



## Happy Half Term

The term continues to speed on by with the business of cross-country, Samoan Language week and production preparations.

Thank you to the amazing parents who attended our parent information evening on Thursday last week. During the session we talked about the use of Google in our senior classrooms and the introduction of Casey Caterpillar and fine motor skills in the junior classrooms. Senior students have started to use Google accounts (email and drive) to complete work and communicate with their teachers. Casey Caterpillar is a handwriting programme that teaches children to form their letters using shapes for the story of Casey Caterpillar. This is also accompanied by a gross and fine motor skills programme that is designed to build strength and coordination that helps with writing and processing.

## Important Dates

**May 29- June 2:** Samoan Language Week

**June 1:** Inner City Cross Country

**June 2:** New Caledonia Bake Sale

**June 5:** Queens Birthday (long weekend)

**June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>:** At the Mercury Theatre will be our School Production "Safari". Start time is 6:30pm. Tickets now available.

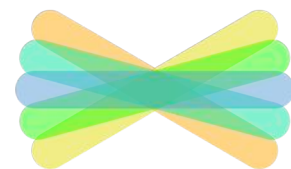
## Seesaw

This year we're going to use a new tool to share what we're learning in class called Seesaw. Your child will have his or her own learning journal, and you can get notified when your child adds new items. It's completely private. Only you can see your child's journal outside of class.

Your child's learning group teacher will be able to provide you with more information about signing up to your child's journal.

Once you sign up, you can download the Seesaw Parent app for iPhone or Android, or access your child's journal on the web.

If you have more than one child using Seesaw, or want to add a new class/school year for your child, follow the link in this email, then click 'Sign in' tab at the top. You do not need to create a new account.



*Seesaw*



# The Hub

This term we are fortunate to have Mandarin lessons. These happen each Thursday and Friday with Lanlan, our specialist teacher. We have enjoyed learning to introduce ourselves and the members of our family, how to count and a number of songs to assist us with this vocabulary.

We have also been taking part in Māori games each week. Comments from our student include, "That was fun! They are really fair." Everyone has the chance to participate and to succeed.

Surely you have heard by now that a group of Hub students won the regional Sumdog Challenge! Each student had to complete 1,000 problems over the course of a week. The average score of the students was taken into account for the competition. They will now be in the National challenge coming up next week.

We were well represented by Sandra Mao and Joel Robinson-Gomas at the recent National Young Leaders Day held at Manukau. They heard from many inspirational speakers throughout the day and were very excited on their return to school.

We had some outstanding athletes at our senior Cross Country event which was held recently at Grey Lynn Park. The weather was ideal and we enjoyed a great morning. Thanks to the many parents who came to support and assist us.

Two of our students, Ari Bailey and Arabella Green, belong to our new Student Council. They meet each week with representatives from our other ropu Emma and David to discuss matters of interest to the students across our school. There will be a chance for other students to take this role in terms 3 and 4. There are many opportunities for our senior students to step up to leadership roles. For instance, shortly our school Librarian, Jo, will be training some more librarians to assist other classes.

Last week several of our students participated in Pink Shirt Day to make a stand against bullying. Even the teachers took part - finding the closest thing to a 'pink shirt' in the wardrobe!

As you can tell we are certainly varying our learning opportunities this term!



Te Kura o Ritimana

**Richmond Road School**

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Office Hours 8.30am-3.30pm

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# The Village

We've been busy down in the village preparing for the production, using Seesaw, participating in Whanake Movement Skills and enjoying Samoan language week.



We showcased the Whanake Movement Skills programme during the parent meeting last week. Parents heard about how we use this in the classroom and even got to experience the handwriting component. Thanks to everyone who came along.



The children in The Village have enjoyed sharing their work with friend and family using the Seesaw app. They scan a QR code in class, record their work and select their name. The teacher then approves it before it is sent out to parents.



We've also been building up our typing skills on the Chromebooks using Typing Club. We have learned that it is important to have our fingers in the right place while we type and not to look at the keyboard.



During Samoan language week this week we have been learning about the Samoan language and culture through the Daily News videos, Jump Jam, singing and participating in Samoan activities.



The children from the nest have been enjoying learning new maths games this week.



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## Community Matariki Celebration Monday 3rd July 7:00 to 8:30am

Coming up on Monday July 3rd is our annual Matariki Celebration. This year we will be gathering on the bottom courts from 7:00am in time for sunrise at 7:30. We will start with a Karakia and waiata. Then we will look for the Matariki star cluster. Kai will be shared in the hall from 7:45. This will be provided and you are also welcome to contribute.

As this is a community event all are welcome. Mai katoa.

Matariki, as well as welcoming the New Year, has been a time to acknowledge Tupuna, the ancestors who have gone before us. Some Māori did this by flying kites as it was a way of connecting with the spiritual world. Some kites were enormous and very beautiful like the one shown below.



During the rest of the day until lunchtime, tamariki across all of our rōpu will be involved in learning activities that have a Matariki focus. These learning activities will include making Matariki kites, korowai (Māori cloaks) and Matariki stories. You are welcome to join the classes during the day. This may be for 20 minutes or 2 hours. We are flexible.

Follow this link to learn more about Matariki.

<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/classroom/matariki-maori-new-year>

The link below is an invitation to this event. Please indicate your intention to participate and numbers attending. Mai katoa (all welcome).

<https://goo.gl/ytT566>



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