



## KIA ORA KOUTOU

**WELCOME BACK FOR ANOTHER TERM OF LEARNING,  
FUN AND FRIENDSHIP**

We extend a warm welcome to new students and families starting their school journey with us here at Brooklyn School. We especially welcome all the new families starting in our New Entrant classrooms with Margaret Zlatkov and Brigid Wylie.

Looking ahead, we have another exciting term of learning, culminating in an open morning in the last week.

Again, this will be a busy term with much to excite everyone! Check out our learning on the next page.



# Tui Syndicate Newsletter

Term 2 2018

# Our Learning in Term 2

## Reading

At junior level, children are first learning to decode text to read. Once they can do this, the focus moves more to reading for information. We also encourage '**reading for enjoyment**' and the children are given many opportunities to enjoy reading in class. We encourage you to find out more by coming along to our **Literacy Info Hour on Wednesday 13 May 5-6pm**.

We visit the school library on a regular basis. **Your child will be able to issue up to two books** to take home and read. These need to be returned before any more can be issued. Classes also visit Brooklyn Library twice a term.

### **School Library Days:**

Room 1 Friday

Room 2 Tuesday

Room 3 Tuesday

Room 4 Wednesday

Room 5 Wednesday

## Writing

The focus is on developing the skills of writing. **Students have individual writing goals** which are progressive. The children will be writing personal recounts and in year 2, descriptive writing as well as explanatory writing to support their inquiry learning.

## Phonics

We teach the segmentation and blending of sounds plus a knowledge of the alphabetic code as part of our Phonics, Reading and Writing programmes.

## Oral Language

Children are given many opportunities to share their thoughts, ideas and experiences across all areas of the curriculum. We encourage oral language to help students broaden their vocabulary, develop good listening and questioning skills and organise their ideas for writing. Children often want to bring things to share, e.g. photos, mementos, objects of interest, art creations which is great. Please note however, we have a 'no toy' policy.

## Numeracy

At this level **there is a strong focus on number knowledge, basic facts and addition and subtraction**. This term we will also look at **multiplicative strategies** beginning with skip counting and repeated addition in 2s, 5s and 10s before understanding how this relates to the x2, x5, and x10 tables. Students will also learn to double and halve numbers to 10 and 20 and learn how this relates to x2 and divided ÷2 facts. We will continue to encourage students to work collaboratively with others to understand and solve word problems in authentic contexts and tie this in with our focus **on geometry and repeating patterns** to support our inquiry and art focus.

## Inquiry

Our inquiry focus is: **How are animals suited to where they live?** Students will learn to recognize that all living things have certain requirements to stay alive, recognize that living things are suited to their particular habitat, and know that different animals live in different places because they have different features. Students will be encouraged to wonder, ask questions, and communicate their observations, new wonderings and understanding. **On Friday 18 May we are planning a trip to Wellington Zoo**. More information to come.

## Physical Education:

This term our focus will be on developing **large ball skills**. For the first part of the term we will develop our fitness and stamina for the school **Cross Country event on Friday 25 May** and

thereafter maintain our fitness through **skipping**. Please ensure that your child **wears appropriate shoes** and clothing so that they can be active. Rooms 1 and 2 will also participate in **PMP** (Perceptual Motor Programme) to assist with co-ordination, balance, focus and agility.

## Health

This term, the whole school will be taking part in a programme that will improve their **mindfulness skills**. Mindfulness exercises are ways of paying attention to the present moment, using techniques like meditation and breathing. Training helps students to become more aware of their thoughts, feelings, and body sensations so that instead of being overwhelmed by them, they are better able to manage them. Research shows that participation in a mindfulness programme:

- Improves focus and attention for better learning outcomes
- Increases calm and student wellbeing
- Improves self-control
- Enhances self-awareness and prosocial behaviour
- Reduces anxiety and boosts resilience
- Decreases stress and burnout

## Visual and Performing Arts:

Most days, classes have a time when they enjoy learning through **song and dance**. This term our visual art programme will focus on **Patterns in Nature** and explore mathematical concepts such as shapes, symmetry, reflection, rotation, tessellation and translation to create and recreate patterns that replicate those found in nature.

## Other Programmes:

**Kapa Haka** run by Matua Breach for our year 1 and 2 classes culminating in the Kapa Haka Festival in Term 3.

**Languages:** Te Reo and Mandarin

**Learning intervention programmes** in reading and numeracy for some children.

## Home Learning

**Our aim for home learning is to create positive habits and reinforce essential literacy and numeracy learning**. We encourage you to support this by engaging with your child to listen, encourage, check and provide feedback on how they are going.

Home learning consists of:

### Reading:

The children will take home a reading book that they have read in class, most days from Monday to Thursday. We encourage the children to read to an adult or other family member each day.

