

## KIA WHAKATŌMURI TE HAERE WHAKAMUA.

I WALK BACKWARDS INTO THE FUTURE WITH MY EYES FIXED ON MY PAST.

### Kia ora e te whānau,

As your tamariki continue to progress through Wakamure Te Whānau, we wanted to update you on the range of subjects that they are going to be learning this term, as well as letting you know of some key events coming up.

Our programme covers a lot of ground this term, with two key domains being addressed; firstly, the health and wellbeing of our tamariki, kicking off with Life Education, before fully getting into a programme of mental wellbeing and looking out for others. Secondly, along with the rest of the school, we are carrying out an inquiry into technology and the potential for its future use and impact on our lives.

## T2 Programme

### Pānui & Tuhituhi (English)

We are combining our English programme with our whole-school topic, The Future. This will see the tamariki developing their inquiry skills, alongside core subjects of reading and writing.

We will be practising explanation and information report writing, as we study a range of technologies from architecture to bioinspiration and biomimetics to artificial intelligence. Along the way, we'll be learning about pre-European Māori technology, and how technology can be used to make the world a better place for everyone.

### Pāngarau (Mathematics)

Following on from last term's learning about place value and calculations, we will be studying fractions, decimals and percentages. For many tamariki, moving from manipulating whole numbers to decimals and fractions is a big step, so make sure that you highlight any practical examples of these types of numbers at home, as this helps learners make connections with the material being taught in class.

### Te Reo Māori

As we have Puanga coming up this term, we thought it would be a good idea to focus on Te Wa, the time. The tamariki will be learning to communicate in te reo about the time, the weather and seasons.

Part of this learning will be about astronomy, especially as we head closer to Puanga, so on those crisp late Autumn nights, take the opportunity to go out with your tamariki to check out the night sky.



## **Mahi Kaianga (Homework & Goal Setting)**

Our goal setting and homework programme will continue as it did last term, with the tamariki expected to bring home new homework every Tuesday, before handing it in for checking every Monday.

You can support your child by making sure that they have a distraction-free place at home to complete their homework.

## **Hauora/Hākinakina (Health & Physical Education)**

It's that time of year when we get our annual visit from the Life Education bus. Our tamariki always look forward to these sessions, which are run by the very talented Megan, supported by Harold. This year, our focus is two-fold; managing anxiety and learning about substances.

Throughout the term, we will be teaching strategies for managing anxiety. Adrienne Ainsley, Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour (RTLb) is coming to work with kaiako on how best to deliver these sessions.

As well, we will be covering the NZ Police unit, 'Doing the Right Thing'. This unit focuses on our school values of pono (honesty) and whakaaro pai (respect), which will dovetail nicely with our learning about how to manage anxiety. The RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) component of these sessions will be teaching the tamariki how to access help for themselves and others, particularly accessing resources to support mental health and wellbeing.

## **Ngā Reo (Languages)**

We will be continuing our language sessions on Thursday afternoons. Encourage your tamariki to teach you some new words in either Japanese, Spanish or Mandarin (depending, of course, on which language they have chosen to study).

## **Ngā Toi (The Arts)**

Your tamariki will get to choose which artist they would like to study over the course of the term. The choices are Ans Westra (photography), Alphonso Dunn (drawing), or Yayoi Kusama (pattern making). Every Monday afternoon will be a chance for your child to learn new art skills and express themselves creatively.

You can help support these programmes by keeping an eye out for opportunities to take your tamariki to art gallery openings during the term and events run by the Govett Brewster Gallery.

## **Pūtaiao (Science)**

Categories for the 2023 Taranaki Science Fair have been announced, so we have decided to start early, teaching the associated science concepts, before our tamariki get their entries ready.

Once again, the tamariki will get to choose which class they attend, out of Flight (observational drawing), Investigations and Erosion (poster on the theme of Taranaki Landmarks)

## **Hangarau (Technology)**

We will continue with our Tech sessions at Devon Intermediate every Tuesday morning (don't forget to get your tamariki out the door in time for them to get to school by 8:30 a.m.).

Obviously, technology will be a focus for our our English/Inquiry work. Look for opportunities to support your tamariki by getting them involved with any building, making things, cooking at home.

Also, we will continue to help the tamariki develop their computer literacy skills through our use of online learning platforms and the Google Education Suite.

# T2 Important dates

## **Thursday 11th May**

School photographs

## **Thursday 25th May**

Barrett Cup

A chance for some of our rugby players to compete against other schools.

