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Kia auaha te ako a ngā ākonga me te whai i te iti kahurangi mō te akoranga tūroa

Te Ara Tupu Newsletter

Term Toru 2023

Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi

Everybody has something to offer, a piece of the puzzle, and by working together, we can all flourish.

Monday 17th July

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

Welcome back to Term Three. A special welcome to all the tamariki and whānau who join our team this term. On Friday 28th July we will be celebrating 100 days of school and we look forward to sharing all the 100 collections.



After last term's investigations, what we now know about creatures in our environment could fill many books. It is exciting to see the positive, 'can-do' attitude growing in the children as they travel along on their own learning journeys. We are especially pleased with the way that the children are working in our learning space, collaborating with each other, and developing their problem-solving skills by using their initiative. Manaakitanga is strong in Tupu.



All the Tupu Team teachers would like to say a big thank you to the parents who were able to help out by putting books away. We do appreciate the time and support you give and look forward to parental help this term as well.

We wanted to share with you what we have planned for this term. If there is anything that you feel that you can contribute to our programme, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Curriculum Topics

Our major topic for the term has an English and Arts focus. It will be based around **traditional tales and fairy tales**. The children will be involved in listening to, reading, and comparing different tales, and looking for themes. We will be using drama, music, art, and writing to explore their own interpretation of these classically-themed stories.



We will be sharing a range of drama processes, creative ideas, and some of the children's writing with the families in our classes at the end of this term. Please put in your planner now the following dates to come and along and see us in action. We start at 2pm in the school hall and each session lasts around 30 to 45 minutes.

Tupu Miller— Tuesday 12 September

Tupu Wilby— Wednesday 13 September

Tupu Molloy— Thursday 14 September

Tupu Brown—Monday 11 September

Week 3 is our school's book week with Book Characters dress up on Friday. There will be many different book activities that we know the tamariki will be sharing about at home.

We are looking forward to welcoming Vicki from Wellington City Council to come and discuss with the tamariki of how to interact with different animals in week 4.

Tupu is leading the school assembly on Friday 18th August. Do put this in your calendar as we look forward to you joining us in the hall at 10:15am.

At the end of the term we will be joining Harrold in the Life Education bus for a week to learn more about ourselves.

We will finish the term with a dress up as your favourite fairy tale character. Keep an eye out for the date.

Mathematics and Statistics

The first two weeks our focus will be developing the children's understanding of two and three-dimensional shapes.



We will then focus on multiplication (repeated addition) and division strategies. This will involve skip counting, grouping, and sharing objects. We will also be working on our addition and subtraction knowledge. We will finish off the term with a focus on fractions.

All classes will take part in Maths Week in week 4. We will investigate mathematical problems that we find in various fairy tales. We will continue to share Maths Alive ideas for activities at home when starting a new focus on Seesaw. Don't forget to check out the activities and advice on www.nzmaths.co.nz. Click on the 'Families' heading.

Literacy

We are excited to be continuing on our BSLA learning journey. Each Monday there will be an overview of what is happening in literacy for the week on Seesaw. There will be a reading book coming home each



Monday to Thursday. On a Friday, there is a poetry book to share the week's poem.

We know every effort is made in your busy lives to make time to fit in this important reading; the more children read the better they get. Please remember to fill in the children's yellow home reading book, as the teachers really value your feedback and input.



For writing this term, we are working on personal writing, expressive recounts, and descriptive character writing too. This ties in with our integrated units of work.

Children will also have regular handwriting sessions that will focus on forming lowercase, capital letters, and numbers correctly and legibly, as well as correct pencil grip.

Arts

In visual arts, we will be exploring collage, composition, texture, and shape to create artworks. The artworks will complement drama and role play and will enhance and expand the children's understanding of different shared class stories. This will also stimulate the children's imaginative responses and creativity. The children will be exploring space, movement, and keeping in time to the music through music to match fairy tales. In music, the children will listen, respond to, and imitate the elements of beat, rhythm, and pitch, as well as continuing with increasing their singing repertoire.



Te Reo

This term all of Tupu are joining together with Jeremy, our kapa haka teacher, for half an hour for individual team time to develop our Te Reo. We will be learning our personal mihi.

Tui Choir - He waka eke noa - A canoe that we are all on together.

Ali Laing is looking forward to welcoming all the tamariki in Year 2 and 3 back to Tui Choir for another term of joyful singing. The children have really risen to the challenge of participating in our 'big sings' every Wednesday between 9:00 and 9:30 and a delightful assembly sharing.



Physical Education

In the junior school, we value sports, games, and skill development. This term we continue on from last term as we are focusing on skipping, balls, and hoops; we will also be launching into a few folk dances throughout the term.



Discovery Time and book shelving

We are looking forward to having parent support for our ever-popular Discovery Time and also book putting away.

We are looking for parent helpers for Discovery Time. This session is on a Friday from 9 to 10:30.

Book putting away doesn't take long (no more than half an hour) and you can pick a time and day to do this. It saves teachers quite a bit of time and we really appreciate this.

Please contact your child's class teacher if you are able to help us out with Discovery time, and Andrea Molloy for book putting away.

Mahi Ngātahi

Every Monday we have an investigation time from 9 am to 10:30 am. This session is called Mahi Ngātahi which means collaboration. In these sessions, the children explore and investigate different mathematical concepts and scientific ideas, conduct experiments, and dive deeper into wonderings that they have. This is a great opportunity for them to work collaboratively; the advantage of this is children are able to learn from each other as they investigate their own questions and interests.



SeeSaw

We are continuing to add to your child's SeeSaw this term to share with families and whānau. The children love posting their work for you to see what is happening during the day with their learning. We all enjoy reading your feedback so please continue to share this on your child's SeeSaw as this creates a strong connection between home and school.

Helpful Reminders

All the teachers encourage the children to work towards independence and we would appreciate your help here too. The children are encouraged to take responsibility for carrying their own school bag to and from school, and to put their reading folders and contents in the right place in the mornings. We also want to see the older children being encouraged to say goodbye to their parents at the gate and walking into school by themselves. We don't want this to stop you coming in and sharing what has been happening in the class or touching base with the teachers. Instead, we would like to see a balance between children being independent and sharing with their families. So you might like to choose a day with your child when you can come into the learning spaces in the morning or after school. Spend this time with your child so they can share and explain what learning they have been doing, including reading their storywriting book to you.

Please make sure that your child has a warm jacket and/or a raincoat each day.

Pick Up and Drop Off

Just a few points to make the mornings and afternoons run smoothly as these are busy times of the day. Tupu Brown, Miller and Molloy will enter and leave at the end of the day through the pīwakawaka doors (next to the playground) and Tupu Wilby can enter from all doors but will leave through the link. We welcome all parents and families to come in after school if you want to see work, or talk to us, however, please do wait until we have let all the children go. This is normally no more than a few minutes after the bell has gone.

As you know we are a 'no shoes inside' school so slippers are welcome, as well as just socks or bare feet. It is important that children wear shoes to school so that they can get off and on by themselves. Please, can you make sure that all your child's belongings are clearly labelled, especially lunch and drink containers.



If you have any questions, or there is something you would like to talk to the teachers about, please feel free to email or pop in and see us.



Ngā mihi nui from the Tupu team, Amy, Emily, Andrea, Ali, and Susie

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