



KOWHAI NEWSLETTER TERM 2, 2019

Kia Ora

Welcome back to school for an exciting Term Two.

We had a fabulous term of learning about being an environmentalist in Term One.

This term our school-wide topic is 'I am an Astronomer'. The 'big idea' for this topic is that students will investigate and understand relationships between the Earth, Moon, Sun, solar system, and other systems in the universe. Students will share ideas about the Sun and the Moon and their physical effects on the heat and light available to Earth. There will also be further learning opportunities as we visit the Auckland Stardome Observatory in week 2.

The school values we will be focusing on are *enjoyment* and *optimism*. As part of our homework we ask students to discuss a topical question with their families each week. Students are encouraged to share some of these ideas for oral language back at school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TOPIC QUESTIONS

Week 1/Wiki Tahi: What do you know about space?

Week 2/Wiki Rua: What causes day and night on Earth? What causes seasons on Earth to change?

Week 3/Wiki Toru: How are planets, stars, and the moon different from each other?

Week 4/Wiki Wha: What are the special qualities an astronaut needs to have?

Week 5/Wiki Rima: Who owns space? Do you think countries or individuals should be able to own celestial objects? Why / why not?

Week 6/Wiki Ono: What sort of questions do you think astronomers ask themselves? If you could ask an astronomer a question about space what would it be?

Week 7/Wiki Whitu: Name one astronomer you have learnt about this term? How have they impacted our world?

Week 8/Wiki Waru: How much do you think it would cost to build a space suit or a rocket? Do you think it is worth the money?

Week 9/Wiki Iwa: What do you think it would be like to live in space? What would be some of the challenges you might face?

Week 10/Wiki Tekau: How does learning about space affect how we make decisions in our daily lives?

Week 3 is also **Science & Technology Week** Week 10 is **Science Fair**.

EXPECTATIONS FOR HOME LEARNING

Spelling: Learn a new set of words weekly

Maths: Basic facts and times tables, matific set tasks

Reading: 20 mins minimum reading daily

Topic: Weekly topic questions for discussions

MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Week 3: Friday, 17 May (Rooms 18 & 19)

Week 8: Friday, 21 June (Rooms 16 & 17)

PERFORMANCE ASSEMBLIES

Week 6: Friday, 7 June

Week 10: Friday, 5 July

LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES

Monday: Years 4-6 Touch Rugby, Years 4-6 Eco Warriors

Tuesday: Years 1-4 Chess Club

Wednesday: Years 3-6 Book Club

Thursday: Years 4-6 Gymnastics

Friday: Years 1-6 Science Club, Years 4-6 Auckland Football Coaching

All students in Year 4 participate in Middle School sport on Thursday afternoons.

LIBRARY

Year 4 library visits are scheduled for Wednesdays. During their allocated library time they will enjoy sharing and discussing stories, perusing their favourite authors, discovering different genres, finding information, and developing their library skills. Each student is able to borrow two books from our library collection and exchange these weekly. As you can see the library is all ready for the astronomer topic.



IMPORTANT MESSAGES

On occasion, you may need to drop your child at school before 8.30am. There is a before school care service provided by Parnell Trust where children are supervised and have quiet activities to do. If your child is not attending before school care we ask that they sit on the hall steps until the bell rings at 8.30am. We also request that any parent waiting with their child to remain in this area, for health and safety reasons.

Kowhai team request that parents & caregivers do not supply sweets to celebrate children's birthdays.

Ngā mihi nui

Justine Singh (Team Leader), Carolyn Davison, Lei Shi, Rowan Hopkins