



# Te Ara Whānui Newsletter

## Term Whā 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*

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome to term 4!

As we embark on the final school term of 2023, we are filled with excitement and anticipation for the learning experiences that lie ahead. It was lovely to see everyone again after the term break and welcome the new students and their whānau who have joined the Whānui Ara this term.

Term 3 finished with a focus on the Elections. It was wonderful to have Jarrod Baker, Lydia's dad come in to teach ākonga about how the General Election is run, how MMP works and to hear about his role at the Electoral Commission. Ākonga then enthusiastically formed their own parties, and thinking about what values their parties valued most, identified two societal topics/issues they aim to support and improve, and two things they would like implemented here at KNS if their party won. They then ran wonderful mock election campaigns.



Here is an outline of what you can expect your child to be learning this term.

### Upcoming trip - Royal New Zealand Ballet - Hansel & Gretel - **parent help required**

On Friday 27 October (Week 3), Whānui and Whanake will be attending the school matinee performance of [Hansel and Gretel](#) at the St James Theatre. In the past, ākonga have enjoyed going to the beautiful theatre, experiencing the thrill of live dance and seeing the costumes and props/staging together. If you are able to come along as a parent helper, can you please contact your child's HLT teacher ASAP.

Prior to attending Hansel & Gretel at the St James Theatre, a RNZB educator will be coming to KNS on Thursday 19 October (Week 2) to run a workshop with each home learning team. The workshop will consist of a warmup, games, learning ballet positions, jumps and then the chance to learn some choreography from the show. This gives the students the opportunity to experience

and get a taster for what will be performed by the company on stage. A donation of \$30 per student will be added to your statement that will cover both the workshop and trip to St James Theatre to see the matinee.

## **Literacy**

The children are all warmed up from last term's mock election. This term you can expect our future leaders to be making some impactful presentations for speech writing. Speech writing is a bit of an art and learning how to craft a piece of writing and then communicate the message effectively through speaking is a valuable tool in all aspects of life. It helps develop critical thinking skills, communication abilities, and confidence. Ākonga will be honing their speech writing skills by crafting persuasive and engaging presentations that captivate their audience.



Regular reading for enjoyment at home supports children's language development, especially vocabulary acquisition at this stage. It is particularly important to develop into a lifelong reader and so at this age tamariki should be reading quietly at home for at least 30 minutes per day.

## **Numeracy**

This term we will be focusing on proportions and ratios. Ratios and proportions are foundational to Ākonga understanding across multiple topics in mathematics and science. A ratio tells us how much of one thing there is in relation to another thing and allows us to measure and express quantities by making them easier to understand. For example, 'For every 2 apples we have 3 bananas'. Proportion tells us about how much of one thing there is in relation to the whole amount of something. For example, 'There are 50 pieces of fruit, and 1 in every 5 of those is an apple. In the real world, ratios and proportions are used on a daily basis. Cooks use them when following recipes and they are used to work with finances and when shopping.



We encourage you to continue to support your child to keep learning the times tables and the inverse division facts so that they can recall them quickly to support them with mastery of tasks across the mathematics curriculum. Maths Whizz is an excellent tool that can help at home as well.

## **Physical education**

### Athletics

We start the term by preparing for our KNS Athletics Day (Tuesday 17 October, Week 2, at Ben Burn Park Karori). Ākonga will have a number of sessions rotating around the different disciplines to hone their technique in preparation for the big day.

## Swimming

This term we will be going to the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre for 8 swimming sessions on Tuesdays beginning in week one and ending in week ten (not including weeks 2 & 3). Students will be assessed and then grouped depending on their skills. Some will be developing their stroke and efficiency following the Learn to Swim programme, whilst others may be more advanced and therefore will participate in a range of other water sports including springboard diving, kayaking, snorkelling, and Kiwi surf. We will be travelling by bus, leaving school at 10:50 am and returning at approximately 1:00pm. On these days your child will need their togs, towel and goggles. A donation of \$72 per student for the 8 lessons will be added to your statement.

## Rogaine

Our annual Rogaine event is planned for Wednesday 13 December, Week 10. So keep an eye out for more information about this as we require parent help for this event.

