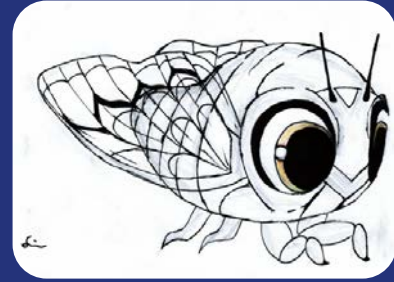


VOICE OF NGĀ TĀTARAKIHI JULY 2025

NGĀ TĀTARAKIHI O AHUMAIRANGI

KELBURN NORMAL SCHOOL

Where students learn creatively and strive for excellence in preparing for
lifelong learning Kia auaha te ako a ngā ākonga me te whai i te iti
kahurangi mō te akoranga tūroa



PRINCIPAL'S/TUMUAKI UPDATE

Kia ora koutou

Haere mai and welcome back to school for Term 3! I hope you enjoyed the school term break and managed some lovely family time as well. The staff team have all returned safely and well rested from their break and we are ready for another exciting term ahead. You have now received the Ara updates from Team leaders and you will have read that there are many wonderful things planned for tamariki with their learning. I look forward to seeing you all at many events this term – especially the Maia Plays in September! Welcome back everyone!

Welcome Tamariki

Welcome to our new tamariki and their whānau who have begun their time at Kelburn this term – we know our tamariki, kaiako and community will show you manaakitanga and help you to get to know everyone at our kura and settle in to all the new routines. Haere mai!

Tupu Tahi – Jinghan Y

Tupu Toru – Max v D

Tupu Whā – Fern N, Zoey J, Jasper T, Arthur B, Roy F

Māia Tahi – Chenrui Y

Kelburn School Community Engagement – Reminder

As outlined in the last month's newsletter, we will be holding a Kelburn School Community Engagement evening focussed on updates to our reporting and the refreshed curriculum changes on **Wednesday, 13th August at 5 pm** in the school hall. All are welcome to this event and please make a note of it in your calendar now if you would like to attend.

Book Week Celebrations

A huge thank you to our wonderful Library team – **Katharina Vautier, Rebekah Rasmussen, Marianne Blair, Andrea Molloy and Libya Munn** – for organising such a fun, interactive and enjoyable Te wiki ō Pukapuka – Book Week! So many activities from staff Mystery readers to classes, making book marks, guessing the favourite book characters of staff, the book character parade and so much more. It has been so fun! I have enjoyed reading to classes as part of the Mystery Reader programme this week – a lovely way to connect with the tamariki and have fun at the same time! One thing I have learnt from reading to the tamariki is that they have excellent senses of humour and they are very knowledgeable of the world around them! The Book Parade was a terrific way to cap off the Book Week Celebrations today – so colourful and the tamariki enjoyed this very much! You can read more about the week further in this newsletter.

BOT Elections

A reminder that nominations for the kura Board of Trustees are open and close shortly. There is still time to be nominated. If you would like to know more about the process please contact me at school or contact the Presiding Member, **Nickie van der Beek** at nickiev@kelburnnormal.school.nz



HEART Awards

Heart Awards are given out every fortnight at our Friday afternoon School Hui in the Hall. The HEART awards represent tamariki who are outstanding citizens of Kelburn Normal. Recipients who receive a HEART award show Hauora, Excellence, Aroha, Resilience and Teamwork as they go about their day in their Ara Teams and also when they represent Kelburn. Recipients are quality role models who inspire others! Kai pai to the following tamariki who have been acknowledged this term:

Week 2 HEART Recipients

Edward H, Fuji O, Isabella C, Leo T, Anthea K, Robbie O, Isaac P, Louie D, Harrison Y, Aurelia D

Ngā mihi nui

Kent Favel

Principal/Tumuaki

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Powerful Learners Read Every Day

