



Te Ara Whānui Newsletter

Term Whā 2024

*Where students learn creatively and strive for excellence preparing for lifelong learning
Kia auaha te ako a ngā ākonga me te whai i te iti kahurangi mō te akoranga tūroa*

18 October 2024

Kia ora e te whānau,

Just like that, we're in Term 4! The past three terms have been an exciting journey, and we're not slowing down now. The tamariki have worked hard, collaborating and supporting one another, and achieving pūkengatanga every day. We have a busy term ahead of us with lots going on, including school athletics on Monday 21st October in Week 2 at Ben Burn Park, swimming at Kilbirnie Pool every Tuesday from 10am (excluding Weeks 1 and 3), and the matinee performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on Friday 25th October in Week 2, among many other events. For some, this is their final term in Whānui, and we know they will make the most of every opportunity!



Health

This term, we will be focusing on Navigating the Journey: Relationships and Sexuality Education, a resource developed by Sexual Wellbeing Aotearoa (formerly Family Planning). This comprehensive programme is designed to equip tamariki with essential life skills and knowledge to navigate relationships and understand their own identities. Some of the key topics we will cover include developing a strong sense of identity, fostering respect for others, building healthy relationships, and understanding feelings. We will also explore important biological topics such as learning about body parts, understanding how reproduction works, and discussing body image. In addition, we will delve into the concepts of gender and sexual identity, relationship roles and behaviours and help students develop a respectful and inclusive understanding of these topics. This program aims to empower students with the knowledge and confidence to make informed, respectful decisions about their well-being and relationships. If you would like any further information on this unit, then please get in contact with Niamh Kelly (niamhk@kelburnnormal.school.nz).

Literacy

Throughout the term, the tamariki will be participating in a range of literacy lessons designed to help them craft engaging, creative, and persuasive speeches. These lessons will give them the skills to structure their thoughts effectively, develop strong arguments and present their ideas clearly and confidently. The tamariki will present these speeches to their home learning classes in Week 5 with the final set for Week 8. Speeches provide an excellent opportunity for tamariki to develop their communication skills, both written and oral. By working through the process of speech writing, tamariki will gain confidence in expressing themselves and speaking persuasively.

Additionally, our program includes the Syntax Project, a program featuring structured grammar and syntax lessons, as well as WordLab, a group of lessons designed to support spelling instruction and learning.

Numeracy

This term, our focus will shift to Geometry, while continuing to dedicate time each day to reinforcing basic facts. Throughout the term, we will explore the properties of both 2D and 3D shapes, exploring their attributes and differences. We'll also cover geometric transformations, including translations, rotations, and reflections, helping the tamariki understand how shapes can move and change while retaining their core properties. In addition, we'll explore angles, lines of symmetry, and various types of symmetry, allowing the tamariki to deepen their understanding of geometric relationships. Toward the end of the term, we'll introduce coordinate grids, enabling tamariki to plot points and navigate space through coordinates. We'll wrap up the term with a refresher on perimeter and area, which will tie into an exciting hands-on project - designing their own parks. This activity will give students the opportunity to apply their geometric knowledge in a creative and practical way.

Visual Art, Dance, Music and Social Studies

In our upcoming unit, we will be integrating visual art, dance, music, and social studies to explore and celebrate indigenous cultures. Tamariki will explore indigenous visual arts, like aboriginal dot painting, dance forms and music and learning about the rich cultural significance behind each creative expression. As we make our way through these artistic disciplines, tamariki will gain a deeper understanding of how art, music and dance are powerful expressions of cultural identity and history. To conclude the unit, we will embark on an inquiry into other cultures, allowing tamariki to broaden their perspective by comparing the arts and cultural practices of diverse groups around the world.



Science

This term in science, we are diving into the fascinating world of life cycles as part of our Living World focus. The tamariki will explore the big question: what is a life cycle? Through a series of comparative lessons, we will examine the unique and diverse ways that plants, fungi, animals, and humans grow and change. We'll look closely at the life cycles of various organisms, discovering similarities and differences across the living world. To bring their learning to life, tamariki will choose a life cycle to study in-depth and present their findings in a creative way. We're excited to see our young scientists' curiosity bloom as they investigate the wonders of the natural world!

Home Learning

We believe in fostering a well-rounded education that extends beyond the classroom, and we understand that many students have busy schedules after school.

In Whānui, our expectations for home learning are as follows:

- Reading for 30 mins every day outside of school
- 15 Mins of maths whizz 4x a week outside of school

As usual, if you ever need to get in touch with your child's HLT, please do not hesitate to contact us via email. We are more than happy to talk to you about your child's learning. We are all looking forward to a fun, action-packed term ahead!

Ngā mihi nui,
Niamh, Rebekah and Hugo

niamhk@kelburnnormal.school.nz
rebekahr@kelburnnormal.school.nz
hugom@kelburnnormal.school.nz

Whānui Weekly Term 4 timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Clubs	Xylobeats	Orchestra	Piccolo	Lyrica	Kapa Haka
8.50am-9am	Roll	Roll	Roll	Roll	Roll
9am-9.30am	Drama	Novel study	Novel study	Novel study	Students not at Kapa Haka in the nui
9.30am-10am	Multiple literacies - including Grammar and Spelling Swimming on Tuesday - 10am - 1pm (weeks 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)				
10am-11am					
11am-11.10am	Morning tea - including 10 minutes of eating time in class				
11.10am-11.40am					
11.40am-12pm	Silent reading - 15 mins Basic facts practice - 15 mins				Te Reo Māori weeks 4, 5 and 6 Health other weeks of the term
12pm-1pm	Maths - including 10 mins of basic facts practice				
1pm-1.10pm	Lunch - including 10 minutes of eating time in class				
1.10pm-1.40pm					
1.40pm-2pm	Roll - in class Shared reading in class	Roll - in class Silent reading in class	Roll - in class Shared reading in class	Roll - in class Silent reading in class	Roll - in class Shared reading in class
2pm-2.30pm	PE	Science	PE	PE	Art
2.30pm-2.50pm	Social Studies		Social Studies	Social Studies	
2.50pm-3pm	Pack-up time				