



Te Ara Māia Newsletter

Term Rua 2023

*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*

April 26 2023

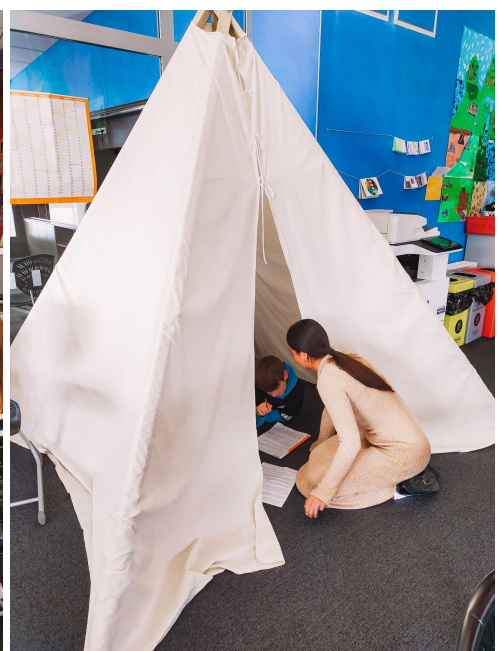
Kia ora Parents and Whānau, we are looking forward to a fun and engaging term ahead. Hugo Miller & Sophia Basile join us in Māia as student teachers for six weeks, and we have lots of school events coming up. This is a hefty newsletter today, but we hope it will help you to feel prepared and excited for term two.

Communication

As your child moves through the school the frequency and method by which we communicate with you changes between ara. When your child is in Māia, you can expect to receive updates like this one 3-4 times a term, these will be sent to you via the school app. Any communication that is specific to *your* child will be emailed to you by the Home Learning Team teacher. Similarly, we ask that if you have any questions specific to your child, please connect with your child's teacher directly. In terms of sharing student work with you, we will soon be sending out individual links to documents that your child will update every week or two with examples of their work at school. Your child will choose which pieces of work they would like to share and are responsible for this document.

Health & Wellbeing

We recognise that there are many benefits of our Modern Learning Environment, but we are also actively working to cater to the neurodiversity in our Home Learning Teams. In an effort to provide support to *all* learners, we have ear defenders for students who choose to use them, various seating/standing arrangements, and a new tent where students can retreat to if they are feeling sensitive or overwhelmed. Part of the work the rangatahi are doing at school is understanding themselves as learners and working towards taking responsibility for their learning. We have also heard from our students that with the new timetable and longer block in the morning, they really do need a 'Brain Break' (a stretch, wriggle, and a piece of fruit or vege), and so we are working to ensure we are more consistent with providing this.



English

Poetry is our focus for term two, and we would love to hear about any poems that are particularly significant to you and your family. We would love to read poems in any language, feel free to send them through to your child's teacher. Your child will be crafting their own poetry anthology to house their writing for the term. We will explore a range of poems, both classic and contemporary, and develop our expressive writing skills.

Science

This term we are learning about photosynthesis. We are looking forward to growing some seedlings in the learning space and designing some science investigations centred on plant growth. Currently, in the space we have a range of indoor plants for us to examine and study their various adaptations. If you have a pot plant you would be willing to let us babysit for the term, we would gladly receive it!



Mathematics

Our Statistics unit ties in very nicely with the work we will be doing in science. It is always great for the students to have an authentic example of data to collect and interpret. For our home learning maths revision, every student has a MathsBuddy login that they can access at home. We recommend using this tool for at least 30 mins per week. Tasks are set by teachers and by our Teacher Aide Katharina. Students can also choose activities that are appropriate for their level, this enables them to take some responsibility for their own learning, self-selecting more challenging or simpler tasks as necessary.

Social Science

What better topic for children living in the Capital than a History of New Zealand Politics? And in an election year too! We will walk down to Parliament on Monday of Week 2, and ask lots of brilliant questions during our official tour. We are so fortunate in our central location to have access to all of this on foot! Māia Munn will attend a tour in the morning, and Māia Button in the afternoon. ***Please let us know if you would be keen to come along!***

Arts

We are exploring aleatoric music and visual art this term, we will take every opportunity to take our rambunctious musical experiments outside and in the Mahler room downstairs.

Arts are at the heart of our curriculum here at KNS, and so we also have a few performances coming up:

- Monday May 22 we have an interactive percussive show Strike coming to school; the donation request for this will be \$7 per student.
- Wednesday 31st May we are attending the NZSO Pick-a-Path in Concert at the Michael Fowler Centre. It would help us greatly if we could have a couple of parent helpers, so please let us know if you are available to come with us. The donation request for this activity will be \$5.50.

Te reo Māori

Matua Jason will continue to work with us on our Te Reo and Tikanga Māori this term, the focus will be on local myths and legends.

Physical Education

Netball and Basketball are the vehicles by which we will learn some large ball skills this term. We know that these sports are of particular interest to our rangitahi and we look forward to supporting them to develop their skills in this area. We have several other sporting outings this term.

- Tuesday 2nd May we head over to Ākau Tangi Sports Centre for some rotations of touchball, futsal, and gymnastics. The donation request for this will be \$20.20 per student.
- Western Zone Mini ball (for Y5-6 and Y7-8) - Tuesday 16 May
- Western Zone Cross Country (For year 4-8) - Tuesday 30 May (pp Thursday 1 June)
- School Swimming Sports (for Y4-8) - Tuesday 20 June

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 adolescence. Put simply, our expectations for home learning are:

- 30 mins of Maths Buddy practice per week
- 30 mins of reading every day

This is an achievable expectation for our students, but they will need your support to carve out this time.

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 with your child's classroom teacher. We are only too happy to help.

Nga mihi,
Libya Munn; Alistair Button

Weekly Timetable

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8.50- 9.30	Drama club / Fitness	Orchestra / Fitness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Syndicate fitness• Health	Lyrice / Fitness	Kapa haka / Fitness
9.30-10	Multiple Literacies				
10- 11					
11-11.40	Break 1				
11.40-12.20	Maths (Access to Te Whare Toi)				
12.20-1					
1-1.45	Break 2				
1.45-2.15	Maia Button Te Reo with Matua Jason / Munn Science/soc-sci/P.E.	Maia Munn Te Reo with Matua Jason/ Button Science/soc-sci/P.E.	Ara Te Reo with Matua Jason - Focus on Waiata	Art	Art
2.15-2.45	Science/soc-sci/P.E.	Science/soc-sci/P.E.	Science/soc-sci/P.E.		
2.45-3	Home Learning Team Time				