

HONGOEKA SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER - TERM 3, 2022

Kia ora e te whānau,



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

Staffing Term 3

At the end of Week 6, Rebecca Courtney (Room 19) will be going on Maternity Leave. We welcome Adie Dott to our syndicate who will take over Room 19 for the rest of the year. Adie has been spending every Tuesday in Hongoeka syndicate, and she knows our team and school very well.



“We are Writers”

This term, the children will be writing stories and using a technology design process to create digital story books. The children will be working with the 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 e-books in pairs, 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.
- ❖ **Reading:** Reading a range of different narrative 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 Kōwhai buddy class which they will use as part of their research on favourite stories. Later on this term, we will be building our knowledge and strategies in fractions. Finally at the end of the term, we will be looking at Algebra expressions.
- ❖ **Technology** - Design - 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 (continued)

Last term, we commenced our ‘Road to Sexuality’ education, covering the themes of ‘Setting the Scene’, and ‘Ko Wai Au’. We will continue following this unit over the course of the term. The themes we will be covering are;

- 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](#)

Structured Literacy:

Last term, Hongoeka and Taupō syndicate embarked on a journey in Structured Literacy. Structured Literacy is an evidence-based approach to teaching decoding (reading) and encoding (spelling). The children will be completing 4 structured literacy lessons with their teacher each week.

Your child will be bringing home some word lists to learn for home learning. The words on these lists will be aligned with the concepts they are covering in the classroom. Your child will have these assigned to them either on seesaw, or inside their spelling notebook.

Multiplication and Division Facts:

Last term, we had a strong focus on Multiplication and Division facts with our students in Hongoeka Syndicate. This term, we will continue to maintain this throughout our lessons. Students need a good knowledge of their multiplication tables in order to access other mathematical areas and feel confident when solving problems. We would ask that you also continue to 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

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](#).

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 with the volume muted. 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 (Team Leader) and Adie Dott

rebeccac@plimmerton.school.nz
adrienned@plimmerton.school.nz

Room 21 - Whaea Dianne

diannek@plimmerton.school.nz

Room 22 - Kirstin and Emma

kirstint@plimmerton.school.nz
emmac@plimmerton.school.nz

Room 23 - Mr Deluxe

steved@plimmerton.school.nz

Jo Verran - Deputy Principal

jov@plimmerton.school.nz

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

Regards,

Hongoeka Teachers