



Wednesday 19 October 2022

Kia Ora whānau,

It is hard to believe we have reached the last term of the year - and we know our time with our Year One students is sadly coming to an end. However, we know we have reached that point when we step back and look at the maturity of our junior students. It is such a positive feeling to see the growth in them socially, emotionally, academically and as Adventurers. As a team we are very proud of the children who will transition to Year Two next year.

Now that Term 4 is upon us, it is time to dust off those sun hats because Term 4 is a hat term. Wide brimmed hats need to be worn when outside. You can purchase a black or red school hat from the office. Please ensure they are clearly named.

We wanted to start this newsletter with our usual once a term sharing of Learning Through Play. Along with the other Adventure Way attributes, we saw huge growth in Creativity and Curiosity last term and are very excited to share some of the learning.

Room 8, 9 and 12 Learning Through Play - Term 3, 2022

It started as a simple idea - we had yellow dye left over from our Yellow Submarines for Mr Wootton's farewell, so Mrs St. Clair thought we could use it to make "secret messages"...who knew the curiosity and creativity that would take over our Year 0 and 1 students! It very quickly turned into the daily making of secret spy gadgets and solving puzzles and crimes - the Room 8, 9 and 12 tamariki were on the case!



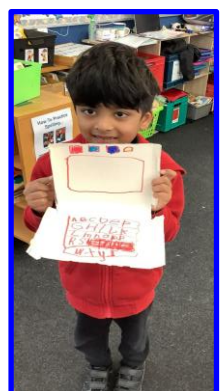
These Year 1 boys are on the case!



What happens if you push that button?



Children experimenting and creating spy gadgets.



With the interest in spies, came a growing interest in huts - the most popular were spy huts to watch for 'baddies' and snuggly huts to read books and enjoy the company of friends. Each hut is uniquely creative in design, and required a high level of collaboration to come to fruition.



Mrs Cox is trying to figure out how to get out of the hut.



This hut's purpose is to protect these boys from the rain!

Last term we were lucky to have Paper Plane Experts Xavier and Oz come and share their expertise with us and teach us how to create a variety of planes. They also came back to judge a paper plane competition which was a huge hit! This comes under the Technology section of the New Zealand Curriculum; planning, developing and evaluating outcomes. The children were incredibly self-directed and creative in their designs which were judged on speed, design, "tricks", shortest flight and longest flight.

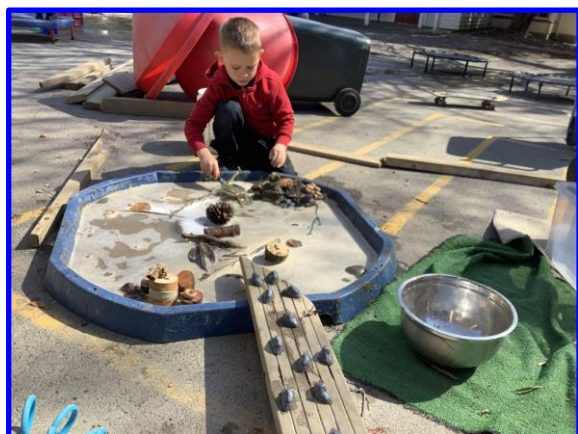


Towards the end of Term 3, Nadine, Tania and I began to introduce music and drama to the students. We introduced the concept of a character, and that we can all act and pretend to be a character. We re-introduced the puppet

theatre and showed children that we can make our own puppets to perform for an audience. We had a visit from Snow White and Rapunzel, and we also had a visit from the famous rock band the R and T band (Rebecca St. Clair and Tania Bailey) who performed their number one hit; The Wheels on the Bus. The children weren't particularly blown away by the performance (ha), but it 'planted some seeds' which grew a huge interest in the idea of performing and creating their own instruments to perform with. If your child came home singing The Final Countdown last term...you now know why! We are hoping to grow this interest further in Term 4.



Another interest that began to develop later in the term was zoos and animal habitats. We will be continuing to encourage growth in this area of the Science Curriculum this term by introducing the concept of an animal habitat through media, teacher modelling and bringing in new resources that encourage the growth of creativity and curiosity.



These children have used a variety of materials to create habitats to suit the animals that will live in them.



After painting, these children are using natural materials to finish off their animal habitat.



EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM:

At the end of Term 3, we requested support in the form of a \$5 donation per student to cover the cost for our Education Outside the Classroom events. We are pleased to let you know we have the support to go ahead. Please see the descriptions and table below for a list of the wonderful trips, activities, and events that we have planned.

