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Kia auaha te ako a ngā ākonga me te whai i te iti kahurangi mō te akoranga tūroa

Te Ara Tupu Newsletter

Term Toru 2026

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.

Friday 24 July

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

Welcome back to Term Three. A special welcome to all the tamariki and whānau who join our team this term. And a warm welcome to Ms Lisette Wilson, who is the kaiako for our new entrant team, Tupu Rima. We look forward to getting to know you and all the interesting ideas that you bring to our team.

The Tupu Team teachers would like to say a big thank you to the parents who were able to help out by putting books away. We appreciate the time and support you give.



On Tuesday, 28 July, we will be celebrating **100 days of school** and we look forward to sharing all the 100 collections. All the information for this is in the Kelburn Comms (shared every Wednesday).

After last term's investigations, what we now know about dinosaurs could fill many books. It is exciting to see the positive, 'can-do' attitude growing in the tamariki as they travel along on their own learning journeys. We are especially pleased with the way that the tamariki are working in our learning space, collaborating with each other, while developing their problem-solving skills by using their initiative. Manaakitanga is strong in Tupu.

There is always lots of information that affects all the whānau of Tupu. To make things easier and clearer, and following the school direction, Tupu communications will be in the Wednesday weekly Kelburn Comms.

The week starting on Monday, 27th July, is our school's **Book Week**, with Book Characters dress-up on Friday, 31st July. There will be many different book activities that tamariki will be sharing at home. We are looking forward to seeing all the different costumes.

Tupu Rua is leading the **school assembly** on Friday 21st August. Please book your calendar for this date in the school hall, starting at 1:50 pm, as each home learning team will be sharing an item.

Helpful Reminders

All the teachers encourage the children to work towards independence, and we would appreciate your help here too. The children are encouraged to take responsibility for carrying their own school bag to and from school, and to put their reading folders and contents in the right place in the mornings. We also want to see the older children

being encouraged to say goodbye to their parents at the gate and walk into school by themselves. We don't want this to stop you from coming in and sharing what has been happening in the class or touching base with the teachers. Instead, we would encourage a balance between children being independent and sharing with their whānau. We value families coming into our spaces; we suggest choosing a day with your child when you can come into the learning spaces in the morning or after school. Spend this time with your child so they can share and explain what learning they have been doing, including seeing their mahi.



Please ensure that your child has a warm jacket and a raincoat available each day.

As you know, we are a 'no shoes inside' school, so slippers are welcome, as well as just socks or bare feet. Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly labelled, especially lunch and drink containers.



Pick Up and Drop Off

Just a few points to make the mornings and afternoons run smoothly, as these are busy times of the day.

Everyone can enter in the morning through whichever door works best for whānau. You will see that there are five classes and one team will be in our nui space as their home base. We know that everyone will be mindful of all learners, with adults leaving before the bell, which goes at 8:50am so everyone can be settled and ready to start their day. At the end of the day, Tupu Tahī, Rua, and Whā will leave through the pīwakawaka doors (next to the playground), and Tupu Rima will leave through the sliding door next to the yellow spot and sunshade. Tupu Toru will leave through the link and will be in the area outside of the link doors. We welcome all parents and families to come in after school if you want to see work, or talk to us, however, please do wait until we have let all the children go. This usually is no more than a few minutes after the bell has gone. A friendly reminder not to wait right next to the window, please, as this makes it difficult for the tamariki and kaiako to see the families while exiting the door.

We are sharing with you what we have planned for this term. If there is anything that you feel you can contribute to our programme, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher. We do value your support.

Curriculum Topics Our major topic for the term has an English and arts focus, centred around **Fairy Tales**. The children will listen to, read, and compare different rhymes and identify common themes. We will utilise drama, music, art, and writing to explore their own interpretations of these classically themed stories.



We will be sharing a range of drama processes and tamariki creative ideas in the form of a **drama sharing** on Tuesday 22 September for Tupu Tahī, Rua, and Rima.

Wednesday 23 September for Tupu Toru and Whā. Each sharing will start at 12pm in the school hall. Please book this date to join us and share in our creations. All whānau are welcome.

Mathematics and Statistics We 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 continue to develop their knowledge and skills in numbers and counting, and we introduce various strategies for addition and subtraction, including number bonds and word problems. The 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 follow a consistent structure, with plenty of 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.



All teams will take part in Maths Week starting on Monday 10th August. We will investigate mathematical problems that we find in various fairy tales.

Literacy



We are excited to continue our BSLA learning journey. Each Monday, an overview of the week's literacy focus will be posted on Seesaw. A reading book will come home each Monday through Thursday. On a Friday, there is a poetry book to share the week's poem. A library book will come home each week. Returning the library book the following week by Thursday helps with issuing on Friday.



We know every effort is made in your busy lives to make time for this important reading; the more children read, the better they get. Please remember to fill in the children's yellow home reading book, as the teachers really value your feedback and input.

For writing this term, we are working on personal writing, expressive recounts, and descriptive character writing too. This ties in with our integrated units of work. Children will also have regular handwriting sessions that will focus on forming lowercase and capital letters correctly and legibly, numbers, and correct pencil grip.

Arts In the visual arts, we will explore collage, composition, texture, and shape to create artworks. The artworks will complement drama and role-play, enhancing and expanding the children's understanding of different shared class stories. This will also stimulate the children's imaginative responses and creativity. The children will explore space, movement, and keeping in time to the music through music that matches nursery rhymes. In music, the children will listen to, respond to, and imitate the elements of beat, rhythm, and pitch, while also expanding their singing repertoire.



Te Reo This term, all of Tupu are joining together with Matua Jeremy, our kapa haka teacher, for half an hour of waiata as well as weekly Kapa Haka sessions. We will be learning our personal mihi and body parts, as Te Reo is integrated into our mahi.

Mitey programme Each home learning team will be continuing on their Mitey journey, which has been designed for NZ children, and supports us to deliver an evidence-based approach to mental health education. We will be focusing on building

and learning about feelings, things that make us the same and different to our peers, what it means to be brave and how thoughts can lead to feelings and to actions, as well as encouraging ākonga to think about their strengths and find others with similar strengths, what makes a good friend and how we can be a good friend to others

Tui Choir Rachel Smith is looking forward to welcoming all the tamariki in years 2 and 3 back to Tui Choir for another term of joyful singing. The children have really risen to the challenge of participating in our 'big sings' every Thursday between 9:00 and 9:30am.



Physical Education We do value sports, games, and skill development. This term we continue on from last term as we focus on skipping, balls, and sports such as touch rugby and hockey; we will also launch into a few folk dances throughout the term.

Book shelving We are continuing looking for parent helpers for book putting away which doesn't take long. Please contact Susie and she will put you in touch with the appropriate contacts.

Mahi Ngātahi Every Monday we have an investigation time from 9 am to 10:00 am. This session is called Mahi Ngātahi, which means collaboration. In these sessions, the children explore and investigate different mathematical concepts and scientific ideas, conduct experiments, and dive deeper into their wonderings. This is a great opportunity for them to work collaboratively; the advantage of this is that children are able to learn from each other as they investigate their questions and interests.



SeeSaw We are continuing to add to your child's SeeSaw this term to share with families and whanāu. The children love posting their work for you to see what is happening during the day with their learning. We all enjoy reading your feedback, so please continue to share this on your child's SeeSaw as this creates a strong connection between home and school.

If you have any questions, or there is something you would like to talk to the teachers about, please feel free to email or pop in and see us. We do value your input and support.

Ngā mahi nui from the Tupu teaching team, Wendy, Marianne, Lisette, Jodie, Jo, and Susie.

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