

Term 3 Tōtara Team Newsletter

**Kia ora Whānau!**

Welcome back to Term 3. We trust you had a lovely school holiday with your tamariki.

As mentioned at our interviews, please ensure your child has a set of fresh blue and red pens, a ruler, glue stick and a pencil case. We seem to have an on-going shortage.

**COVID Update/Masks**

You should have all received correspondence from Rob regarding our updated mask policy. Students in Years 4-13 are recommended to wear masks inside. Teacher's will be wearing them while indoors during the school day. As we are required to keep the classrooms ventilated, we will need to have our windows and doors open all day. As it is Winter, jumpers are crucial and slippers are encouraged for the classroom. Please also ensure your child comes to school with a filled water bottle as we will be having lots of mask breaks throughout the day.

**Our Learning**

This term we are exploring the living world with an inquiry into Ecosystems. Students will be carrying out an inquiry and presenting their findings at the end of the term in an exhibition. We also have a visit from Blake VR with a workshop on protecting the Hauraki Gulf.

Our value for the term is creativity and we have an exciting trip to the Art Gallery to support this. The whakatauki is:

***Tukua te wairua kia rere ki ngā taumata-***  
*Allow one's spirit to exercise its potential.*

We will be building our oral presentation skills this term in preparation for speeches. All students are expected to write and present a speech. Separate letters are coming home about these and we thank you for your support.

We will be writing persuasively to support students with the language features required for our speeches and will also revisit narratives, poetry and start transactional writing. Weekly grammar and handwriting lessons will also take place in our programme with Steps Web being our spelling platform.

We will teach Reading daily with a focus on building vocabulary and comprehension. We encourage students to bring their own novels daily as we will be providing many opportunities to read.

In Mathematics we are focussing on addition/subtraction and proportions and ratios (fractions) through a problem solving lens. Our strands are: Algebra and Statistics/Probability.

Physical Education will happen regularly with a focus on invasion games this term. We will aim to hold fitness sessions daily and encourage students to attend Born to

Move sessions which our student leaders facilitate. We will also continue our Mitey well-being learning.

Although we do operate as our one big cooperative unit, we are ensuring plenty of 'homeroom time' and opportunities to be in our separate class groups, especially at writing time.

**Homework-** please continue to support your child with Math Whizz, Steps Web, Basic Facts (particularly Times Tables) and daily doses of reading. You can also support your child with their speech writing and oral language (Taonga/Tupuna) presentations.

**Reminders-** please check Seesaw regularly for updates. This term we will be encouraging the students to post their own learning reflections and respond to feedback.

**Term 3 Events:**

**Week 1:**

Tues 26th July: BTM Launch to school (Totara 12:45-1:15pm)  
Net Safety week

**Week 2:**

Tues 2nd/Thurs 4th August: Diving Sessions

**Week 3:**

Mathematics Week  
Monday 8th August: Y6 Northcross Visit  
Wednesday 9th August: Y5/6 Healthy Minds/Healthy Bodies Workshops (all day)  
Fri 11th August: Rippa Tournament (save day 16th Aug)

**Week 4:**

Thurs 17th August: Kristin Winter Sports Day (save date 18th)

**Week 5:**

Mon August 22nd/Tues 23rd: Art Gallery Visit (9:50-12:30pm.  
Leave from Ashley 8:50am)

**Week 6:**

Speeches delivered in classes this week  
Friday 1st September: Table Tennis Session

**Week 7:**

Tongan Language Week  
Mon 5th September: Blake VR sessions "Threats to the Hauraki Gulf" & Eco systems  
Weds 7th September: Northern Bays Football Tournament (save day 9th Sep)

Thursday 8th September: Y5/6 Speech Finals 11:45am in the hall with Kauri Team

**Week 8:**

Te wīki o Te Reo Māori  
Weds September 14th: Māori Language Day

**Week 9:**

Thursday 22nd Sep: Mud Run (Save Day 23rd)  
Sunday 25th Sep: Long Bay Heritage Day

**Week 10:**

Friday 30th September: Last day of Term 3

We look forward to another amazing term ahead and appreciate your on-going support,

Ngā mihi nui,

Tōtara Team Kaiako- Tiffany, John, Nikki, JoAn and Briar