We always have an overarching focus on the Adventure Way for these activities and it is a chance for children to develop and extend these attributes in different contexts. Please note, we have made a priority of sustaining our regular programmes for the first seven weeks and the EOTC activities have been organised for the last 2-3 weeks of the term.

Parent help is essential for the trips outside the school, and we appreciate the support we receive every year. Please note, parent helpers are a key part of our safety plans, and we cannot use parents who have pre-schoolers with them. If you are available, please complete the form below. Closer to the time, you will receive confirmation of your help and necessary details.

Our trip to Maidstone Max, which is outside the Whitby area, will involve the children traveling by a chartered bus.

Tree Trimming

One of our favourite events of the year is Christmas Tree Trimming. This year it is on Thursday 8th December. Each child invites one special adult to join them in making decorations, and this is followed by carols and a shared morning tea. The children will all bring home an invitation for their chosen guest on the 21st of November.

We ask that everyone respect the limit of one guest per child. Unfortunately, this means we cannot have guests bringing preschoolers to this event. This is a health and safety issue as even one guest will mean close to 350 people in the Kowhai classrooms during that morning. It is unpleasant for teachers to be put in the position of having to ask someone to leave.

We would like to acknowledge the amazing work of Chloe Wright, Srikantha Robinson and Vicki Eastham who are in the process of planning and preparing several decorations for the children to make. They have organised the materials for a total of 1200 ornaments. A day like this couldn't happen without such incredible assistance. They also have some helpers who are cutting out materials - thank you for supporting our Tree Trimming event. If after the event you are keen to help for 2023, please send Rebecca an email: rstclair@adventure.school.nz

Upper Hutt Skating/ Maidstone Max Playground Trip

For this event we request students bring long/thick socks and a water bottle. Your child is welcome to bring their own skating gear or protective gear. Please note, no safety gear is provided by the rink so you will need to send it along on the day if you want your child to wear it. We will be outside for the second part of the trip (Maidstone Max Playground), so a sunhat is crucial.

Carol Singing

We are very excited to be able to attend this event, as for the past two years we were unable to do so because of Covid. Each week classes will be practicing carols as part of our 'Poem of the Week', so feel free to help them practice these when their poem book comes home on the weekend.

Kindy Concert

This event requires support prior to the event - to help the children create a small gift for the preschool children we are inviting to this event. On the day, our Kowhai classes enjoy the show alongside our preschool guests.

NEXT YEAR'S CLASSES:

At this time of year teachers, parents and children start to think about the changes the new year will bring. Once 2023 staffing is confirmed, we will begin working on 2023 class lists. I am sure you can understand the demands involved in carefully placing every child. We ask that you don't approach teachers with your views and instead trust that we know your children well in the school context and have every child's best interest at heart.

The name of next year's teacher will be on the report sent out on December 16.

2022 REPORTS:

Teachers are currently preparing to write end of year reports which will include 2 photos of learning across the curriculum. To show some of the Adventure Way attributes e.g. collaboration, we may need to include other students in these photos. We need permission for your child to be in photos used on other children's reports. Please complete the form below (underneath the EOTC form) and **return it to your child's teacher by Friday 28th October** either by email or in hard copy. All children who have previously had a School Entry Interview prior to Term 4 will receive a report.

STRUCTURED LITERACY AND MATHEMATICS: SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR

You may be aware that last year we began our journey with Structured Literacy. This has been a journey that has been supported by our Acting Deputy Principal Diane Pepperell, who we have the shared desire with, to ensure that every child has the best opportunities for learning. 2021 was most certainly a year of intense learning for all teachers, and this year all Year 0/1 teachers agree that as literacy teachers, our knowledge and practice has grown exponentially. This year we have been fortunate enough to have been working closely with our literacy mentor Helen Walls, a highly experienced literacy expert. 2022 really has been about honing our skills and we know that we will continue to build our expertise in 2023 as we refine our skills further.

The closing of 2022 means the closing of our Ka Hui Ako Mathematics Professional Development with Julie Roberts. Our achievements over these past three years includes:

- Growth in mathematics curriculum content, across all levels of the curriculum
- Increase in understanding of assessment tools; formal and informal
- Inclusion of Mathematical Discourse in mathematics teaching

THANK-YOU

As we come to the end of the year, we would like to thank all of you for working in partnership with us. The positive relationships between Kowhai parents and teachers are an important aspect of each child's security and progress at school and I know the teachers appreciate the support they have had.

Some parents have been able to make themselves available to support us on a regular basis. To those parents, please know how much the teachers value you and how incredibly grateful we all are for your ongoing support. We would particularly like to thank: Lisa Griffiths, Jo Alderdice, Becky Mallon, Sumit Rai and Gemma Allcock who have supported learning this year.

