

## HONGOEKA SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER - TERM 3, 2020

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome back to Term 3. We hope you and your family had a great holiday break, and are looking forward to Term 3! Below is an outline of what we will be focusing on this term.



### **“We are Writers”**

This term, the children will be writing stories and using a technology design process to create digital story books. The tamariki will be working closely with Kōwhai students to investigate their interests in books and will be writing short stories for the younger children. They will then be learning different digital technology design skills to create in pairs e-books, which will be based on a written story.

**Our Writing, Reading, and Maths will be integrated within our ‘We are Writers’ unit.**

**The focus of the key learning in these areas will be:**

- ❖ **Writing:** Narrative writing - Writing short stories for younger children. There will be a focus on different sentence types; including short, simple, compound and complex.
- ❖ **Reading:** Reading a range of different stories. Students will be focusing on using strategies to work out unfamiliar words and exploring characters and settings.
- ❖ **Maths:** Statistics - Students will be learning to interpret a range of different charts. They will also be posing a statistical question to their Kowhai Buddy class which they will use as part of their research on favourite stories. Later on this term, we will be looking at fractions and how to find fractions of whole numbers.
- ❖ **Technology** - Understand and use a design process to create a product for an identified need. Students will research their stakeholders interests, plan their ideas, create their product and improve it. This will also focus on digital design skills.

If you would like any further information about the learning this term or feel that you might be able to offer assistance in these areas, please let your child's classroom teacher know.

### **Sexuality Education**

By now you should have received an email informing you that this will be taking place as part of our learning programme. The following topics will be covered:

- Establishing a Positive Learning Environment.
- Who am I? Or Ko wai au?
- Relationships
- Growing and Changing
- Staying Safe

You are welcome to contact your child's class teacher to discuss the programme. Further information about sexuality education and the New Zealand Curriculum can be found at the following links:

[Sexuality Education](#) and [Navigating the Journey: Sexuality Education](#)

### **Multiplication and Division Facts:**

We are continuing to focus on developing your child's knowledge of multiplication and division facts. Students need a good knowledge of their multiplication tables in order to access other mathematical areas and feel confident when solving problems. We will be focusing on strategies and activities that can help students to feel confident with their multiplication tables.

We would ask that you also support your child at home and spend some time with them learning their multiplication and division facts. Below is a useful website which you could use to support them with their learning.

**Suggested Multiplication and Division Fact websites:**

[www.timestables.co.nz](http://www.timestables.co.nz)

There are also plenty of YouTube videos that have songs to help them learn their multiplication and division facts, for example, [Mr DeMaio raps the times tables](#).

**Kapiti Island:**

We are in the process of organising a trip to Kapiti Island. This will take place in Week 8 of this term, (Wednesday 9th September or Thursday 10th September).

This is a popular trip and we may need to hold a ballot for this for parent helpers. You will receive further information separately about this exciting day.

**Stationery:**

It is important for students to have the correct tools for learning, and we have noticed that some students do not have what they need. Please check with your child that they have a blue or black pen, a red pen, a ruler and a pencil. These items need to be named as we often find them lying around and it helps get them back to the right person.

**Devices:**

A reminder that if your child brings their own chromebook to school that it should be fully charged before coming to school.

**Toys at school:**

Last term we noticed that some children were bringing toys to school. We ask that students do not bring toys to school as it can cause problems with other students. If your child has a puzzle or game which they would like to play, this is fine but it is to be used during break times only and at their own risk.

**Cell Phone Use:**

If your child has a cellphone that they need to bring to school it should stay in their bag. Cellphones are not to be used during class time.

**Communicating with Parents:**

We want you to be kept well informed about what is happening in your child's class and the syndicate. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher at any stage if you have questions. Our emails are below:

**Hongoeka Teachers**

Room 19 - Whaea Rebecca	<a href="mailto:rebeccac@plimmerton.school.nz">rebeccac@plimmerton.school.nz</a>
Room 20 - Miss Cooney	<a href="mailto:larissac@plimmerton.school.nz">larissac@plimmerton.school.nz</a>
Room 21 - Whaea Dianne	<a href="mailto:diannek@plimmerton.school.nz">diannek@plimmerton.school.nz</a>
Room 22 - Ms B	<a href="mailto:melissab@plimmerton.school.nz">melissab@plimmerton.school.nz</a>
Room 23 - Mr Deluxe	<a href="mailto:steved@plimmerton.school.nz">steved@plimmerton.school.nz</a>

Once again, if you have any issues or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Hongoeka Teachers