

Monday 31st October 2022



Kia Ora whānau,

It is hard to believe we are now into the third week of the last term of the year. The year has flown by very quickly. It is such a positive feeling to see the growth in our Year 2 tamariki socially, emotionally, academically and as Adventurers.

## **EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM:**

There are many wonderful trips, activities, and events we have planned for this term.

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. See below for activities we require parents for and let your child's classroom teacher know if you can help. Closer to the time, you will receive confirmation of your help and necessary details.

### **Year 2-4 Athletics Day**

This fun sporting event will be held on **Friday 2nd December**. The Year 2-4 children will walk down to Adventure Park and rotate around 6 athletics events. Details will be sent out soon about this. You are welcome to come and watch your tamariki running, jumping and throwing!



### **Tree Trimming**



One of our favourite events 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.

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 others helping with the 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](mailto:rstclair@adventure.school.nz)

## **Upper Hutt Skating/ Maidstone Max Playground Trip**

This has been a traditional event for Kowhai for many years now. We would like to go skating as a Year 2 cohort this year. Afterwards we plan to have lunch at Maidstone Park and have some fun at the playground. The proposed date is **Wednesday 14th December**. We plan on using bus transportation. Parents who would like to come will need to take their own car or car pool. The cost for skating and bus is a total of **\$16 per child**. Please note that our cost for this trip is different to the Year 0/1's as we used our allocated KiwiSport money for swimming in Term 3. For this event to go ahead we need to know if you are willing to donate the cost for your child. Please fill out the form below and return it to your child's teacher no later than this **Friday 4th November**. **Please do not make payment yet, as this trip will not go ahead if we don't get enough support.**

If we do get to go skating, 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. Pre-applied sunscreen is also a great idea.

## **Carol Singing - Adventure Kindy**

This year the Year 2 cohort would like to contribute to our local community by visiting Adventure Kindy and singing carols to the preschoolers. We are in the planning stages of this and are currently coordinating with the kindy. Each week classes will be practising carols as part of our 'Poem of the Week' as well as learning some new carols that incorporate Te Reo and Sign Language.

## **Kindy Concert**

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

## **2022 REPORTS - permission to use photos**

Teachers are currently preparing to write end of year reports which will include two 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. Thank you to those of who have already given permission for your child to be in photos used on other children's reports. There are a few outstanding so please return this if you haven't already.

## **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 shares our passion for ensuring 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 2 teachers agree that our knowledge and literacy practice has grown exponentially. This year we have been fortunate enough to work 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. We feel very confident that we are providing the best, evidence-based teaching and learning opportunities for our tamariki and we are delighted with the progress of the 2022 Year 2 cohort.

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

- Growth in knowledge of 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. We want to thank all the parents again for transporting our children to Ally Todd Swim School in Term 3. This was a great success!

Many thanks,

From the Year 2 Team.



Vanessa Burn  
(Team Leader)  
Room 13



Karen Freeman  
Room 11



Alesha Wilson  
Room 14



Cathy Murray  
Room 15



Vanessa Clark  
Room 13



Carly St-Laurent  
Room 11

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## UPPER HUTT EOTC PERMISSION SLIP

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

**I am / am not** willing to make a donation of \$16 to cover the cost of skating and the bus.

If this trip goes ahead, I give permission for my child to go on the trip to Upper Hutt Skating Rink and Maidstone Max

**I can / cannot** come as a parent helper.

(NOTE: there is no cost to parents who come and skate)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return permission slips to your classroom teacher by this***

**Friday 4th November 2022**

## 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	<i>n/a</i>	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)	<i>n/a</i>
Friday 2nd December	Year 2-4 Athletics Day at Adventure Park	All Year 2 classes Rooms 11,13,14,15	Big lunch, drink bottle, sun hat, running shoes, wear house colours	<i>n/a</i>  Spectators welcome
Thursday 8th December  <i>(to be confirmed)</i>	Tree Trimming  <i>NB: Children will bring home an invitation for their special guest on Monday 21st November</i>	All Kowhai classes Rooms 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 13, 14, 15	<i>Small plate of food to share</i>  <i>1 special guest per child</i>  <i>Something Christmassy to wear e.g. hat (optional)</i>	<i>NB: No pre-schoolers please</i> Parent helpers to set up the hall with senior students by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Putting out morning tea</li><li>- Setting up Christmas trees</li></ul> <i>NB This needs to be people who are not coming as a child's special guest.</i>
Wednesday 14th December	Upper Hutt Skating / Maidstone Max Trip	Year 2 classes Room 11,13,14,15	<i>Lunch with extra snacks</i>  <i>Water bottle(s)</i>  <i>Long socks for skating</i>  <i>Sunhat</i>  <i>Sunscreen</i>  <i>Protective gear – please note, this is optional and <u>not</u> provided by the skating rink.</i>  <i>Wear muffi</i>	At the skating rink:  Assisting children to put on/take off skates Supporting children with learning to skate Supporting children in other ways as needed  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.
Date to be confirmed	Carol Singing at Adventure Kindy	Year 2 classes only Rooms 11,13,14,15	Something Christmassy to wear (optional)  Sunhats	<i>n/a</i>