We know that the information regarding End of Year events is coming out early this year, but with such a busy term we felt it would be helpful to teachers and whānau to have all the information as early as possible. We hope that this is appreciated!

The Year 0/1 Team.

Tania, Nadine, Di and Rebecca.

Please scroll down for a list of events, EOTC and Report Photo permission slips, payment details and parent helper list.

END OF YEAR EVENTS CALENDAR:

Date	Event	Classes Involved	Event Requirements	Parent Help Needed
Monday 28th November	Making gifts for kindy children to be given out at the kindy concert	All Kowhai classes Rooms 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15	n/a	Parent helpers to assist in classrooms with making gifts
Thursday 1st December	Kindy Concert: Talent Show finalists and other talent perform for Kowhai and preschool visitors	All Kowhai classes Rooms 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15	Something Christmassy to wear (optional)	n/a
Tuesday 6th December	Upper Hutt Skating / Maidstone Max Trip	Year 0 and 1 classes only Room 8, 9, 10 and 12	<p><i>Lunch with extra snacks</i> <i>Water bottle(s)</i></p> <p><i>Long socks for skating</i></p> <p><i>Protective gear – please note, this is optional and <u>not</u> provided by the skating rink.</i></p>	<p>At the skating rink</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assisting children to put on/take off skates - Supporting children with learning to skate - Supporting children in other ways as needed <p>There will be a parent briefing in the hall at 8.30am on the day of the trip. Unfortunately, there will not be room on the buses, and we encourage parents to organise carpooling at the parent briefing or prior to the event.</p>
Thursday 8th December	Tree Trimming NB: Children will bring home an invitation for their special guest on Monday 21st November	All Kowhai classes Rooms 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 13, 14, 15	<p><i>Small plate of food to share</i></p> <p><i>1 special guest per child</i></p> <p><i>Something Christmassy to wear e.g. hat (optional)</i></p>	<p><i>NB: No pre-schoolers please</i></p> <p>Parent helpers to set up the hall with senior students by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Putting out morning tea - Setting up Christmas trees <p>NB This needs to be people who are not coming as a child's special guest.</p>
Monday 12th December	Carol Singing at Whitby Lakes Retirement Village (in the school hall if too wet to walk to the lakes) Surprise snack back at school	Year 0 and 1 classes only Rooms 8, 9, 10 and 12	<p>Something Christmassy to wear (optional)</p> <p>Sunhats</p>	<p>Parent helpers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supervise on walk to and from the retirement village

Year 0/1 EOTC - PARENT HELPERS SLIP

Child's Name: _____ Room Number: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Email _____

Date	Event	I am available for Parent Help
Monday 28th Nov, 9.15 - 11.30	Making gifts for our invited guests at the kindy concert	Supporting small groups of children to make a simple gift Yes No
Tuesday 6th Dec, 8.30am - 3.00pm Rooms 8, 9, 10, 12	Upper Hutt Skating Rink and Maidstone Max	Supervising and supporting children at skating and Maidstone Max Playground Yes No
Thursday 8th Dec, 9- 11.30am	Tree trimming (only those who are not attending the event)	Setting out morning tea in the hall Yes No
Monday 12th Dec, 9.30 - 11am APPROX	Carol singing at Whitby Lakes Retirement Village	Supporting children on walk to and from school, helping with supervision by lake Yes No

UPPER HUTT EOTC PERMISSION SLIP

I give permission for _____ from Room _____ to go on the following trips:

☐ Upper Hutt Skating Rink and Maidstone Max (Room 8, 9, 10, 12)

Signature: _____

Please return permission slips to your classroom teacher before 28th October

REPORT PHOTO PERMISSION SLIP

I give permission / do not give permission for my child's photo to be used on other children's reports.

Child's name: _____ Room Number: _____

Parent / caregiver name: _____

Signature: _____

Please return permission slips to your classroom teacher before 28th October

YEAR 0/1 DONATION TO COVER COST OF EOTC SLIP

Child's name _____ Room _____

_____ \$5.00 enclosed cash / EFTPOS or

_____ \$5.00 direct credited to school bank account no: 12-3223-0130244-000.

(Please include details : "Year 0-1 EOTC" and child's name.)

_____ \$5.00 paid into the Edge parent portal

https://parent.edgelearning.co.nz/Loginpage_caregiver

Date paid ____/____/____.

Please return to school office before 28th October

Quick Check for whanau:

- ☐ Filled in Parent Helpers EOTC Slip
- ☐ Filled Upper Hutt EOTC Permission Slip
- ☐ Filled in Report Photo Permission Slip
- ☐ EOTC Donation via internet banking or cash returned to school with slips