



Kiwi Connection

Growing Together As One

NEWSLETTER

Kia ora Talofa lava Bonjour

Welcome to Week 9 Term 1

First term is nearly over and it was great to see many parents last week at our student led conference to hear what their children have learnt so far. Students were eager to share what they enjoyed the most in their learning and also discussed steps on how to achieve their next learning goals. Giving our students the opportunity to own their learning journey would make them accountable to the effort they put towards achieving those goals. Please do not hesitate to email your child's teacher for a time to meet if you didn't make it.

HUB NEWS



Miss Seba's literacy group enjoyed working on the School Kit Get NZ Writing Project. They learnt about 'found' poems, the alphabet in braille and thought about words that sounded unique and exciting. They can't wait to receive their package from their

buddy class in Wellington.



Miss Seba's Maths group had an exciting first session using our new Bee Bots. They first discovered what each of the Bee Bots could do, trying out each of the buttons, working out what they did,

and then learnt to write algorithms to work the Bee Bots to achieve different tasks. This is an example of integrating technology into our curriculum at school.

TEACHER ONLY DAY



It was a privilege to listen, learn and to be inspired by Dylan Williams (above) at Waipuna Lodge. Dylan is a British educationalist and Emeritus Professor of Educational Assessment at the UCL Institute of Education.



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HUB WRITING FOCUS: RECOUNT

Sunny Wanaka

We visited our family in Wanaka. We haven't seen them in a long time. It takes a long time to get there, but it is definitely worth going. To get there, we had to get over a giant hill. We saw rabbits frolicking in the fields and I saw a shadow of a reindeer standing tall on a hill. So many magnificent things to spy. Finally, we saw our family's farm in the distance. We were getting closer. I started to remember what it looked like. I was very excited.

On arrival, we headed straight for our cousin's house. We were very happy to see them. I ran into their house with my sisters right behind me and Tess the fluffy dog came running out too. They are very lucky because they had three dogs. Two of them are working dogs, but still very lucky.

The first thing we did was seeing the chickens. They were all sitting in their chicken coops being lazy. So we carried them around to stop them from lying around. We carried them to the little gate and put them in it. All 31 chickens went in, one at a time. Then our parents saw us doing it and they made us put them all back in their coops. We carried them carefully back to their coops.

The next thing we did was feed the cows. Everybody were scared of them but not me. I went very close and almost fed them out of my hand. We fed them hay and they loved it.

Then we went to the top of a mountain to look at the view. It was lovely.

By *Beatrix*

Forest Party

I woke up and got ready to go to the campsite. My Mum and Dad wanted to go to Parakari for my birthday. I thought it was a good idea to have a birthday-party at Parakari because it's

different from going to Up-town, Bounce or the pools. I got sick of doing the same thing. Those places are more expensive anyway.

We picked up my friends Anais and Tessa, collected our bags and off we went.

We were amazed how beautiful the site was. The beach was nice as tropical beaches. The bush was like a city of insects.

When we settled into our little colourful cabin, we got straight into our togs and set off through the jungle. Across the soft sand I could see hove prints. Horses! And over a hill that leads you into a big GINORMOUS HOLE! and it's open enough to play in, and sunbath.

When I saw the sea as blue as can be and big waves crashing against each other, we could not resist it! In we went and dived into the incoming waves. We swam through the beauty where sea-life lives below. Little crabs scuttle across the beach collecting shells.

When we got out of the water we made small mini pools around us pretending they were spas. Before I started digging, I spotted a blue bottle jellyfish in the corner of my eye. I got a long stick and used the end to touch it with. I could see all the jelly spilling out of the body. I thought it was pretty cool.

As we slowly walked and admired the bush we could see the cabins getting closer and closer... where the journey ends.

By *Theadora*

Waitangi Day

My whole family went to the Pavillion for breakfast on Waitangi Day. My Dad took us there because he built part of it.

The traffic was really bad. My Dad decided to turn around in a parking lot. It was a lot faster to go the other way. While we were driving I



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thought about where else we should go instead. I told them that we should go to Almano which is a place by the waterfront. I love Almano because it is such a beautiful place and the breakfast is amazing. In every corner of the place, there were dried flowers and

coral pieces. Almano is not just a restaurant. There is a bakery upstairs where the bathroom and the kitchen are. There were chefs walking in and out all the time.

I decided to get a cinnamon bun to eat. My brother got a Granola which is oats rolled up with fruit and dried grand-berry. My Mum and Dad got a tomato dish with toast. After breakfast we went home to get ready for the beach. It was a lovely beach. It has a pontoon quite a way out from the beach. My friend June came as well. We jumped after jump and when we got so tired we hopped back on our boogie board and swam back to dry land.

By Mia

Boring Weekend

On Saturday I woke up at 5ish and sneaked to my parent's bedroom. I looked around for my ipad but it wasn't in there.

I tiptoed up the stairs. As soon as I stepped forward my kitten meow behind me. He scared the living daylight out of me.

Next I turned on the TV and the play station. I chose my account and selected SWB2. But it didn't work. The disc was missing. Instead my Dad's game was in there so I changed it. While I was in there my cat was scampering around. I tried once more. As you can imagine it worked. It went on to the main screen of SWB2. I played a quick match of Heroes vs Villains. My team was useless so I got wrecked. Gosh!

