



Kiwi Class Term Two



Dear Parents and Whanau,
What a busy start we have had to Term Two. Despite the rain putting a damper on a few activities, camp was a memorable experience for the children. Highlights included Rocktopia, building sand volcanoes and animals on the beach, the Hot Pools, a night-time movie in the mini movie theatre, playing at different playgrounds and enjoying meals together. It is always wonderful to see how well the children can 'Dare to Dream' with these shared experiences. This Term I'd like to welcome Te Ao, Nathan, River and soon to start Priya to Kiwi Class and to Otakiri School.



The Otakiri Way

Learners Forever, LEADing the Future

Kiwi Class Children are becoming familiar with our school wide LEAD Expectations. These are:

Learn with Purpose - Be a self-manager; Set goals and plan steps for success; Collaborate and learn with others

Engage with Kindness - Use kind words and actions; Be empathetic; Support others

Act with Respect - Respect myself; Respect others; Respect our environment

Dare to Dream - Believe in yourself; Have a growth mindset; Take risks

Each week we will focus on a different aspect to help us become independent Learners.

Units of Work

As a follow-on to our camp we start this term with a focus on the beach and the importance of the sand dunes and the plants that grow there. We will continue to work through areas of the Pause, Breathe and Smile programme as the class dynamics continue to change as new children start school. This will be linked to Kiwi Class working with Takahē Class to create a sensory garden. Our focus will be themed Minecraft while Takahē's theme is a Fairy garden. In the last weeks of the term our focus will be on Matariki.

Literacy focuses on Phonics and recognition of the Early Words. We are using the Better Start Literacy programme for phonics. The emphasis is on letter sounds and how we can stretch (by saying) and hear (by listening) the different sounds and then blend together to read and/or write each word. Our writing this term will include writing 'Thank You' letters to camp parents and travel parents.



Maths this term, focuses on using the Numicon Maths System which includes recognition of number, number patterns and the use of equipment to support sequencing and addition.

For Visual Arts our focus continues with using paints, crayons, dyes and collage. We will create a beach scene to show the sand dunes with the spinifex and pīngao growing, work to create Minecraft bugs and a fish for our sensory garden and a night sky to celebrate the Matariki stars.

In P.E. the focus is on cross country running. Most days we will head out either around the field or out in the paddocks to practise our long distance running.



For Fitness we will continue with movement either as mindful breathing activities or dancing to music to get the body warm and the heart rate up.

Home Time Pick-up

School finishes at 2:45pm. Children who travel home by bus will move to the bus shelter while those travelling with parents will be walked to the front of the school where they can be picked up from there.

Homework

Your child will bring home a reader most nights and their Homework book every night. At the front of the Homework book you will find the phonics song, the Early Words, correct letter formation sheet and poems. At the back, there is a hundreds board and Essential Spelling Lists 1 to 3. Please practise any of these as often as possible.

For those of you who have the internet, your child's Reading Eggs and Mathletics login password and QR code are at the back of their Homework book.

Please encourage your child to be responsible for their reading books and reading bag and to return them to school every day.

Library

Our Library day will be Friday. Library books must be carried in children's book bags so that they are protected from any spills that may happen in school bags.



Clothing

Please ensure that your child's clothing is named, including socks and shoes. This saves a lot of time when we find clothing left lying around.



Lunch

At lunch times the children are encouraged to eat their sandwiches, buns, wraps and/or pita bread first, followed by fruit and lastly their treat food.



Treat foods tend to come in packets. If your child frequently has this type of food please teach them to open their packets independently. If they have yoghurt or dairy food, please supply either a spoon or a plastic spoon in their lunch box.



Kiwi Class Teachers

As Kiwi Class numbers continue to grow, Mrs Vera Pawson will also be teaching alongside me for the first morning block before playtime.

Mrs Heather Richmond is my Release Teacher and she will be teaching in Kiwi Class on Thursdays.



Toys

Please, no toys are to be brought to school.



These tend to cause problems and lost bits can waste valuable time. Instead encourage your child to bring along a news item which they can share with the class. This could be a special book, photo or family object to show. Once they have shared their news then the item either goes on my shelf or back into their bag.

If you have any queries, please feel free to come and see me. I am tied up in a meeting before school some Friday mornings but apart from that either 20 minutes before school or directly after school I am available. Wishing you a wonderful term ahead!

Kind Regards

Eraina Attwood (AP)

