

NEWSLETTER

No. 07 Term 1, Week 8
Thursday 25th March 2021



Principal's Note

Dear Parents and Caregivers - Kia ora everyone,

I trust that you all had a lovely long weekend and enjoyed some pleasant weather. For some reason short weeks at school always seem so much busier. I think we subconsciously try to cram five days' worth of learning into four?

We do have another short week coming up for Easter. I hope that you all received a SchoolApp notification that explains our upcoming short week. If not, here is the explanation of the Easter Break:

The school will be closed for instruction on the following days:

Good Friday 2nd April

Easter Monday 5th April

Easter Tuesday 6th April

Wondering what Easter Tuesday is? Due to the Mondayisation laws, Easter Sunday cannot be Mondayised to Easter Monday, so therefore the Tuesday is the official observation day. Under the Education Act (Section 65c, subsection 1a) this means that schools are not allowed to open on that day. We understand that this might be a pain for some families who will continue to work on that day, we would rather continue through as well to be honest!

If you happen to be coming to Assembly tomorrow, you might notice something a little different. It is Earth Week and schools often mark this with an Earth Day event. We are going to have a 'Power free' assembly. There will be no microphones, PowerPoint or song tracks. We will be doing the whole lot while conserving power. We know that in the large scale of things, one power free assembly will not save the planet, but it does prompt us to think about how we use resources, alternative and energy conservation. We hope that you enjoy something a little different.

Ngā mihi nui,

Gareth Swete

Person of the Week



Congratulations to Pip, Ashley, Phoenix, Martha, Tommy and Hazel who were nominated for Person of the Week. The trophy for Week 7 went home with Hazel.

Important Dates

Easter holiday

Fri 1st – Tuesday 4th April

Includes Tuesday after Easter

Wed 7th Apr

Yr 5-6 Boating

Classroom Notes

Papatūānuku

This week in Papatūānuku, we have been delving deeper into our learning about bees! We've read books and looked at pictures about bees and have thought about ideas of what we can do to help the bee population. We watched a tutorial on how to draw a bee. The tamariki listened and watched and were so focused on their drawings. They look fabulous! They are on the window of our class for everyone to see.

Cooper the caterpillar in our class is growing faster and faster. We've been watching his growth with interest and today he turned into a J shape. We've been talking about the stages of the monarch caterpillar/butterfly's life, so you could ask your tamariki what the next stage is after the J!

We've been learning about capacity and volume in maths and the story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears is helping us in our discussions around size and which bowl/cup/chair/bed holds more or less. We even learned a song about it too.

We are so impressed with the children's progress in the pool! Everyone is giving it their best and trying hard. This week we've noticed a huge step up in what the kids can do which is so exciting to watch. Thank you so much to all of the parents who help us in the changing room!

Report by Mrs Campbell

Hine-Rau-Whārangī

Life in Hine-Rau-Whārangī is busy! If we're not off to the pool for swimming, we're kings and queens! Incredibly, all 17 children can fit inside our cardboard castle! Our castle is a quiet space in our class where we can read books and recharge our batteries.



Maths is another favourite time. So far this term we have learned about measurement and fractions, and we are now learning how to add and subtract by counting on or back from the larger number. We are working on our number knowledge to increase the range of numbers we can count forward to and back from. This helps us when we're adding and subtracting. Theo and Parker look so proud of their work in ordering the carriages of the Number Train in order!



We also enjoy time together creating, building, drawing and making. We show we are collaborators, communicators and self-managers during this time. Korben enjoys making fabulous creations with the Mobolio.



Report by Mrs Barr

Tāwhirimātea

This week is our final week of swimming and I am so proud of how much progress the children have made. In maths, Tāwhirimātea are really enjoying learning about measurement with Mrs Brewer. We have started to hammer some of our bottle tops onto our art work this week and are very eager to see it finished. We have worked out that we still need quite a few blue, white, silver, black, yellow and gold coloured tops, but we have plenty of green, red and orange ones. We have begun to notice some changes starting in our science experiments with different types of litter in salt and fresh water and are interested to see if our predictions were correct. We are also setting up another experiment this week to see what happens to litter when it is buried in soil - you may want to check out our experiments which are beside the windows in our class.

Report by Mrs Swete

Ranginui

This week in Ranginui we have had a focus on Maths and in particular measurement. The children have worked in buddies to compare, estimate and measure hands and feet, understanding the meaning of narrow, width and length. They have also created a class poem titled "Birdsong" and are now writing their own, using their five senses to describe each aspect.

Report by Ranginui

Hinemoana

Our swimming is finishing up this week and what great progress the children have made with their swimming skills! Swimming is also providing us with our writing opportunity this week where we are writing a descriptive piece of writing all about our time at the pool. We have had the extra challenge of including similes and metaphors in our writing as we are thinking hard about showing the reader and not telling. We have done all our planning and have begun our drafts, with our next steps being editing and then publishing. The children have put a lot of thought and effort into their writing, coming up with some beautiful and creative descriptions. We can't wait to see all our hard work pay off in our published work! Check out some of our descriptions below. Can you work out if any are similes or metaphors?

- *I see the thick air swirling around me. It reminds me of a streaming volcano. **By Asher***
- *I moved my arms over my head like the rising sun. **By Chaya***
- *The water is a giant jar of blueberry jelly rushing into my mouth. **By Isla***
- *The cold wet diving board tickled my feet. I sped through the water like a brown sea lion chasing its prey. **By Ida***

Report by Miss Laing

Tāne Mahuta

Round two this week of the swimming classes for the Tāne Mahuta kids! It has been awesome watching confidence develop day by day in the water. We are looking forward to our final flippa ball match to end our swimming sessions this week - the competition last week was pretty fierce!

We have also been busy choosing endangered animals to research for our inquiry unit and have been planning how we are going to make pamphlets about these animals. We are excited to get these completed over the next couple of weeks and hopefully share them in assembly. We welcome everyone to come and have a look at them when they are done!



Report by Miss Tenci

School & Community Notices

Highlanders vs Hurricanes Fri 26th March

Thank you to the Highlander crew who have kindly supplied a family pass for each home game to the school to distribute to a deserving family. If you are interested in a family pass and would like to be considered, please email Gareth. We do only have one pass per game and will try to distribute this as fairly as possible.



Sport News

Thurs 17th - Wed 24th March

Touch	vs	Score	POD
SBS Titans	NEVN Raiders	6-0 (W)	Harri
SBS Nuggets	Wakari Black	4-2 (W)	Bryn
Futsal	vs	Score	POD
SBS City	Mornington Kowhai	3-3 (D)	Martha
SBS Rangers	SPC Hawks	2-1 (W)	Eligh
SBS Hotspurs	Fairfield Bolts	2-10 (L)	Oliver
SBS Aston Villa	GB Hurricanes	3-7 (L)	Ruby T

Stories and Rhymes

For 0 - 2 year olds

and their whanau

Come and join

us at

Port Chalmers Library

11am Wednesdays



For more info call us on 472 7583