## **Friday 26th May**

PCT Bluelight Challenge

An extra opportunity for some of our Y8 Sports Leaders, in which they compete against other schools to complete an official police confidence course in as short a time as possible.

## **Wednesday 31st May**

Whānau Lunch

A chance for whānau to come into school and share lunch with the tamariki.

## Tuesday 13th June

Northern Rippa Rugby Tournament  
An extra opportunity for our rippa loving tamariki to compete against other schools.

## Wednesday 14th June

Puanga Breakfast  
A chance for you to pop into school and celebrate Puanga with us.

## 21st - 22nd June

Learning Conferences  
Time to meet the teacher!

## Wednesday 28th June

Y7&8 Volleyball Competition  
An extra opportunity for our volleyball loving tamariki to compete against other schools.

## Wednesday 14th June

Y7&8 Indoor Bowling Competition  
The culmination of our Term 2 indoor bowling sessions.

## Friday 30th June

Last day of term  
Don't let your tamariki miss it, it's going to be great!



## Tech Fees

If you haven't already, please make sure that you pay your child's Tech fees (\$72.50) as soon as possible. These pay for the materials which get used at Tech on Tuesday mornings.

## Winter Is Coming

This means that the tamariki must bring suitably warm clothing to school every day, so that they are comfortable during those times when they are expected to be outside, which is every morning break and lunch break when it isn't raining.

It may be a struggle to get them to bring that day-glo yellow raincoat that they own, but it's a struggle worth having. Your help in this is immensely appreciated.

## Communication

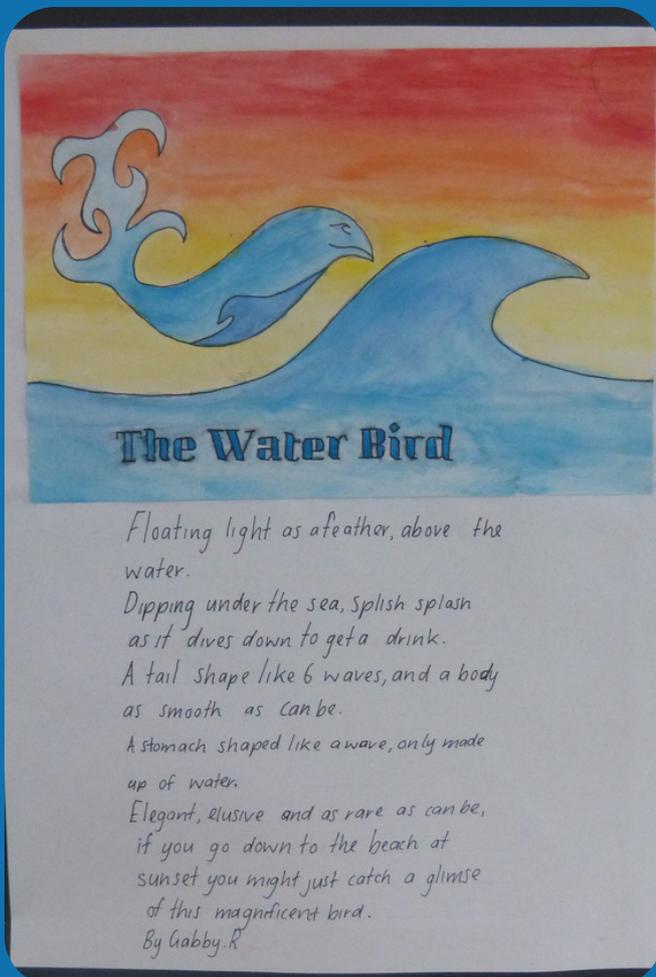
We welcome any feedback, questions or help when it comes to working together to provide the best possible education for your child. Please feel free to come in and discuss your child's education by emailing or calling to make a meeting at an appropriate time. Teachers will be in meetings on Monday mornings, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

Erin Smith (Kōwhai): [erin@oakura.school.nz](mailto:erin@oakura.school.nz)

Jay Smith (Rimu): [jay@oakura.school.nz](mailto:jay@oakura.school.nz)

Janice Long (Pūriri): [janice@oakura.school.nz](mailto:janice@oakura.school.nz)

Regards,  
Jay, Erin & Emma



### The Water Bird

*Floating light as a feather, above the water.  
Dipping under the sea, splish splash  
as it dives down to get a drink.  
A tail shape like 6 waves, and a body  
as smooth as can be.  
A stomach shaped like a wave, only made  
up of water.  
Elegant, elusive and as rare as can be,  
if you go down to the beach at  
sunset you might just catch a glimpse  
of this magnificent bird.  
By Gabby.R*