



Adventure School



Monday 1st May 2023

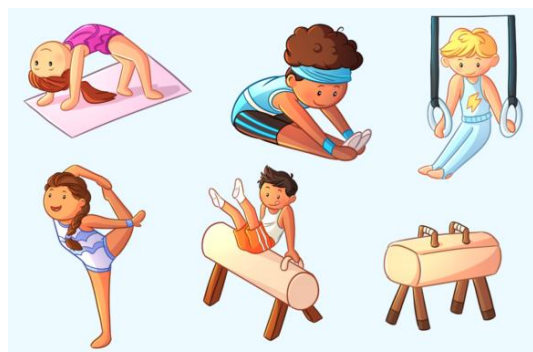
Kia ora Mānuka Whānau,

Welcome back to Term 2. We hope you have all had a very enjoyable break and family time. Hopefully you have had the opportunity to read our Mānuka segment in the recent whole school newsletter. It certainly illustrated how productive our syndicate had been during Term 1.

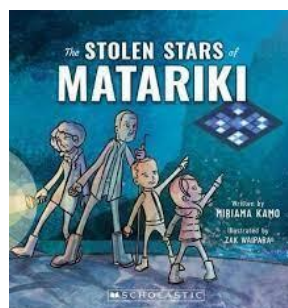
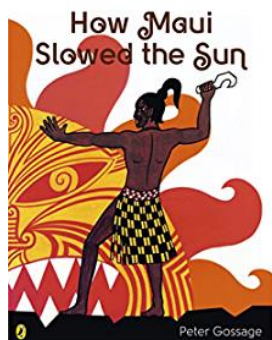
Term 2 is also jam packed full of wonderful things we have prepared as a team. These are outlined below for your information.

### PE/SPORT

First up is preparation for **Cross Country**. We have designed a running circuit for the children to gradually build up their endurance and stamina. We will also do numerous practice runs of the Year 2 and Year 3 Cross Country courses to get ready for the whole school event on Friday 19th May in Week 4. The children will need to wear appropriate running shoes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays please.



During the second half of the term, we have our **Gymnastics** focus which will be led by our Big Air Gym trip to Tawa on Monday 15th May. Please return these forms asap. As a syndicate in the hall, we will rotate around various gym equipment and teach the children gym techniques that builds on our Big Air Gym experience.



### VISUAL ART

We will use New Zealand Myths and Legends as inspiration for each child creating three effective visual art works this term. These include "Maui and the Sun/How Maui slowed the Sun", "Stolen Stars of Matariki" and one other yet to be determined. The children will sketch the sun and blend pastels to colour it in and learn weaving skills to create a tukutuku panel.

## COLLABORATIVE PLAY

As mentioned in the whole school newsletter, one Science/Maths/Technology focus this term will be **"Structures and Construction"** using various materials and equipment. Through our observations in Term 1, we noticed many highly motivated and self-directed children making this choice in play. By providing the children with various provocations we endeavour to inspire and extend on their creative and architectural skills. The children will be supported to understand technology involves purposeful design to improve the world we live in e.g. we may share with them the recent challenge of bridges being washed out and provide books and video clips about bridge construction. We also anticipate there will be opportunities for teachers to make connections between the children's constructions and real-life situations. This will build their understanding that planning and continual evaluation and problem solving are part of the process. Teachers will also use language from the digital technology curriculum to build their knowledge and encourage the perseverance needed in creative problem solving e.g. debugging.



