



Te Ara Māia Newsletter

Term Toru 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

21 July 2023

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

Ngā mihi o Matariki, te tau hou Māori!

Thank you to those of you who came along to our Māia Assembly and Mihi Whakatau on Thursday! We have already achieved a lot in our first week back, we have been busy with Drama, inquiry projects, and helping to create new rakau for Kapa Haka.

Next week, on Thursday 27th July we are off to the Musical Showcase at Wellington College. This is an annual event showcasing the musical opportunities at Wellington College and WGC.

This term we have Jo Hamid joining us for two days a week in Māia Munn. Jo will be teaching on Tuesdays and Fridays this term whilst Libya takes on some of Danielle's workload during her sabbatical.



A request for support:

In week 9 (11th-14th September) We will be galloping down the hill to the Gryphon Theatre for Rehearsals. Both the Maia Button, and Māia Munn Plays will be performed for one night only on the evening of the 14th September- more details to come. Performing in a proper theatre is a source of excitement for the Māia students, part of the appeal of the little 'black box' theatre is the impressive lighting setup. We are looking for someone to help us to execute our lighting designs, this will involve coming to some of the rehearsals the week of the plays, as well as the evening performance and using the control panel in the lighting box. This could be a job for a parent or an older sibling, if this is something you would be open to volunteering for, we would love to hear from you. Unfortunately we are unable to compensate you financially for this help, but we will shower you with gratitude and affection. Please email libyam@kelburnnormal.school.nz

Mathematics

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.

Shakespeare

“Play Term” as the students affectionately call it, is upon us. This year we are studying Shakespeare, with a focus on Macbeth (Māia Munn) and A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Māia Button). Studying the works of The Bard is always a worthwhile and invigorating challenge for the children, we would love to hear your stories of performing in, or learning about Shakespeare’s plays. Please keep an eye out for some interactive homework tasks...

Te reo Maori

We are fortunate to have Matua Jason supporting us with our Te Reo and Tikanga program. Matua Jason will be working with students on Thursday and Friday afternoons. We are also currently learning about Matariki and look forward to seeing you at our Matariki Celebration next Wednesday



Carl Hayman had everything and he’d reached the peak of his career, being married with kids and having a massive salary, but lost it all because of his health. So 1 lesson is that you can have everything you’ve ever dreamed of, but without your health, it means nothing. It’s great to make the best out of a bad situation, for example spreading awareness, so that what’s happening to you doesn’t happen to other people.

Hayman was considered a hero on the rugby field, because he was a fantastic player, but actually what he’s doing now by sharing his story and his troubles is more heroic. By being vulnerable and honest about his struggles, he could potentially save the next generation of rugby players from suffering the same fate.

- Mia



Social Science

Our focus in social science will be on childhood, comparing the world of Tudor children with their approximate contemporaries in Aotearoa. We will think about how children were viewed and educated, and about the material culture of children: clothes, food, toys, and recreation more generally. We will tie this in with our own childhoods, looking for both contrasts and continuities.

Science

As a further way into understanding the world of Shakespeare, and our own world, we will think about health care and the conception of the body. We will consider these in the contexts of both Tudor England and pre-contact Aotearoa. We will learn about whom ordinary people might approach for health advice, and what that advice might be. A particular focus will be plant-based remedies, and we will select particular medicinal herbs to investigate, seeking to understand their possible efficacy.

Physical Education

This term in Physical Education we will be concentrating on small ball skills. We will be developing the skills needed for small ball activities - catching, throwing and bowling. The students will be playing games such as non-stop cricket and rounders to further progress these skills.

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.

Health & Wellbeing

We will be exploring aspects of health in our Science unit this term, alongside the ongoing practices and education we run about physical, emotional, and social wellbeing. Some of the tools we use to support rangitahi with their wellbeing are:

- Regular fitness and Physical Education
- The use of <https://gozen.com/> for building resilience
- Whanaungatanga time twice a day during kai time
- Physical activity breaks
- Brain Breaks

Two key ways you can support us at school are by sending your child to school with enough kai to fuel them for the day, and by keeping lines of communication open. Our students desperately want to be independent but they still need you! See an example here: [Bullying | nzherald.co.nz](https://www.nzherald.co.nz/video/5434428000000000000)

We are looking forward to sharing more with you about our health programme at our community engagement Hui on Wednesday 9th August!



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. Maths buddy is an online program that we expect students to utilise 30 mins per week. Tasks are set by classroom teachers and by our Learning Assistant 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.

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, Alistair Button, & Jo Hamid

Weekly Timetable

	Munn/Button	Hamid/Button	Munn/Button	Munn/Button	Hamid/Button
8.50- 9.30	Drama club/fitness	Orchestra/fitness	Health/Science	Lyrca/fitness	Kapa haka/ fitness
9.30-10	Multiple Literacies: Reading, Writing, Spelling, Speaking, Performing				
10- 11					
11-11.40	Whanaungatanga time (10 mins) + Break				
11.40- 12	SSR	SSR	SSR	Maths	
12-1	Maths			Targeted year 8 Basic Facts Practice	Targeted year 7 Basic Facts Practice
1-1.45	Whanaungatanga time (10 mins) + Break				
1.45-2.15	Science	Social Science	P.E.	Year 7 Tech Year 8s Te Reo Maori with Matua Jason	Year 8 Tech Year 7s Te Reo Maori with Matua Jason
2.15-2.45	P.E.	Art	Social Science		
2.45-3	Home Learning Team Time				