



Adventure School



Thursday 20th October, 2023

Kia ora e te whānau,

It is hard to believe we have reached the last term of the year - and we realise our time with our Year One students is sadly coming to an end. However, we know we have reached that point when we can step back and look at the maturity of our junior students. It is such a positive feeling to see the growth in the Adventure Way traits, socially, emotionally, academically. 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.



At the end of this newsletter, you will find extensive information about our Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC). Please read this thoroughly and return permission slips promptly to support us in our planning and organisation.

Before we get to the EOTC, we wanted to start this newsletter with our usual sharing of Self-Directed Learning in Kōwhiri. 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 that learning.

Thank you for your amazing support this year,

The Year 0/1 Team.

Tania, Nadine, Di, Paula and Rebecca.

SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Our Adventure Way foci for the term were Creativity and Curiosity. With the students being with us for many months now, we wanted to grow the children's openness to new experiences and encourage them to explore a range of opportunities in the play across all curriculum areas.

Children engaged in puppet making and the creation of puppet plays throughout the term.



There was a keen interest in creating ngatu (tapa or decorated bark cloth) when this was introduced during Tongan Language Week. This was a great opportunity for some of our children to share their Tongan culture with others.



Last term we purchased some new woodwork equipment - safety goggles, tool belts, pliers, and drills and the children did not hesitate

to try them out. During the term we began exploring New Zealand histories and introduced the idea that New Zealand's first people used the materials available to them to create tools, ie. wood, flax, rocks. Children used these materials to make their own.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION - GROSS MOTOR SKILLS SHARING

Our physical education programme in Kōwhai focuses heavily on building gross motor skills through fun and engaging games and activities. While the rest of the school has an athletics event, we are going to hold a physical education sharing event to share what we have been doing. We would love to have whanau join us on Wednesday 1st of November at 2.30pm. The postponement date is Wednesday the 8th November at 2.30pm. This event will be held on the top field. We hope to see you there!

EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM (EOTC):

We are pretty excited to tell you that we do not require any donations to cover the costs of EOTC this year. We have managed this by using part of our Kōwhai Curriculum Budget (every syndicate gets an allocated amount of money from government funding), KiwiSports funding and a PTNI syndicate donation.

Parent help is essential for the trips outside the school and we appreciate the support we receive every year. Parent helpers are a key part of our safety plans and unfortunately we cannot use parents who will 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 any necessary details.

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

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 3 weeks of the term.

Please see the descriptions and table below for a list of the wonderful trips, activities and events that we have planned.



● Tree Trimming

One of our favourite events of the year is Christmas Tree Trimming. Each child invites one special adult to join them for the morning to make decorations, and this is followed by carols and a shared morning tea.

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 Kōwhai and Mānuka classrooms during the morning.

We would like to acknowledge the amazing work of Srikantha Robinson and Vicki Eastham who are in the process of planning and preparing for this event. They have organised the materials for hundreds of 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.

● Upper Hutt Skating Rink / Maidstone Max Playground Trip

For this event we request students bring long, thick socks, a water bottle and a light jacket. 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. Kōwhai teachers will have sunscreen that will be applied at the start of the day, and reapplied as necessary.

● Carol Singing

We are very excited to be able to attend this event, as it really is an opportunity to give back to our Whitby community. Each week classes will be practising carols as part of our 'Poem of the Week', so feel free to sing along with them when their poem book comes home on the weekend.

● Teddy Bears Picnic with Adventure Kindergarten

Children will bring one special teddy (or soft toy) to school and we will picnic together with Adventure Kindergarten at Adventure School. We will request whānau to bring in picnic blankets closer to the event. Our students will gift Adventure Kindergarten with a special gift - Reindeer food (aka rolled oats and seeds) to sprinkle on their lawn on Christmas Eve.

END OF YEAR EVENTS CALENDAR:

Date	Event	Event Requirements	Parent Help Needed
Wednesday 29th November	Teddy Bears Picnic with Adventure Kindergarten (At Adventure School)	Bring a special 'teddy' to school Lend picnic blanket to school (we will send out a reminder note prior to the event) if you have one	n/a
Wednesday 6th December	Christmas Tree Trimming <i>NB: Children will bring home an invitation for their special guest on Wednesday 22nd November</i>	<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 preschoolers please</i>	Parent helpers to set up the hall with senior students by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Putting out morning tea - Setting up Christmas trees <i>NB: This needs to be people who are not coming as a child's special guest.</i>
Monday 11th December	Carol Singing at Whitby Lakes Retirement Village (in the school hall if too wet to walk to the Lakes) Surprise treat back at school	Something Christmassy to wear (optional) Sunhats	Parent helpers to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supervise on walk to and from the retirement village
Tuesday 12th December	Upper Hutt Skating Rink / Maidstone Max Trip	<i>Lunch with extra snacks</i> <i>Water bottle(s)</i> <i>Long socks for skating</i> <i>Protective gear – please note, this is optional and <u>not</u> provided by the skating rink.</i>	At the skating rink <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 prior to the event or at the parent briefing.</p>

Year 0/1 EOTC - PARENT HELPERS SLIP

Child's Name: _____

Room Number: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Email _____

Date	Event	I am available for Parent Help
Wednesday 6th Dec, 9- 11.30am	Christmas Tree Trimming (only those who are not attending the event)	Setting out morning tea in the hall and setting up Christmas trees Yes No
Monday 11th 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
Tuesday 12th Dec, 8.30am - 3.00pm	Upper Hutt Skating Rink and Maidstone Max	Supervising and supporting children at skating and Maidstone Max Playground Yes No

UPPER HUTT EOTC PERMISSION SLIP

I give permission for _____ from Room ____
to travel by bus to the Upper Hutt Skating Rink and Maidstone Max trip.

Signature: _____

**Please return permission slips to your classroom teacher before
27th October**

2023 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 27th October** either by email or in hard copy. All children who have previously had a School Entry Interview prior to Term 4, Week 2 will receive a report.

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: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

***Please return permission slips to your classroom teacher before
27th October***

Quick Check for whānau:

- Filled in Parent Helpers EOTC Slip
- Filled Upper Hutt EOTC Permission Slip
- Filled in Report Photo Permission Slip