

Thursday 20th of October 2016

Dear Parents and Caregivers,



Welcome to Term 4 in Te Pihinga. This term our discovery focus is "Planet Earth and Beyond" which we are also linking into our reading, writing and Math's. In writing the focus is on students creating pieces of informative/factual texts which present key facts about as planets, stars, moons etc. Students have and will be continuing to support their writing with research in finding information about those things they are writing about.



In reading students will continue to develop their reading fluency and decoding skills as well as learning to identify and explain author's purpose and to read for deeper meaning. Our overall Math focus will be developing a faster recall of basic facts while building on and learning new problem solving strategies in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, along with a focus in Geometry and Fractions. Within Discovery learning students will be completing self-selected projects on elements of space, as well as making models and art works to share their ideas. For Home Learning our expectation is that students will be taking their given or self-selected readers home each night to support their reading at home. Students are also encouraged to continue practicing their focused spelling words each week along with basic facts and or times tables. Any additional home learning is given every Monday.

It is going to be a very busy term with lots of trips planned. The first major trip for those involved in the school Kapa haka group was their trip to watch the inter-school Kapa haka celebrations on Friday. Our students were awesome, ending the day with a performance at school. Well done Whaea SJ for your outstanding organization. Towards the end of the year there will be a whole school gathering, to celebrate our student's year's achievements. The Kapa haka team will perform at the end of year celebration. Information regarding this will be sent out in the near future. We will also be having trips away for gymnastics and to visit a space museum in Te Awamutu. There will also be interschool tabloids and interschool ripper ruby events. Richard from Sports Energizer will also be coming to visit us, for a number of weeks, to demonstrate ideas and skills around 'Run, Jump and Throw' sports activities.

This term Whaea Gaylene will be coming to Te Pihinga every Friday. She is currently studying to be a teacher. We are very lucky to have her. As you can see it is going to be a full on and busy term, but one full of lots of fun activities and opportunities in learning. Thank you ahead of time for all your support. It is also greatly appreciated those parents who have and are giving up their time to help us in class with gluing things into children's books, testing and listening and supporting students with their reading. We look forward to catching up with you all as we go through this term and please remember any concerns, questions, queries, or if you would just like to come and see what happens in Te Pihinga, please drop us a line or just come and see us with a time you would like to come in.

Reminder: As per week one notice – we are expecting all students to have their own pencil case and stationery. Please ensure that all of their gear is named. Students need a pencil, pen, pink and green highlighters, ruler, glue stick, pencil sharpener and rubber. We are asking that children do not share due to the amount of stationery has been misplaced.

Thanks to the parents who came to student led conferences.

Again many thanks for all your support in helping us with your child's learning.

Matua Emile and Whaea SJ

