



*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*

Te Ara Tupu Newsletter

Term Whā 2025

Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi. Everybody has something to offer, a piece of the puzzle, and by working together we can all flourish.

10th October, 2025

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

Welcome back to Term Four, as we all look forward to what lies ahead in this action-packed term. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the new families that have joined or are about to join Te Ara Tupu (The Tupu Team). Te Ara means the pathway and Tupu means beginning and/or developing.

When we reflect on last term, there were numerous highlights. For us, the major highlight was being able to share our drama experiences around Nursery rhymes with families and whānau. Seeing the tamariki working with their peers as their creative and imaginative ideas came to life was joyful.



PTA - We want to encourage families to support our amazing PTA. They plan, organise, and run many activities for our kura, supporting the purchase of resources and maintaining the spaces. As a school, we would be lost without this hard-working team. There are many different ways to be supportive, so please get in touch with what you can do at pta@kelburnnormal.school.nz



Sunsmart - As summer comes, the children must wear sun-smart clothing, including hats, and sunblock. Please check they have a hat in their bag or one they can leave at school. The school policy is that all children wear a brimmed hat starting on the first day back. No caps, please. Children are responsible for putting their own sunblock on – the roll-on kind seems to be the most manageable for them at school.

Reminders - This term we encourage and welcome families to come into our learning space. Here are a few tips to make the mornings and afternoons run smoothly, as these are busy times in our learning area. The learning space is open at 8:30am, and the bell to start learning goes at 8:50am. Independence, problem-solving, and initiative underpin a lot of our learning and the start of the day sets up the success for each child. We have seen throughout the year how settled the children are in the morning when they come in independently. However, we don't want this to stop you from coming in and sharing your child's mahi or touching base with kaiako. If you're going to pop in after school, we ask that you please wait until all the tamariki have been farewelled - this is usually no more than five minutes. We look forward to having face-to-face sharing with all families.

School assembly- please keep Friday 24th October, starting at 1:50pm to come and see all of Tupu leading and sharing our mahi in our school hall. All whānau are welcome to attend.

Discovery Time, putting books away, and Christmas crafts - Another term of outstanding support from our book team with putting our books away has helped with our workload. But we would like to share the load, so we are asking if you are interested in helping to put books away. We would be grateful for your support, please contact Andrea to go on the roster.



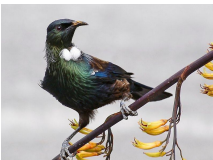
This term we warmly welcome parent helpers for our ever-popular Friday Discovery Time. This session is on a Friday from 9 to 10:00. It is a wonderful opportunity to support tamariki with a provided activity. If you are interested, please contact your home learning team teacher as soon as possible so they can book in a time, as we like to be able to share this around, making it one to two sessions per family member.



We are planning a Christmas craft extravaganza in December. We would love to have as many family members come in and help. Keep an eye out for this information in the future. These sessions are non-religious and are craft-related.

Curriculum Topics

Our topic will interweave in all that we do this term, and we are calling this '*Birds of a Feather Flock Together*'. We are discovering many different manu. We are investigating their ecology, evolution, and life processes as New Zealand's native birds have unique features and behaviours that help them survive in their habitats.



We are starting our journey with the Mitey programme. Mental health education has never been more crucial for our tamariki. Mitey is an evidence-based, school-wide approach to teaching mental health education, which is built around the NZ Curriculum and aligned to the Mental Health Education Guidelines. The key concepts we will be using are our feelings, emotions, whanau, friendships, and strengths. We are lucky to have a week visit from Life Education in December. We look forward to diving into self esteem and social relationships.



Throughout the term, we will explore the various celebrations observed in our diverse cultures, including Diwali, Hanukkah, Halloween, Guy Fawkes, and Christmas, within our teams.

Physical Education

A major focus this term is to develop swimming skills in preparation for the summer holidays. Swimming starts on Thursday, 12th October and ends on Thursday, 30th November, running for eight weeks. Please remember these useful hints that will help your child on swimming day:

- **named** togs, towel, goggles in a swimming bag.
- having the same towel each week ensures your child recognises it when they get out of the pool.
- make sure shoes and clothing can be removed and put back on easily by your child.



Sometimes, the tamariki accidentally pack their next-door neighbour's items in their bag, so if you have extra items, please send them back the following day. We also collect all the leftover clothes at the end of the session.

Mathematics and Statistics

All tamariki will continue with the 'Maths No Problem' programme, which has a mastery approach and follows a scope and sequence while aligning this with the refreshed mathematics curriculum. The tamariki are continuing to develop their knowledge and skills in numbers and counting, and introducing various strategies for addition and subtraction, including number bonds and word problems. Then activities build into multiplication and subtraction concepts, fractions, geometry, and measurement. Problem-solving is a significant component of the programme, incorporating word problems and practical applications across various topics. Our maths lessons will follow a consistent structure, which includes plentiful opportunities for collaboration and rich discussion. This programme involves applying maths knowledge in real-life situations, helping children understand how and why maths works. This allows children to make strong connections, develop a long-term understanding of maths and, more importantly, enjoy learning mathematics



Literacy

Our literacy programmes are back in full swing. Your child will bring a reading book home every night, Monday through Thursday. On a Friday, your child will bring home their poetry book to share the week's poem and a library book your child has chosen. Keep an eye out for the weekly BSLA with the focus for the week and ways to support your child on Seesaw. We do value your positive feedback in your child's yellow reading books.



For writing this term, we are focusing on personal writing, expressive recounts, and descriptive character writing, all of which are linked to the integrated units. Tamariki will also have regular handwriting sessions that will focus on forming lowercase, uppercase, and numbers correctly and legibly, as well as using the correct pencil grip.

Arts

In visual arts, we will be exploring collage, composition, texture, and shape to create artworks related to our investigations. This will also stimulate the children's imaginative responses and creativity. In music, the children will continue building on their singing skills and repertoire of songs, as well as adding musical instruments to accompany them. This term, we continue to weave Te Reo into our daily lives. Under the confident guidance of Matua Jeremy, we come together for a weekly Junior Kapa Haka.

We are proud of all the tamariki in our team and how they have taken on new experiences with confidence, adapting to changes and continuing their learning journey in a steady and consistent manner. We can see that with their little and medium-sized feet, they made big steps and strides last term, especially with their Key Competencies, an essential focus for the year. To keep this going, please see us if you have any questions or things you would like to celebrate.

Me te mihi from the Tupu teaching team, Jackie, Andrea, Jodie, and Susie.

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