

# What has been happening in Whānui?

## Play

As you will be aware, this term is our play term in Whānui and the learning spaces have been brimming with energy and enthusiasm. Each home learning team is devising their play based off of a pūrākau (Māori myth or legend) on the ocean. We have explored a myriad of devising activities, like role on the wall, town meeting, hot seating and teacher in role, that has helped ignite creativity and spark inspiration. We're fully immersed in the creative process, eagerly weaving together our ideas and crafting scripts that promise to captivate you all. We cannot wait to show you what we have created in **Week 10 Tuesday 2nd July from 6pm to 8pm in our school hall**. It's a celebration of talent, imagination, and teamwork, and we can't wait to transport you into the magical worlds we've brought to life. See you there!

## Science Week

During Week 3, Mr. Miller guided an afternoon of scientific exploration centered on water through four engaging experiments. At each station, the children formulated hypotheses, recorded observations, and actively participated as both teachers and student assistants conducted the experiments. It proved to be a delightful and engaging afternoon for all involved, filled with excitement and enjoyment! Thank you Mr Miller for all of your organisation and creativity!

The experiments are detailed below:

- **DIY Water filter** using a coke bottle, coffee filter, cotton balls and sand
- **Rainbow Milk** - using milk, food colouring and detergent
- **Observing the different densities of three liquids:** golden syrup, water, and oil)
- **Storm in a glass** using shaving cream, water, food colouring and a spoon



## Western Zones Cross Country

On Tuesday, students from Year 4 to 8 showcased exemplary representation of Kelburn Normal School at the Western Zones Cross Country event. Their efforts were outstanding, and the mutual support among all participants was truly commendable. Special congratulations are in order for Louis and Chao, who will be representing Kelburn and Whānui at the PSW interzone Cross Country meet on Tuesday, June 18th. Best of luck to both of them!

## Performing Arts

We've had the pleasure of hosting the NZ Playhouse for their performance of "The Reluctant Dragon" and a workshop conducted by the NZSO on Monday for our Orchestra, Xylobeats, and select band members. The students involved in the workshop collaborated to craft their own Firebird music, gearing up for our exciting visit today. It's been great to have these experiences on offer for the students and I know they have gained inspiration for their own performances at the end of the term.

## Performing Arts groups at school

On the topic of the performing arts, we have a number of groups on offer at Kelburn Normal School that every child can get involved in. Being involved in the performing arts can have multiple positive benefits for children, including improving their cognitive skills, enhancing their creativity and supporting their overall well-being. We will be encouraging your children to join Xylobeats, Orchestra, Piccolo and Kapa Haka, so please promote the groups at home as well. All groups have spaces available for children to join at the beginning of Term 3. If your child no longer wishes to participate in their performing arts group they can only leave at the end of the term and in consultation with the group leader.



## Home Learning

In Whānui, we recognise that our students engage in numerous extracurricular activities outside of school. However, we emphasise the importance of ensuring that everyone commits to the following two activities every evening:

- Reading before bed - at least 30 minutes. This could involve reading a chapter book from school, reading a chapter to someone in their whānau or listening to audio books.
- MathsWhizz - 30 minutes a week. MathsWhizz serves as an educational resource that reinforces the significant learning occurring in the classroom. If your child does not have their login information or has forgotten it, please remind them to ask their teacher for the details.

If you have any questions regarding your child's learning, please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Best wishes,

Niamh Kelly, Rebekah Rasmussen, and Hugo Miller

[niamhk@kelburnnormal.school.nz](mailto:niamhk@kelburnnormal.school.nz)

[rebekahr@kelburnnormal.school.nz](mailto:rebekahr@kelburnnormal.school.nz)

[hugom@kelburnnormal.school.nz](mailto:hugom@kelburnnormal.school.nz)