Relating to Others**
- Develop our thinking and problem solving skills by working together and helping each other achieve goals. **Thinking**

Literacy

Throughout Term 3 we will be continuing with our letter writing to our pen-pals in Kaitaia. We will also be basing our literacy learning around our Wednesday class projects. This will include producing CVs and cover letters, producing letters and emails to local businesses as well as documenting and reflecting on our experiences while engaging with this project based learning. Students will also have daily opportunities for personal writing or SSW through daily 'Quick Writes' and workshops where we will focus on developing skills and understanding within our learning in Reading and Writing. A range of online tools will be used to support Literacy Learning in Term 3 including Reading Eggspress, Epic! Reading, Pobble 365, The Kids Should See This and Kiwi Kids News.

Mathematics

Our key focus in Mathematics for Term 3 will be based around building on our prior knowledge and understanding when working with Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. Our strand focus will continue to be *Geometry and Measurement* which links in nicely with our class projects. Students will be provided with a number of learning opportunities in real world contexts to continue to build the connection between Mathematics learning at school and their own life experiences. There is also an exciting opportunity for a number of our students to be involved in a Maths Enrichment program with our superstar Maths teacher Mrs Attwood throughout Term 3. This will provide some great Maths extension learning opportunities. Mathletics will be used as our main online learning context to support this learning.

Inquiry, Technology and Science

To begin Term 3, Kārearea will be continuing with our conceptual focus of *Relationships in Astronomy* in a range of contexts including navigation, Matariki and deepening our understanding of the universe and how relationships in our solar system impact on our lives. We will also be exploring a style of learning that is very exciting, engaging and incorporates learning from all learning areas of the curriculum called Project Based Learning or PBL. You can read more about PBL by following the link below, but a brief summary is that PBL provides learning opportunities where students gain skills, knowledge and understanding of their learning at school in a real world, hands on context by working on projects for an extended period of time. This will happen every Wednesday however the hands on aspect will begin later in the term as students will have to design, research and gather resources and materials to begin their projects. ***Please do not go out and buy any materials/resources/tools or equipment.*** A large part of the learning for these projects will be students contacting local businesses and experts in the community to ask for any donations or support.

<http://elearning.tki.org.nz/Teaching/Future-focused-learning/Project-based-learning>

Health & P.E

Kārearea will be setting our own personal fitness goals to work on throughout Term 3. These goals will be set by each student for themselves, these could include such things as wanting to run for a longer period of time, to be able to do 10 pullups on the monkey bars or to improve their strength and endurance when tackling the obstacle course. We will also be looking at our overall well-being or Hauora, which will run nicely alongside Whaea Poihaere's Te Reo Māori lessons on Hauora. Hauora covers our physical, mental, social and spiritual wellbeing. If you would like to know more please follow the link below.

<http://health.tki.org.nz/Teaching-in-HPE/Health-and-PE-in-the-NZC/Health-and-PE-in-the-NZC-1999/Underlying-concepts/Well-being-hauora>

I look forward to working alongside you all in what will be a productive, positive and exciting Term Three at Otakiri School. If you have any queries please feel free to either email me at matt@otakiri.school.nz or pop in before or after school for a kōrero!

Ngā mihi Koutou,

Matt Brown