After about five hours my Dad came up and I came off. I had breakfast which was weetbix of course. Then my sister woke up. As soon as I

heard her squeaky door open I smacked myself. She marched up the stairs.

"Hi", she said. I ignored her. Maddie and I got our ipads and played Minecraft. I made a small tower and Maddie made a Mickey Mouse towel with poop behind it. She blew my tower up for no reason so she got into trouble. Big big huge COLOSSAL TROUBLE!

By Toby

Lighthouse

Our car was playing up so we had to wait while Dad tried to find out what was wrong with it. Mum and Dad wanted to take us to see a lighthouse up north. We haven't been there before and I was excited about the whole idea.

On our way there, my brother fell asleep and Mum took photos of the beautiful view. I gazed at all the farms and tried to remember the different places that we passed.

When we got to the lighthouse, we saw so many people walking up and down taking photos of the amazing view. We climbed up the steps. It was pretty long. I was very mad because I had to do this but we made it. It took one hour to walk all the way up. The lighthouse is old and rusty and very smelly. We saw some stairs and followed it. I saw a bright light shining through the little door. I opened it and fresh air came whooshing out. I saw big trees and the river down below looked peaceful. More people were taking photos in there.

It started to rain so we headed back to the car.

By Gizza



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DATES TO DIARY

Friday 30 March - Good Friday

Monday 2 April - Easter Monday

Tuesday 3 April - Easter Break

Monday 9 April

Could you help with the school pool?

On Monday 9th April, last week of term, we need parents to help set up the school pool ready for term 2. Emma, Jonathan and David would really appreciate your help at 9am to set up the pool. Email emma@richmondroad.school.nz to let us know if you can help.

Wednesday 11 April - School Swimming Sports
Y4-6, West Wave Pools, Henderson

Friday 13 April - Last Day of Term 1

Monday 30 April - Term 2 Starts

Tuesday 15th May - **Body Worlds Exhibition** 9:15 to 1:00 Years 4 to 6 students only - across rōpu

Tuesday 29th May - **Treasure Hunt of Learning - Whānau Open Morning** 9:00am to 11:30am (Kiwi Connection, Mua I Malae and L'Archipel)

Body Worlds Exhibition - Years 4 to 6 **Tuesday 15th May**

On Tuesday 15th May our Years 4 to 6 students will be participating in The Body Worlds Exhibition at the Hilton Exhibition Centre located at Princess Wharf. This opportunity is the first exhibition of its kind to educate students about anatomy, physiology and health.

It will also act to reinforce our learning about The Brain during the term as well as complimenting our science related inquiry in term 2.

We will be leaving school at 9:15 and returning at 12:30 on this day. We will be travelling by bus. Rōpu newsletters will contain more information on parent helpers required to help support our learning on this day.

It would be great if you could refrain from taking your child to the exhibition during the holiday break so they can join their classmates and kaiako for the experience.

The cost for the visit is \$15 per student. If you have paid your activity fee this amount will be taken from this. For parents who have not paid the activity fee you are welcome to pay this on our online shop : <https://goo.gl/uTnmLs> or at the school office as soon as you are able.

More information about the exhibition can be found at the link below: <https://goo.gl/vMCvfQ>

VILLAGE NEWS

Thank you to our families that attended our recent Parent Conferences. We had a great turn out and we are so proud of the way your children could share their learning with you. They were able to tell you what they are good at and what their next learning steps are.

We appreciate your support at home as we all work towards our learning goals. Listening to your children read and reading to them remain the most important ways in which you can help your children to learn. Also finding opportunities to count and learn maths concepts are all around us – as we cook the dinner, set the table, fold the washing and when we are out and about walking or driving.

It was fortunate, too, that we could finally have our Family Picnic (third time lucky). There was a great turn out and the weather was kind to us as we enjoyed eating and playing on the field.

We are excited about the commencement of **Wā Tūhura - Discovery Time** in The Village. Tūhura



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means to discover, bring to light, unearth, open up, explore. This concept also has Direct links to Te Whāriki our New Zealand Early Childhood Curriculum. Specifically around the Principles of:

- **Mana Whenua** – children learn a sense of belonging
- **Mana Aotūroa** – the child learns through active exploration of the environment

This term children will be participating during the middle block on Wednesdays. Our first session was today. We are trialing some new student directed learning activities.

Watch for photos in our upcoming newsletters. There will be an emphasis on the key competencies of managing self and relating to others.

Feel free to talk to us about how you might be able to assist next term during Discovery Time. Perhaps you have some resources or expertise you could share with us?

At present we are in search of the following resources:

- Dress ups in good condition
- Fabric which is easy to cut by children
- Wool



Budding gardeners from the Village have been planting and nurturing seeds for our vegetable garden. We are looking forward to planting these out and eventually harvesting them.

You can see us preparing labels for the seeds we have planted.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter break. We hope you get time to relax and enjoy time with your whānau.

Ngā mihi

Petrea, Salu, Tessa, Sacha, Kate, Seba and Mareta



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