## **Health and Science**

Our unit this term 'Navigating the Journey' is a sexuality education program provided by Family Planning New Zealand. We ran an information evening last term on this and explained how it has links with both the Science curriculum and the Health and Physical Education curriculums. It covers a range of important themes about understanding personal growth. The focus will be on supporting personal self and others; pubertal change; body image; risks and issues; sexuality and diversity; critical thinking about gender; friendships; individual rights; dealing with social messages and stereotypes; and how to access health care. Please be assured that our programme is designed with the well-being of all ākonga in mind.

## **Te ao Māori**

Ākonga will continue to work with Jason throughout the term to strengthen their competence in te reo, as well as broaden their understanding of tikanga Māori. To link in with our Navigating the Journey unit, this term the lessons will have a particular focus on the body parts and he will recap previous learnings on pronouns before launching further into sentence structure.

This term we also have weekly sessions with Jeremy to build on waiata that ākonga already know as well as learning new ones.



## **Home Learning**

For our home learning programme in Whānui we know that our tamariki work very hard during the day, and that many are very busy after school. At this age tamariki must be reading quietly at home for at least 30 minutes per day. Regular daily reading for enjoyment at home supports children's language development, especially vocabulary acquisition at this stage. Please visit the community library frequently (take a box and fill it up with books and other reading material) and support your child to read at home and engage with them about what they are reading.

Maths Whizz - We have had positive feedback about this new online platform. Maths Whizz is a personalised maths programme that provides automated learning opportunities to your child. Our recommendation is for ākonga to complete three progressions per week. You can read the parent information handout [here](#).

## Reminders

- **Brain break snack** - with our new break times this year, each morning we have a short brain break at 10am where children are encouraged to have a fruit or vegetable snack. Please ensure your child has something in their lunchbox that they can have at this time.
- Please support your child to arrive for their **ensembles** promptly at 8:30 am.
- All ākonga are required to wear a **sunhat** at break times and when we are outside for any lessons in term 4.

## Communication

3-way learning conversations, please note that these will be happening in Week 2 - Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th from 3.30-5.00 and in week 3 - Tuesday 24 October. This is a Teacher Only Day and the school is closed on this day so the conversations can take place throughout the day.

There are some differences in how communication is done in each Ara. In Whānui, you will receive a newsletter like this one at the beginning of each term. You may also receive some additional updates during the term to remind you of upcoming events or to share ākonga progress. In addition we will share snippets of what we are doing in the school newsletter.

It is helpful for your child's teacher to know if your child has an appointment or needs to leave school for any reason before 3:00 pm. If this is necessary, we kindly ask that you email their HLT teacher to let them know. If students are leaving school before 3:00 pm, they need to go to the office to sign out.

Please stay connected with us through our regular communications, newsletters, and 3-way learning conversations this term. If you have any questions or wish to talk about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact us. Teachers can be contacted by our email addresses (rebekahr, carmenc, emmam @kelburnnormal.school.nz). Let's work together to make this term the best one yet!

We are looking forward to finishing the year off with another fabulous action packed term. As the weeks progress, we'll take time to reflect on the wonderful journey we've had together this year.

Ngā mihi nui,

The Whānui team - Rebekah, Carmen and Emma

## Key these dates for your diary

Week 1	Tuesday 10 October - swimming
Week 2	Tuesday 17 October - KNS athletics @ Ben Burn Park Wednesday 18 October - 3-way learning conversations & Goal update 3:30 am - 5:00 pm Thursday 19 October - 3-way learning conversations & Goal update 3:30 am - 5:00 pm
Week 3	Monday 23 October - Labour Day Tuesday 24 October - Staff Only Day - 3-way learning conversations & Goal update 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Wednesday 25 October - postponement date for KNS athletics Friday 27 October - RNZB Hansel & Gretel @ St James Theatre

Week 4	Tuesday 31 October - swimming
Week 5	Tuesday 7 November - swimming
Week 6	Tuesday 14 November - swimming
Week 7	Tuesday 21 November - swimming
Week 8	Tuesday 28 November - swimming Tuesday 28 November - Musical Refreshment @ St Andrew's
Week 9	Tuesday 5 December - swimming Wednesday 6 December - 3:00-5:00 pm - Celebration of Learning
Week 10	Tuesday 12 December - swimming Wednesday 13 December - 12:00-3:00 pm - Whānui rogain
Week 11	Wednesday 21 December - Last day of Term 4 - finish @ 12:00 pm