Kia ora whānau,

We had a fantastic time celebrating Te wiki ō Pukapuka – Book Week at school! The energy and excitement around books and reading were infectious, with tamariki getting stuck into a range of fun and engaging activities. From designing bookmarks and creating eye-catching posters, to lively book quizzes for juniors and seniors, there was something for everyone. The pop-up libraries in the link during break times were a big hit, and our Mystery Readers created excitement across the kura. A couple of the highlights were the “Guess the Teacher’s Favourite Book Character” competition; the clues were tricky, but many clever guesses were made, and the much-loved Book Character Parade today! Thank you for all the effort you put into your costumes!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our Book-Raiser! Your generous donations will help us expand our school library and ensure that all tamariki have access to a wide variety of high-quality books. Reading widely and regularly is crucial for tamariki; it helps build vocabulary, sparks imagination, and enhances word knowledge and comprehension. Having a great selection of books to choose from makes it easier for every child to find something that captures their interest and motivates them to read for pleasure.

You still have time to contribute to our 'Book-Raiser, it runs until 1 August!

1. Go online to [marsdenbooks – kelburn-school-bookraiser](#) – 3 pages full – create a login – buy a book – add bookraiser under Notes – click and collect – and Marsden Books will supply us with the book. Plus we get 10% to spend at the end. Or choose a book from the above list and go into Marsden Books and pay for it. Just let the friendly staff know it is for the Kelburn Bookraiser.

2. Make a donation so that we may buy less common quality books. Donations can be made to our school account 12-3223-0190001-00 using your child’s name and book week as a reference or by eftpos at the office.

All books raised will include a note to say that they have been donated by your family.

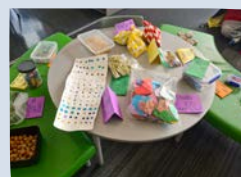
Thank you to our fabulous student librarians who give up some of their own time to keep our shelves tidy and organised! We also appreciate the hard work our library team puts into organising and running Te Wiki Ō Pukapuka 2025! A special thank you to Katharina for all of her mahi, keeping the pages turning in our library spaces. What a great job they have all done, ka mau te wehi!

We encourage whānau to continue the reading buzz at home by setting aside time each night for reading, because the more you read, the more you grow! Whether it’s listening to your child read their kura reader, enjoying a picture book together, or letting them get lost in a chapter book, these small daily habits add up. Aim for at least 15–30 minutes each night; it’s a novel idea that supports everything from vocabulary and writing to confidence and creativity. Reading aloud to your child (even if they can already read on their own) is still valuable, as is re-reading old favourites; it models fluency, builds connection, and keeps the love of stories alive. Let’s keep turning the page together and help our tamariki write their own success stories, one book at a time! Mā te pānui ka ora ai te reo – through reading, the language lives.

Ngā mihi nui, Danielle Sanders, Deputy Principal

What's the latest delights from the Tupu team?

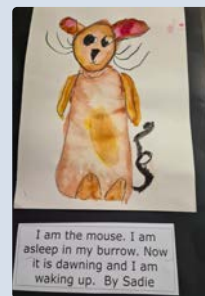
It has been 100 days of being at kura- The Tupu team had fun celebrating this milestone with many different 100-day challenges and 100 cupcakes.



With new tamariki joining the Tupu Wha team, we have been busy getting to know each other while having fun exploring nursery rhymes. We have enjoyed creating our starry night artwork, and imagining what it is like to be twinkling little stars up above the world so high.



Tupu Tahi have enjoyed the adventures of different mice in some nursery rhymes. We turned ourselves into a mouse and created our own world and adventures through drama. Then we wrote about this. Here are a few of our ideas.



Tupu Toru loves to make playdough for the Tupu team every term. We measured the ingredients, mixed the dough and kneaded it until it was the perfect consistency. Then we had an opportunity to create and play with it! We love how your imagination can run wild with playdough.



Tupu Rua has been enjoying thinking about what Humpty Dumpty might say as he falls off the wall. We agreed that he would probably be feeling a little worried or scared, so we wrote phrases in speech bubbles to show this, such as 'Oh no, help me' and 'Help me please, I'm falling'. Then we made artwork showing Humpty falling off the wall and added our speech bubbles to them. We had an egg-cellent time doing this.



What will we be up to next in the Tupu team...stay tuned to find out.

