

KIA ORA FROM KYRAN

Kia ora e te whānau,

Term 3 is well underway, and like you'd expect in a school with 263 tamariki and 23 staff, there's always a lot going on. Things are ticking along nicely. Tamariki are mostly settled, and there's a calm, productive energy across the school. Of course, there are a few challenges and unsettled moments but nothing unexpected for this stage of the year.



While teaching the curriculum is a big part of our mahi, so is the social coaching that sits alongside it. Our teachers are always supporting children to stay focused, manage themselves, and work through the ups and downs of school life. Sometimes it's just about slowing down and having a kōrero to see how we can help a child feel more settled again.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our parent-teacher interviews. These conversations are a key part of the home-school partnership. Our kaiako really value the chance to connect, and we hope you did too.

As you know, we recently held a Teacher Only Day, giving our full team time for focused professional learning. It was a bonus to do this in the morning when everyone was fresh. A highlight was having Kathryn Berkett back. Her work around neuroscience, stress and resilience continues to guide how we support our tamariki and ourselves. Her insights are always practical, thought-provoking and incredibly relevant. We ended the day with something a bit different – a visit to the Padel House for some team-building fun. None of us had played before, so it was great to be learners again and share a few laughs along the way.

As always, thank you for your support. There's plenty more to come this term, and we're looking forward to the weeks ahead.

Ngā mihi nui, **Kyran Smith**, Tumuaki

noticeboard



Wed 13 Aug

**Board Election
voting information
sent home**

See page 2 for more information.

Fri 15 Aug

School Assembly

Hosted by the class that learns with Grant.
2:15pm

Tues 19 Aug

**Early 1pm finish
for children**

See page 2 of this newsletter for more information.

Keep informed

See the full list of key dates on the last page.

Learning to persuade

This term all our tamariki are learning how to write persuasively. While the purpose is the same, our kaiako skilfully adjust the challenge to suit each year level. For example, our youngest ākongā might focus on stating a clear opinion with one or two simple reasons ("Dogs are the best pets because they are cuddly"). Older students are expected to do more – structure arguments logically, use emotive language, anticipate counterpoints and craft thoughtful conclusions. We've included some early examples in this newsletter. Are they perfect? No. Are they promising? Definitely. They show our tamariki are getting the hang of persuasive writing and all having a go.

Spiders Are More Dangerous Than Sharks

Crawling up your back, fangs bared. Lunging up your neck, sinking its fangs into your open flesh.

How many people die from spider bites every year, and what do they do to us? And how much do spiders outmatch sharks?

Firstly, spiders are deadly, and fifty-six people die of spider bites each year. Over half of these are from funnel-web spiders.

Secondly, spider bites can give you some nasty infections because of their eating habits.

Finally, how much of a chance do sharks stand against spiders? Well, not much because, for a fact, you can stop a shark by hitting its nose. Not much of an apex predator, huh?

In conclusion, spiders are clearly the bigger threat due to their venomous bite, stealth, and speed. They are clearly the more deadly of the two.

By Tristan

Maths is better than lunchtime

Maths is better than lunchtime because after maths we can eat lunch. If we do maths, we get Google IQ.

Firstly, the teachers help us in maths and I can be really smart and I can use my fingers.

Being a Year 3 is hard. Secondly, I can be the smartest on the earth!

By Pyae Phyo Win

Dear best, best, best, best, best bus driver,

I think that I can drive the bus because I have a driving licence and my cousin drove a bus before.

Can I please drive the bus?

I am totally not zero IQ and I know how to write because I wrote this letter.

I will give you five dollars. I already know how to drive.

By Taika



Sharks Are More Dangerous Than Spiders!

Have you ever been bitten by a shark? Probably not but if you did get bitten, it would be very dangerous.

Today I'm going to tell you why sharks are way more dangerous than spiders. Sharks are faster, have sharper teeth, and can eat a person in one big chomp!

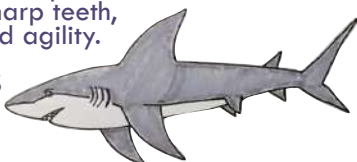
Some sharks can kill people in one bite! Sharks have incredibly sharp teeth that are curved and dig into your skin.

Secondly, if a shark bit you, it could tear your artery which is what pumps blood around your body. If that happened, all your blood would be lost in minutes.

Finally, sharks are faster than any old spider. In addition, sharks can smell blood from miles away.

In conclusion, sharks are way more dangerous and deadly than spiders due to their sharp teeth, speed and agility.

