



Te Ara Māia Update Term Toru 2024

*Where students learn creatively and strive for excellence preparing for lifelong learning
Kia auaha te ako a ngā ākonga me te whai i te iti kahurangi mō te akoranga tūroa*

Friday 23rd August,

Kia ora whānau,

We are deep in the imagined words of our devised plays and can't wait to share them with you. The plays have so many benefits for our students, individually and collectively. It may interest you to know that several years ago, we started interviewing the year 10 students attending WGC and WBC to find out about their transition to college, and to inform our classroom practice. What we have found is that these students consistently report that the opportunities to engage in The Arts at KNS have set them up for success in other areas. Some of the benefits the students reported are as follows:



- Drama built their confidence to present in front of groups across a range of subjects
- Drama enabled them to think critically and negotiate disagreement
- Creating a play enabled them to make meaningful connections between their own lives and other texts
- The play-devising process exposed them to texts that they would not have been able to access without the vehicle of drama
- Performing in ensembles such as Lyrica and Orchestra gave them the confidence to join clubs and try new activities
- Drama gave them the confidence to share their opinions with others
- Performing in ensembles taught them how to work together



Upcoming events:

- Week 6: Music Assembly (Thursday 1:45 – 2:45pm)
- Week 6: EPRO8 in school events (Wed/Thurs)
- Week 6: Goal-setting conversations (Friday- This is also a staff only day)
- Week 7: Cricket Wellington cricket training with students
- Week 7: The Kids Sing event, Lyrica and Piccolo are participating (Wednesday)
- Week 7: School Hui hosted by Māia (Friday 10:15 – 11:00am)
- Week 8: Onesie Day (Friday)
- Week 9: Walking down to Gryphon Theatre and back each day
- Week 10: Wellington Orchestra Festival (Monday)
- Week 10: Band concert (Thursday)



Literacy- Play Term!

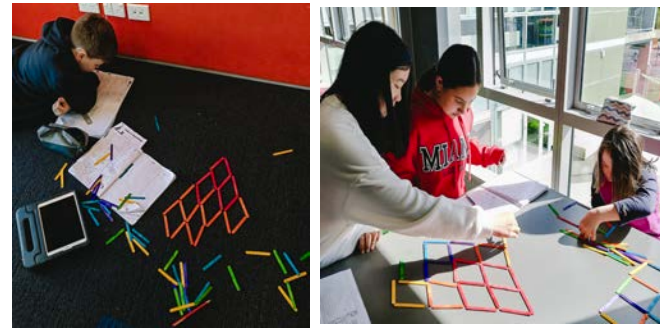
“Play Term” is well underway and we are in the throes of devising our theatre pieces for week 9. As we delve into some meaty themes we are looking at a range of texts to inform our narratives. Our students are at a tricky age where they are ready to explore deeper themes that are not necessarily available in children's texts. Sometimes, we may show short clips from films or excerpts from books that wouldn't be appropriate for the children in their entirety. We do discuss with the children why they should not seek out these texts beyond the snippets we show them in class.



Our plays will be performed at the **Gryphon Theatre on Thursday the 19th of September**. Māia Tahi will perform at 6pm, and Māia Rua will perform at 7pm. Students will need to arrive at the theatre 45 minutes before their class performs. This year we are asking that when you book your tickets through the office, you also pay a small donation to go towards the cost of hiring the theatre. Please contact admin@kelburnnormal.school.nz to book tickets for your child's play, it is a small theatre so we ask that you book in advance so that we can accommodate you.

Maths Week & Mathswell

This week 12 of our Māia students represented us at the Mathswell competition at Victoria University. This required skillful problem-solving skills, teamwork, and excellent communication. Maths week was a great opportunity for us to explore some fun problem-solving challenges and friendly competitions. Our focus this term is on Algebra and we are exploring patterns and expressions. In the photos you will see our students visually mapping out linear and non-linear equations using materials.



P.E. & WZ Netball

Our students represented us well at the Western Zones Netball tournament last week, displaying good sportsmanship, and some excellent teamwork skills. The real MVPs on the day were Isla and Eliot who refereed 17 games back to back with unparalleled enthusiasm and energy! This event connected well with our Basketball focus for the term where we have been practising a range of ball handling skills.



Technology

Tech is one of the perks of being a Māia student! We have had some catch up sessions recently and the students have loved it. Tech offers opportunities to cook, create, and problem solve using a range of tools. Students do need to be able to follow instructions in order to stay safe whilst working with tools.



Book Week

A huge thank you to our Librarians who supported us with book week! Two Kahoots, a Bookmark crafting session, and a regular 'link' library were coordinated with the help of our librarians, much to the joy of the younger students. We had some excellent costumes on Friday, of particular note were Cindy as the bird from *The Juniper Tree*, and Matilda and her parents!

Kapa haka

Last week, Ngā Tātarakihi o Ahumairangi, our Senior Kapa Haka rōpū performed at the Whakanui Ahurea Kāhui Ako Festival at Wellington College. This was a wonderful day of celebrating the different cultures in our communities and coming together to share in performance. Our tamariki represented the school with confidence, integrity and mana, and we were so proud to see them up on the big stage. We also had the opportunity to watch kapa haka performances from other primary schools across the Kāhui Ako, and to see where our performance can take us at WC and WGC. Ngā mihi nui to Henare, Ms Rasmussen, Ms Smith and our parent helpers on the day. We could not have done it without you!



Career Education

We were very fortunate to have Rob and his colleague Jia come and speak to us about their work for the New Zealand Police Force. The exciting stories and fascinating challenges of the job were of great interest to our students. If you have time to come and talk to us about your career on a Friday we would be delighted to hear from you!



Home Learning

Please note that our expectations for home learning are designed to support learning in class and not overwhelm students who are busy with after-school activities and enjoying their youth.

- We expect that a Māia student will read independently for at least **30 minutes each day**.
- Your child will also have a Maths Whizz log-in. **Maths Whizz** is an online program that we expect students to utilise for **30 mins per week**.

As always, if you have any questions about our programme, or would like to discuss anything concerning your child, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are only too happy to help.

Nga mihi,

Libya Munn, Emily Wilby & Jo Hamid

libyam@kelburnnormal.school.nz

emilyw@kelburnnormal.school.nz

joh@kelburnnormal.school.nz