### Poetry:

Every Friday your child will take home their poetry book with a new poem to read over the weekend. Poems will usually be chosen to support something they are learning at school such as the phonic sound of the week, inquiry learning or something topical such as a celebration.

### Spelling:

The children will also take home their spelling notebook each day to learn 3-5 words a week. The focus will be on learning the **essential words** which make up the majority of our writing and the words we read. The words that they need to know will be written into their notebook and highlighted once they can write the words correctly and independently. Other words will be added from their writing and reading books. Each week, our buddy classes visit to test the students and to

celebrate their success. We really appreciate your assistance in encouraging your child to learn their words.

### Numeracy:

For children in year 2, we suggest the following free online websites to support the learning of number knowledge, basic facts and mathematical ideas: **prototec**

<https://maths.prototec.co.nz/> and **e-ako nz maths e-ako.nzmaths.co.nz/** For New Entrant/ Year 1 children we suggest **maths is fun** <https://www.mathsisfun.com/index.htm>  
For more information, please contact your child's teacher.

## Being Independent

In the Tui Syndicate we encourage our children to become independent and responsible for organising themselves.

It would be great to see our children showing their independence by:

- Putting their bags and jackets in their cubby hole and packing and unpacking their own bags.
- Putting their reading books, spelling notebooks, library books and anything else they return to school, in the right places.
- Getting their drink bottles out of their bags and taking to the nominated place.
- Sharing their feelings with their teacher and friends.



## REMINDERS

### WASTE FREE LUNCHES

We really encourage the children to have waste free lunch boxes. It would be super if your child could bring their lunch in containers, reusable bags or paper wrap instead of glad wrap.



### SCHOOL HOURS and ABSENCES

Please ensure that your child **arrives between 8.30 and 8.50am**. This gives them enough time to organise themselves ready to start their learning at 8.55am. Please also ensure that your child is picked up at 3pm each day and your child's teacher is informed who this person is if it is not the usual arrangement. Teachers will not let your child leave until they are collected. We also ask that you do not drop your child off at school before 8.30am as this is a time for teacher meetings and preparation.



If your child is sick or absent for any reason, please take the time to notify us using the school app or phone the school **absence answer phone on (04)3897658 ext.1 before 9.15am**. For extended periods of absence, please email both your child's teacher and the school office. We remind you that it is important to sign your child in at the office if they arrive after 8.55am and to sign your child out if they need to leave school during school hours. Thank You.

### WET WEATHER GEAR, SPARE CLOTHING AND WARM HATS

Please ensure that your child has a warm hat and a warm jacket to wear when outside. It is a good idea to leave a spare warm hat at school. Also we encourage children to keep a spare set of clothing at school.

### WATER BOTTLES and BRAIN FOOD

Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle that they can access in class throughout the day. We are a water only school. We also encourage children to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat as a brain food snack between the start of the school day and morning tea.



We always appreciate parent help during our writing sessions. These usually take place between 9.00 and 10.30am. Please contact your child's teacher if you are able to assist.



### Book room assistance

If you have 15-20 minutes at pick up or drop off time or any other time, we would be grateful for help to put reading books away in the book room. If you are able to help out, please email or talk to your child's classroom teacher.



### PMP (Perceptual Motor Programme)

We would be grateful to hear from parents able to assist with PMP in the hall one or two mornings a week for Rooms 1 and 2. If you are able to help please contact Korrie Hodes: [hodeko@brooklynprimary.school.nz](mailto:hodeko@brooklynprimary.school.nz)

## Tui Term Dates



<b>Week 1</b>		<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Queens Birthday: Monday 4 June</b>
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Rooms 2 and 4 leading school assembly: Friday 12.00am</b>	<b>Week 7</b>	
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Wellington Zoo Trip: Friday 18 May</b>	<b>Week 8</b>	
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Tui Literacy Info Hour: Wednesday 23 May 5-6pm</b> <b>School Cross Country: Friday 25 May pm</b>	<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Parent interviews tbc</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Teacher Only Day: Friday 1 June</b>	<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Open morning: Wednesday 4 July tbc</b> <b>Matariki evening Celebration Wednesday 4 July</b>

We are privileged to spend another wonderful term with your child. We encourage regular contact with parents, caregivers and families. Please feel free to pop in and see us. We are always happy to meet with you to help with any questions you may have about your child's learning and welfare. However, if you would like to discuss anything in more detail, it may be best to arrange a meeting by contacting your child's class teacher. There are a number of other opportunities during the term to meet with us to be informed about 'what and how' your child is learning. Please see 'Tui Term Dates.'

Thank you for all the many ways that you support us and in being involved in the learning of your children. Here's to another great term,

Karen, Margaret, Brigid, Korrie, Greg

### Contact details:

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