TE ARA WHANAKE

Whanake Update

We have started the term learning about money, with a mathematical focus on financial literacy. We have enjoyed learning about all the different features of banknotes and coins, and have been busy adding up costs and calculating change.

Our Antarctica unit is off to an exciting start. We have been learning about some of the different living things that can be found there, and the interesting adaptations that enable them to survive in such harsh conditions. In preparation for our (virtual) trip to the icy continent, we watched training videos, and considered the gear, equipment, and soft toys we would need to pack for such an intrepid adventure. We were excited to meet 'Craig', a life size Emperor Penguin cut out.

We have had a great time taking up all of the opportunities book week has offered. Check out some of our fantastic costumes!

Ngā mihi,
Sophie



TE ARA WHĀNUI

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

Science

What would happen if you dropped a bowling ball and a basketball from the same height?

This week, classes have been diving into the world of science.

Whānui Rua has been exploring what happens when we drop objects of various sizes and weights. Ākonga are encouraged to make predictions, form hypotheses, observe closely, record results, and share their thinking—practising critical science capabilities. Along the way, they've learned about Galileo and how his experiments challenged old ideas about gravity.

Whānui Tahi have been positive — or negative — depending on how you view it. They've been hands-on with magnets. Through playful investigation, they experiment with various materials to find out, 'Is it magnetic or not? As they tested different materials, children discussed their observations and made conjectures about what qualities make something magnetic. It's fair to say the learning has drawn them in!

It's fair to say the learning has drawn them in!

Poetry and Book Week

Book Week has been a joyful celebration of stories, imagination, and favourite characters. Students took part in a fun scavenger hunt in the library corner, gathering book titles to create their own found poems. It was a creative way to explore language and celebrate the magic hiding on every bookshelf!

Read some of their playful and experimental found poems below,

The

Eleventh
Hour
Submerged
Lost

- By Elliot and Willa

Magical

The ruins of the magic quest,
Enchanted trees whispering
Mystery

- By Molly and Liv

Listen boy.

Listen boy. Listen to the mirror.
Listen to the lost city
Listen to the golden tower
To the boy in Berlin
Listen to the mirror, oddly boy.

- By Cara and Madeleine

Fire of Wings, the warriors, STRIKE!
By Claudia

The chaotic supernova opened a portal to a secret chamber filled with watermelons.
By Issac

Claws whistling
In the
Invisible
Wind
Simply famous
Catchers catching
The dark
Spirits
By Tessa and April

As always, if you have any questions regarding the journey ahead, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Ngā mihi nui,
Rebekah Rasmussen, and Hugo Miller
rebekahr@kelburnnormal.school.nz
hugom@kelburnnormal.school.nz





Art Exhibition

Last term, four of our year 8s attended a workshop at Samuel Marsden School with Artist in Residence Connah Podmore. Connah is an accomplished Wellington artist with an impressive background in fine arts. In the workshop, 'A window on the world', our students created a series of prints using found objects, foliage, talcum powder and water to create different effects. Our students' artworks were shown at Connah's exhibition Peripheral Views at Te Auaha on Dixon St. Oh, to have your art on show in a gallery at 12 years of age!



Doc Edge

The Doc Edge 4 Schools film festival is a free event for kura and a great opportunity to see fascinating films in a beautiful theatre. Last week, Māia students watched 'Mighty Indeed', a documentary in which three women from different generations chase a hidden and ephemeral world beneath the Antarctic sea ice. Battling brutal weather and isolation, the team discovers extraordinary tiny creatures within the delicate structures of the ice. Our students were particularly fortunate that the producer and scientists involved in the documentary were available for a Q&A session at the end of the film. Our students asked some excellent questions to deepen their understanding of the documentary.

Book Week!

Our big kids are still little kids at heart. They have loved having mystery readers in every day this week. We have had a fantastic Book Week! Our Māia students have been an excellent help with events for younger students and it is a joy to see them getting involved in the various activities such as the quiz, poster competition, and reading in the pop up library.



BOOK WEEK



Junior Literacy Quizz Winners



Senior Literacy Quizz Winners



Book Week Posters



Book Character Parade/ dressup