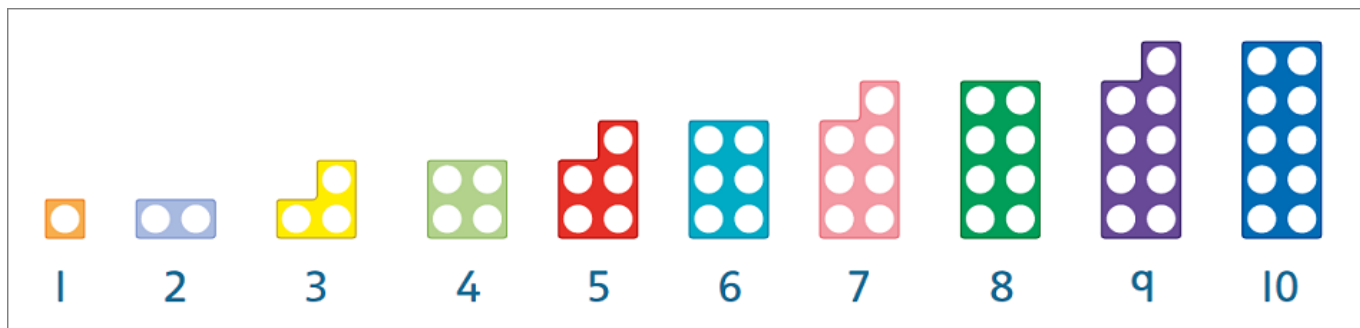
Our other play focus is building the children's social and emotional skills as a cohort. We will particularly be working on **"Kindness"** as a theme; what this looks like and sounds like. Using motivational picture books, video clips, and examples of the children's own kindness we notice, will provide effective role modelling of this important trait. This focus will be linked to the Adventure Way attributes of self-awareness, collaboration and being self-directed. We will discuss, model and reinforce the key idea that we have responsibility for our own actions and the impact we have on others. While the children are in the play, teachers will point out examples of kindness and also give reminders as needed, always linking their observations back to the key teaching in this area. Photos of the children demonstrating the actions we are promoting will be shared and discussed as another learning opportunity. This focus is also part of the Health curriculum and links to the Kiva anti-bullying programme we have in place. We are aiming for all our students to grow an awareness of the outcomes of their actions on others, even as a bystander, and how to be self-directed and make the choice they know is right.



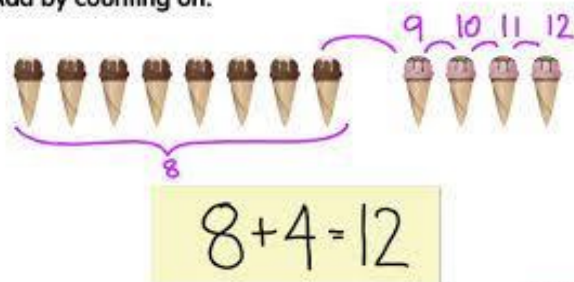
## MATHS

Developing our children's number knowledge is a high priority throughout the year. This includes being able to fluently count forwards and backwards from any given number as well as skip-count. Having solid place value knowledge and knowing how to make and break numbers is a vital skill too. Our syndicate has recently purchased some Numicon resources to support our learners and strengthen our own teaching of maths.

***Numicon shows children what the entire group of a number looks like in a pattern and explores what the group looks like with a variety of resources and alongside patterns of other numbers. In this way, a sense of "number" and how it relates to other numbers is strongly built into a child's understanding. Each numicon shape gives children an image of what a number looks like. They begin to see relationships between numbers and develop stronger basic facts and place value knowledge.***



Add by counting on.

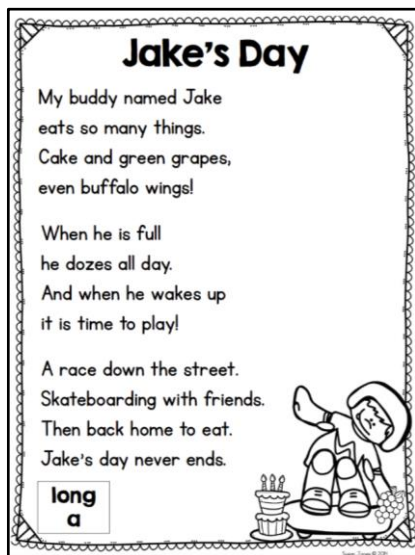
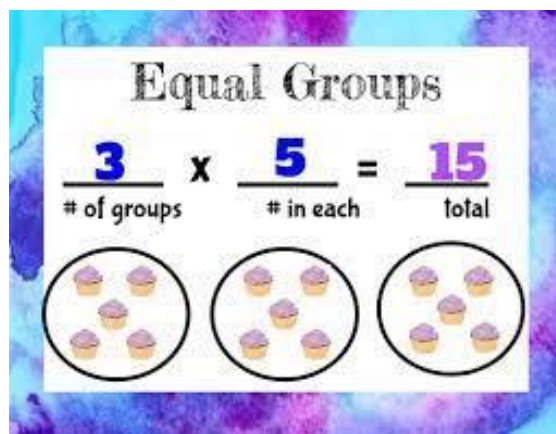