By Alex S



Every kid who is born should go to school

Every kid who is born should go to school because they can learn maths, writing and handwriting. And it's a win-win because you get to play with your friends... if you have any. That's why I think kids should go to school.

By Elise

Is Social Media Healthy for Kids?

I strongly believe that social media could be healthy or unhealthy for kids, depending on how it is used.

School is exactly 6 hours and 10 minutes. We need a break to get our minds off everything. It is known to calm people down when they are feeling upset or having harsh feelings.

I've personally learnt educational things on social media. But many times, it can really rot and ruin kids' brains, making them think they are not perfect or that they don't have perfect lives. It also shares really inappropriate things, and it can keep you away from your family and from socialising with other people. It may lead to cyberbullying, mental health problems, and even physical health issues.

In conclusion, I believe that social media isn't harmful unless you get addicted to it or use it in a harmful way. It can actually be really good when you need to reset your mind.

By Rayan

Maths Is Better Than Reading

Maths is better than reading because we can learn shapes and numbers.

Secondly, you can have a better brain.

Thirdly, if you read then you can't talk.

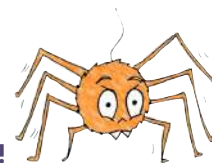
Lastly, you can learn times tables.

By Faiza

Why wouldn't anyone want to go to school?

You can do fantastic things. School is a fabulous place to be. You can basically do anything!

By Arna



Spiders Are More Dangerous!

Imagine you are walking through the bush and you brush the leaves with your hand. Then you feel something. You look at it, and it bites you. It was venomous, and you could die.

These are the reasons why spiders are more dangerous than sharks. These will be my arguments: they have venom, are on land, and can hide.

Firstly, their venom could be dangerous to you and could cause extreme pain and muscle cramps, and in rare cases, death.

Secondly, they live on land with you and could be in your stuff. (But there are underwater spiders too!)

Finally, they can hide and also go in small places, and climb on walls and roofs.

In conclusion, I think you should be more careful of spiders, because of their rising population and venom.

By Finn

Coming Soon...

EOTC IS COMING... FOR OUR YEAR 4-8 TAMARIKI!

Starting towards the end of Term 3 and rolling into early Term 4, we're launching over 5 weeks of hands-on learning, challenge, and adventure for our senior students.

Expect a mix of:

- ★ Nature
- ★ Culture
- ★ Creativity
- ★ Teamwork
- ★ And a few surprises...

From wild places to creative spaces — some close to home, others a little further afield — this year's biennial EOTC Series has something exciting planned for every age group.

➡ MORE DETAILS COMING SOON — KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR INBOX AND SCHOOL BAGS!

What's coming up

Tuesday 12 August

Junior School Swimming

Wednesday 20 August

School Photos

Information coming home next week.

Wednesday 13 August

Board Election Voting Information sent home

See page 2 for more information

Tuesday 26 August

Junior School Swimming

Wednesday 27 August

Artsplash Rehearsal

Children in the choir. Information has already been sent home about this day.

Eastern Zone Netball Tournament

For keen senior students

Friday 15 August

School Assembly

Hosted by the class that learn with Grant

2:15pm in Broadway

Whānau are always welcome!

Artsplash Choir Concert

7:30-9pm

Tuesday 19 August

Junior School Swimming

MathsWell Competition

For selected senior students

Early 1pm finish for children due to a Teacher/Learning Staff Union Meeting

See page 2 of this newsletter for more information.

HAPPENING SOON!

School Photo Day

Wednesday 20 August 2025

Inspire
PHOTOGRAPHY

is the company that take our school photos. It is the same company as last year.



It's extremely important that all children arrive at school on time as the first class photos are being taken at 9am. Individual photos are taken after each class photo.

Photos with out-of-school siblings will be taken at 8:30am. No bookings are required but you need to make sure you are here and ready at 8:30am.

To view the pictures, Inspire offers an online ordering system. You will be advised of the password for the online gallery when the proofs are ready. Proofs will be available to view approximately two weeks after the date of school photos.

Information about pricing etc will be sent home closer to School Photo Day.

▶ News from the Community ✕ ▶ ●

A Special Opportunity for Local Tamariki: Join the Chorus in a Children's Opera!

Wellington Cathedral of St Paul is inviting local children to take part in Noye's Fludde, a children's opera by Benjamin Britten, being performed on 17 and 18 October.

The production tells the story of Noah and the Ark and will feature a chorus of animals made up of tamariki from across the region. No audition is required — just enthusiasm and a love of singing.

A wonderful opportunity to be part of a special event in an iconic venue.

For more information or to express interest, contact Michael Stewart at dom@wellingtoncathedral.org.nz

