

Nau Mai Haere Mai

It's hard to believe that half of our school year is gone and we are heading into term three. This promises to be another action-packed term with plenty of events to pencil in for our senior students.

Ōtākaro Hub Important Dates & Events									
Week 1 23 - 27 Jul	Week 2 30 Jul - 3 Aug	Week 3 6 - 10 Aug	Week 4 13 - 17 Aug	Week 5 20 - 24 Aug	Week 6 27 - 31 Aug	Week 7 3 - 7 Sep	Week 8 10 - 14 Sep	Week 9 17 - 21 Sep	Week 10 24 - 28 Sep
Wed Heaton Open Day Thur OPS Test 4	Wed School Photos Sat Quiz Night	Mon Scholastic Book Fair Week NZ Book Awards (10:30 - 12:30) Wed Selwyn Interchange Thur Australian Maths	Tues ELL Shared Kai ICAS Maths	Wed Poetry Final (10:30) Thur OPS Test 5 Canterbury Winter Tournament Fri Hagley Sport Ends		Tues & Wed Te Mahuri Kapa Haka - Rehearsal & Cultural Festival Thur OPS Test 5 Canterbury Winter Tournament	Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori Wed Music Festival Rehearsal (10:30 - 12:30)	Cycle Safety Week Tues Digi Awards Celebration Night (7-8:30) at St Margarets	Cycle Safety Week Thur STAR goes live

Core Literacies

We have had children move groups for reading, writing and mathematics. Mid year reporting assessments along with social and mixed ability groupings have been the driving force behind this change.

Our oral language focus for the first three weeks is our bi-annual poetry competition. Children have received the rubric and are in the process of learning and practising their poem. It is recommended they focus on pace, gestures and eye contact along with practising in front of an audience at home as a part of their home fun. Home base finals will be held in week 4. The top two from each home base will then compete on Wednesday 22 August at 10:30 for the Year 5/6 Poetry Cup. We are excited that Michael Williams has offered to be our judge for this competition.

Reading continues to be based on the needs of individuals. This will vary depending on the group and class. Writing this term focuses on persuasive texts. We will begin by looking at the text type of arguments followed by debating.

Numeracy plays a major role in our mathematics curriculum. Strategies specific to children's numeracy strategy level will be taught across addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, proportions and ratios. It is pivotal children continue to practise the speed of recall of all of their basic facts.

Sport & Physical Education

Children will continue to participate in weekly sport at Hagley and Nunweek Park. This competition recommences this Friday and concludes Friday 24th August.

PE this term will begin with striking and fielding, based around both tee-ball and cricket. Later in the term we will move on to athletics practice in preparation for our school athletics day early in term 4. For our health component this term we will be focusing on Mindfulness. Children will learn strategies to get in touch with their feelings and their surroundings, as well as being able to refocus themselves on the positives when things go wrong.

Integrated Topic

We continue our exploration of Turangawaewae - Our Big Backyard with a focus on the science related the formation of the Canterbury landscape. Initially we will be looking at volcanoes before moving onto mountains and rivers.

Cultural Festival

Te Mahuri Kapa Haka have been spending time learning waiata, haka and poi as a part of their performance piece for cultural festival. We envisage there will be more practises in the lead up to this event and we support our tamariki as they work hard to present a polished performance on Wednesday 5 September.

Home Fun

We have used the Sounds Alive spelling programme over the past two terms. We have been impressed with the progress the children have made in learning to spell and apply spelling rules.

This term we feel the children are ready for a new focus. We are now focusing on the programme Switched onto Spelling.

Digi Learning

We continue to use digital tools to enhance our teaching and learning programmes. We are very grateful to those children who bring along their own device and would strongly encourage those who have devices at home to also bring these along. If your child is able to bring along a device and hasn't yet signed a BYOD permission form it would be fantastic if they could do this. If you have any questions about BYOD please feel free to chat to Sam.

We are extremely lucky this term as we have been selected to be part of a programme Apple are offering to a small number of schools. As part of this trial we will aim to have each child within our hub with a personalised iPad to use. To achieve this we will be loaned iPads from Apple, use our school owned devices, as well as being grateful to Tui Hub for loaning us their devices for the duration of the trial. Those children who bring their own

iPads will use these - we are aware that quite a few children have iPads at home but currently do not bring them to school. We would be particularly grateful if these children could be allowed to use their own iPad at school during this trial. Dates are to be confirmed but it is looking likely to be in September at this stage.

The trial will allow us the opportunity to explore new ways to use digital technology across the curriculum to enrich our programmes. Staff and students will benefit from some wonderful guidance and interaction with Apple staff who will assist run this trial. Our focus will be on using devices to create, share ideas, knowledge, wonderings and understanding.

The Techie Kids (and a number of other children from within the hub) have been working hard on entries for the Digi Awards. Entries close on August 24, it would be wonderful if you could spend some time looking at these projects if your child has been involved - there is some very high quality work being produced. There is a celebration evening being held on September 18 at St Margaret's College which all those who have entered are invited to attend.

Cycle Safety

This is offered annually to Year 6 children only. Information will be sent home closer to the time with dates for when children are to bring their bikes in for the WOF and sessions about learning how to ride safely on our roads.

Hanmer Springs Camp

We trust you have read the information that was sent home on Wednesday regarding Hanmer Springs Camp. Please return the form into our notice boxes in the hub a.s.a.p.

Visual Arts

We will continue with our visual arts rotation programme. Children will be focusing on aspects of drawing in the first half of the term followed by mixed media and papier mache. We would appreciate newspaper be brought into school.

Music Festival Choir

Children have indicated their interest as to whether or not they would like to be involved in the music festival choir. They will begin learning and rehearsing the songs with Ros Emelus on Fridays. They will then perform as a part of the choir on the evening of 24 October 2018.

Wow! Term 3 is already shaping up to be an exciting and enriching time.

As always; we look forward to seeing you around. Please contact us in person, via email or phone if you have any questions or concerns.

Sam, Renee, Olivia & Jodi