matholia

This term our strategy work focuses on both **additive and multiplicative thinking**. As the children work on solving simple addition and subtraction word problems, they extend their strategies: counting all the objects one-to-one → counting all the objects by imaging → counting on and back from the largest number → part whole thinking (being able to split numbers into parts and use known facts e.g. doubles, friends of 10, teen

numbers etc). When solving multiplicative word problems we will develop the childrens' ability to create and count equal groups of objects, skip count, and use repeated addition. An extension to this is being able to solve two step word problems.

Measurement and Geometry will be weaved into our Maths learning this term too.



### LITERACY

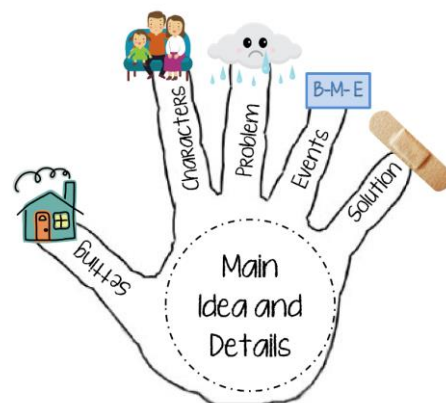
As for Term 1, our poems support our spelling programme. This term we will continue to work on:

- short vowel sounds
- adjacent consonants e.g. fl, st, cr
- the floss rule (when to use these patterns: ll, ss, ff)
- The rule for using -ck pattern
- digraphs e.g. sh, ch, th
- long vowel sounds spelt with magic e e.g. a\_e (cake), i\_e (bike).

Poem books will come home to share with you each Friday.



We have chosen a wonderful selection of picture books this term to focus on comprehension, specific vocabulary, and the 5 finger retell (see image). Our first wonderful picture book for Weeks 1 and 2 is titled "The Taniwha



of Wellington Harbour". This book is full of fabulous vocabulary which we intend to teach the meanings of.



Our structured literacy groups continue to combine skills at sound, word, sentence, and text levels appropriate to each child's literacy stage. In these groups we build on our class spelling programme, providing both reinforcement and extension according to individual need. Both decoding (reading) and encoding (writing) are included. The research tells us just how important writing is to reading development; through writing the children strengthen their knowledge of the spelling patterns they need to know to sound out words.

# ***Kōwhai and Mānuka Toy Sale!***

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May



**Kōwhai and Mānuka teachers are accepting donations of old toys from now, up until Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> May.**

**All proceeds go towards Kōwhai and Mānuka curriculum resources.**

**Thanks so much for your support!**

## **REMINDER**

### **Shared Consumables:**

Items such as pencils, rulers, student whiteboard pens, erasers, craft materials, hot glue sticks, and glue sticks are part of your child's shared consumable donation. This donation is \$10 per term and in order for classes to remain fully stocked on items that children use every day, we ask that this is paid for promptly. Do talk to the office about payment options.

### **SWIMMING TERM 3**

During the next few weeks a letter will be coming home with information regarding our swimming lessons in Term 3. We plan on going to Cannons Creek Pool this year in a bus.



We look forward to sharing and discussing your child's current learning and next steps with you at the Learning Conversations on **Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th May.**

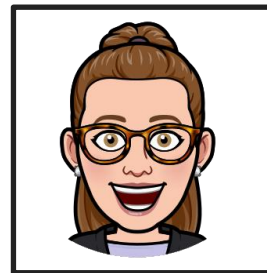
From your awesome Mānuka team,



Vanessa Burn  
(Team Leader)  
Room 13



Karen Freeman  
Room 14



Cathy Murray  
Room 15



Vanessa Clark  
Room 13



Carly St-Laurent  
Room 14