



Te Ara Māia Newsletter

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, July 26th 2024

Kia ora whānau of Māia students,

We are delighted to have the children back! They have brought with them an enthusiasm for the term ahead and we are all enjoying getting stuck into the learning. Congratulations to **Caesar, Arlo, Nina,** and **Eliot** who have all been elected as senior Student Council representatives.



Upcoming events:

- W1 Friday -W2 Friday School Photos
- W2 Wednesday 31 July Extra Y7 tech session
- W2 Thursday 1 August Primary Music Showcase Y7/8 at WC 10 am - 12 pm
- W2 Friday 2 August School hui and Mihi Whakatau hosted by Whanake @ 10 am
- W3 Wednesday 7 August Extra Y7 tech session
- W4 Wednesday 14 August Extra Y7 tech session
- W4 Thursday 15 August Whakanui Ahurea- Kapa Haka Festival
- W4 Friday 16 August School hui hosted by Tupu @ 10.15 am
- W5 No tech for Y7s or Y8s

Literacy- Play Term!

“Play Term” as the students affectionately call it, is upon us. We will be devising our own plays based on philosophical questions we are exploring in class. Our plays will be performed at the **Gryphon Theatre from 6pm on Thursday the 19th of September**. Devised plays are a major highlight and a significant learning experience. The plays are something we make together, and we want all children to be a part of that. If your child has any planned absences in Term 3, please let your child’s teacher know. Please keep an eye out for some interactive homework tasks...



Physical Education- Basketball

Our PE topic this term is basketball. Students will develop their basketball knowledge and ability through warm-ups, drills and games that directly teach and apply skills. Throughout the unit, students will also engage in regular discussion and reflection on the importance of teamwork, fair play and a positive attitude. We know we already have some skilled basketballers in Māia, and this unit will be an opportunity for them to take on a tuakana role within the Ara.

Maths- Algebra

In maths this term our focus will be on Algebra. We will be looking for patterns and formulating rules, as well as methodically finding unknown values, forming and solving simple linear equations; generalising properties of multiplication and division with whole numbers; and using graphs, tables, and rules to describe linear relationships found in number and spatial patterns. Throughout the term we

will also explore these concepts in authentic contexts, so that the children can appreciate the numerous applications mathematics has in their worlds. We will also be practising our problem-solving skills as we continue our participation in the Otago Problem Solving Challenge.

Social Science- Cultural performances

While their year 7 peers are at Tech, our year 8s will be studying performances from a range of cultural and religious groups. Looking at traditional settings, occasions, and purposes of performances. Students will explore performances ranging from Japanese Kabuki Theatre, to Bullet Ant dancing, and Wayang Kulit (Indonesian Light Puppets). If you have connections to anyone who can share about a cultural performance we would love to hear from them! Please send us an email.

Technology

Tech continues on Thursdays (Year 7s) and Fridays (Year 8s) at Newlands Intermediate School. Students will depart from school at 12:30, returning at approximately 2:50. The technology teachers at Newlands request that students wear closed-toed shoes, and tie their hair back for safety reasons. Due to public holidays, staff only days, and some school events, our students have missed some sessions at Tech. This term these sessions will be made up on Wednesday afternoons as mentioned at the beginning of this newsletter.



Health & Wellbeing

While our year 8s are at Tech, our year 7s will engage in a unit on developing healthy relationships. Through integrating drama, students will workshop real-life situations and explore strategies in which to solve social challenges positively and productively. We will also touch on how we view ourselves, the qualities we have within ourselves and how these can impact the relationships we have with others.



Science- The Periodic Table

This term, Māia students will have a taster of chemistry with an introduction to the periodic table. We will look at the origins and development of the periodic table and begin to gain an understanding of the different sections it comprises. Students will have the opportunity to investigate and delve into an element of their choice to create a 'Biography of an Element', allowing them to become an expert on an element of their choice.

Matariki

Thank you to everyone who came last night to celebrate Matariki as a school community! We are very proud of the Kapa Haka students for the way they performed to open the celebrations. After the performance I noted that many of our senior students were praising the younger Kapa Haka students for their efforts. This was such a wholesome and genuine representation of the Tuakana Teina relationships we try to foster between children. Māia children helped with many of the organisational elements of the evening, including face painting, running our sgraffito stars activity, and running some of the food stalls.



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

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	Mane	Turei	Wenerei	Taite	Paraire
	Munn/Wilby	Munn/Wilby	Munn/Wilby	Hamid/Wilby	Hamid/Wilby
		Orchestra	Piccolo	Lyrica	Kapa Haka
8.50- 9.30	Te Reo/ Drama	Morpheme Magic/ Spelling Handwriting Lexia/Stepsweb	Morpheme Magic/ Spelling Handwriting Lexia/Stepsweb	Morpheme Magic/ Spelling Handwriting Lexia/Stepsweb	Morpheme Magic/ Spelling Handwriting Lexia/Stepsweb
9.30-9.45	Novel Studies	Syntax Project - Intro	Syntax Project- Practise	Syntax Project- Consolidation	Syntax- Reflection
9.45-9.50	Brain Break				
9.45 - 11	Multiple Literacies	Multiple Literacies	Multiple Literacies	Multiple Literacies	Multiple Literacies
11-11.40	Break 1 (10 mins eating together in HLT)				
11.40- 12	Shared text	Shared text	Shared text	30 min Maths Whiz prac	30 min Maths Whiz prac
12.00-1.00	Maths - Introduction of topic	Maths- Practise	Maths- Consolidation	12.15 year 7s eat lunch and head to tech with Jo Year 8s 40 min Number focus	12.15 year 8s eat lunch and head to tech with Emily Y7s 40 Min Number focus
1-1.45	Break 2 (10 mins eating together in HLT)				
1.40- 2pm	SSR	SSR	SSR	Reading for pleasure	Reading for pleasure
2-2.30	P.E.	P.E.	P.E.	Y8 Social Science	Y7 Health
2.30-2.45	Science (weeks 1,2,3,4) Visual Art (weeks 5,6,7,8,9)	Science (weeks 1,2,3,4) Visual Art (weeks 5,6,7,8,9)	Science (weeks 1,2,3,4) Visual Art (weeks 5,6,7,8,9)	P.E.	P.E.