

## Kia ora Te Kakano Whanau and welcome back for Term 2.



It's great to see how many of you kept up with the daily reading over the holidays - it makes such a difference - and we had almost EVERY child bring all those books back for day one of the term! We are all ready for another busy term with some really interesting learning experiences planned for the coming months.

Our Discovery Learning focus this term is *The Arts*, specifically Music and Visual Arts (painting, sculpture, etc). We are hoping to arrange either a trip somewhere to see some Arts in action, or for an artist to come and visit us and do some fun learning - more details to come!

We are also learning to be Firewise! this term. This is a programme that is written by the NZ Fire Service, which teachers deliver and then a firefighter will visit and talk to the children at the end. There will be lots of things that children are asked to talk about at home related to this Firewise! learning. Our Maori focus this term is Te Marae, where we will be learning about the functions and protocols related to Marae. We will be learning songs and some basic Te Reo Maori. There is a whole-school trip to one of our local Marae, Te Papa o Rotu, planned for later this term. We have a big Sports focus this term also, with our annual school Cross Country happening in Week 3, followed by inter-school Cross Country in Week 4 (for some children). We will be learning Ball skills this term, and will have a big focus on Fundamental Movement Skills (all those crucial skills for developing life-long PhysEd enjoyment).

Our Literacy and Maths programmes will continue the same as for Term 1. Library day is still Monday. For the Autumn/Winter (potentially rainy!) months at school we are asking that all the Te Kakano children bring along their own (named) colouring book to keep in the classroom, as a wet-lunchtime option. Some children have these already at school and it would be great to have one for every child.

Homework will continue from Term 1 - daily Reading is so important. Children will bring home a book every day, including weekends and they all have their coloured sight words to learn also (let us know if they don't currently have any of these at home or if they need to be tested ready for the next set).

We will be having a greater EnviroSchool focus this term and as part of this our class will be focussing first on our own classroom environment and then wider into the school environment (maybe some gardening to come). Part of this will be taking ownership for their own belongings and rubbish at school (tidy cloak-bay/food & lunchboxes/book bags/sweatshirts/shoes & socks etc). Te Kakano children are doing a great job, so far this term, of managing their belongings and keeping our classroom tidy. We really appreciate whanau support with this (and who doesn't want their kids to learn some 'tidy up' skills???)

Please always feel free to drop in anytime and see us about anything, or just ask your child to share what they've been up to.

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