

Tōtara Syndicate Newsletter

CONTENTS

CURRICULUM FOCUS

OTHER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

LEARNING BEYOND 3PM

GENTLE REMINDERS

SUMMER TERM

The springtime weather is typically changeable at the moment, but the sun's rays are still strong. Please ensure that your child comes to school with their named school hat this term.

TECHNICRAFT

Students need to be at school by 8.30am on Thursdays so that we can take the roll and get on the buses by 8.45am. Please ensure they are wearing closed shoes and any long hair tied back.

TŌTARA TEACHERS

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Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Term Four! We are already in Week 2 of our busy 10 week schedule. This final term will likely fly by and we will soon be breaking for the summer holidays. Below is a brief summary of everything we have planned for the weeks ahead.

Curriculum Focus & Learning Opportunities

Our primary academic focus is to build on the strong foundations established over the first three terms of the year.

- Literacy: Morning Structured Literacy lessons will continue to enhance reading and writing capabilities, which students will apply directly to our afternoon integrated studies. We will also focus on persuasive writing in preparation for classroom speeches and the Parumoana Speech Competition.
- Mathematics: Twice-weekly number workshops will continue to reinforce core number strategies and knowledge. For strand mathematics, our focus shifts to Geometry and Financial Literacy.
- Inquiry (Science & Health): Our final unit of the year is titled "Show us what you are made of." A range of lessons, activities and challenges will help students explore what makes them unique individuals. This unit incorporates the Health module on Puberty and Changes commencing in Week 3 (information regarding this was sent home last week).
- PE & Sport: Senior Athletics Day has been run this week, sports coaching sessions with Whitby Collegiate will continue through to Week 4. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in AFL sessions in Week 6.

Beyond 3pm:

Home Learning remains available for your child to access over the term. This takes the form of paper based activity sheets that are handed out at the end of each week. Whilst participation is optional, it provides a valuable way for students to reinforce their learning at home. Other home learning can be accessed via Google Classroom and will include links to this term's Inquiry, reading activities, maths programmes and touch typing tutorials.

So there is plenty to get on with on this term, although I have no doubt the term will race by and in a blink of an eye we will all soon be making plans for the holidays.

Thanks and regards on behalf of the Tōtara Syndicate.

Mark Hughes