



1 May 2023

Kia Ora Nīkau Whānau

Welcome to Term 2. We have an exciting term planned for our students and I wanted to share some of the upcoming events with you.

Our Inquiry Unit for this term is on Celebrations. This inquiry unit is designed to encourage self-directed learning and exploration of different celebrations and traditions around the world. During this unit, students will have the opportunity to explore different celebrations and traditions, such as holidays, festivals, and cultural events. They will learn about the history and significance of these celebrations and how they are celebrated in different parts of the world, with a focus on the cultures within our classrooms.

Students will be learning Te Reo and New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) throughout the term. Students will have the opportunity to learn basic greetings and phrases in Te Reo Māori and NZSL. We hope that this will foster a greater appreciation and understanding of Māori culture and the importance of preserving New Zealand's indigenous language. We encourage you to ask your child about what they have learned in class about Te Reo and NZSL and continue the conversation at home.

From next week, all classes will be participating in Art classes every Monday afternoon. Students will have the opportunity to engage in all aspects of art including dance and drama. For visual arts, students will learn basic weaving skills using wool and then explore other weaving materials. If anyone has balls of wool at home that they no longer require we will happily take these off your hands. Towards the end of the term we explore different mask shapes and styles, and consider how our designs can be both functional and aesthetically pleasing. We will also learn about the history and cultural significance of masks in different parts of the world and different celebrations. Students will also have the opportunity to express their creativity and make unique and personalised masks.

The annual Cross Country event will be held on Friday 19th May. The event will take place on our school grounds and around the top lake. This is an opportunity for our students to showcase their physical fitness and endurance. To help prepare our students for the event, we will be providing training sessions during school hours in the lead up to the event. We encourage you to come along and support your child and their classmates. More details about the event will be sent out closer to the time.

Classes will also participate in a friendly T.Ball competition to apply what they learned during their PE sessions last term. Towards the end of the term classes will learn the skills required to participate in Invasion Games. Invasion Games are a type of team sport that involves attacking and defending territory and can include sports such as soccer, basketball, and netball.

Finally, a spectacular science show has been organised for our students to attend. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about science in a fun and engaging way. Parents will be sent a detailed newsletter about this amazing show.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's teacher. We look forward to working with you and your child this term.

*Toni-Marie Bennett*  
On behalf of Team Nīkau

