

Whānau Kiwi Newsletter



Term 1 2024 · www.tps.school.nz · (09) 489 6339

The Team



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If you have any questions,
please email us.

Kia ora and welcome to Term 1 2024!

We hope you had a lovely holiday. A special welcome to our new learners and families, it was lovely to meet some of you at our recent Mihi Whakatau and we hope you enjoy your time at Takapuna Primary. A special welcome to Baljinder Kaur who joins the Kiwi teaching team this year. You can read all about Baljinder in our last newsletter.

This year you may have noticed that our class groupings look a little different. We currently have two composite classes (6A and 6B) as well as some single year level classes. A composite class is when we take learners from two consecutive year groups and place them in a class together. Composite classes can help a school to manage class sizes and also provide the students opportunities to mix and work with a wider variety of learners. All children receive the same education regardless of whether they are in a composite class or a straight year class. At Takapuna we have composite classes operating across the school. Our Kiwi teachers meet weekly to plan the teaching and learning that will take place across all our our Kiwi classrooms. All Kiwi learners receive very similar learning experiences that are tailored to fit each class. In addition, teachers in New Zealand are trained to teach to a variety of abilities across the curriculum and do not specialise in one year level. This approach enables us to cater for all the learners in our care with our focus on providing quality teaching and learning experiences for all our tamariki.

Key Curriculum Areas

This term we will initially focus on settling our learners into their new classes, getting to know their teachers, peers and school routines. Our **Inquiry** this term comes from the Social Studies and New Zealand Histories curriculum and will focus on getting to know ourselves, the other members of our community and learning about some of the history of our school. **Maths** will focus on building basic skills and learning how to conduct a statistical investigation. During **Literacy** time we will work on building a strong knowledge of letter sounds and patterns, which we can use when we read and write. We will use picture books to grow our vocabulary and our understanding of the stories we read.

This term we will be learning **Water Skills** in our school pool. At Takapuna we follow the Water Skills for Life programme. You can read more about this programme [here](#). Water Skills for Life focuses on how to be safe in and around water. We look forward to sharing more about the programme at our Water Skills for Life Display which will take place at the end of the term. Your child's teacher will have shared their swimming days with you. Water Skills are a compulsory part of the New Zealand Curriculum. As a school we think it is very important that children and adults learn how to be safe in and around water. We are also aware that for some of our learners being in the water is a very new experience. If you or your child are unsure about any of this, please come and chat as we would love to work with you on this so that time at the pool is a positive experience for all.

What's Happening This Term

Week 8 (25th - 28th March) we celebrate Culture Week. This will include teaching each other about our own culture and learning about other cultures. The week includes a parade when all the learners dress up in clothes that represent their culture. Families are welcome to attend.

Week 9 Thursday 4th April Water Skills for Life Display. Time to be confirmed.

The Easter Break begins on **Friday 29th March** and children return to school on **Wednesday 3rd April**.

Our Parent Interviews will take place in **Week 10**. These are 15 minute interviews between your whānau and your child's teacher. More information will be shared in our school newsletter.

Home Learning

We would suggest keeping any home learning light and short (around 15 minutes). The priority would be reading their reading book from school or discussing the letter sounds they have been learning about this week. Reading a picture book together and talking about what happened in the story is also a great way to support the learning they are doing at school. Helping your child identifying numbers and counting groups of objects, such as toys in front of them can also be helpful.

This is a sample of what a Kiwi class' timetable might look like.

Term 1 Timetable- 2024

	Monday - Rāhina	Tuesday- Rātū	Wednesday - Rāpa	Thursday- Rāpare	Friday - Rāmere
9.00 - 9.10	Karakia, Rārangī ingoa				
9.10 - 9.30	Writing	Writing	Writing	Writing	Assembly (Even Weeks) Writing
9.30 - 10.00					
9.50 - 10.00	Top Up - Kai timotimo (snack)				
10.00 - 10.30	Music 5b Maths	Maths	Music 5c Maths	Music 5a Maths	Strand Maths
10.30 - 11.00					
11.00 - 11.30	Morning Tea - Kai iti				
11.30 - 12.00	Reading	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Library 5a Swimming 5b
12.00 - 12.30		Reading	Reading	Reading	Poem + Spelling test
12.30 - 1.00	Swimming 5c		Swimming 5c		Swimming 5a
1.00 - 1.50	Lunch - Wā tina				
1.50 - 2.00	Rārangī ingoa / Kia tau				
2.00 - 2.20	Swimming 5b	Inquiry/ Art	Inquiry/ Maths	Inquiry/ Maths	Library 5b
2.20 - 2.50	Swimming 5a				Library 5c
2.50 - 3.00	Tidy up - Wā whakapai and Karakia Te reo - 🇳🇵 Kiwi Waitata 2024 Home time - Wā kainga				

Kiwi Team Overview Term 1

	Managing Self	Relating to Others	Thinking	Participating & Contributing	Using Language, Symbols & Texts						
Whānau Kiwi Term 1 Overview											
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	
Maths Strand	Statistics - Use the enquiry cycle to conduct investigations										
Maths Number	Add/Sub			Mult/Div			Fractions				
Inquiry Plan	Belonging to our Place Y0-2 An inquiry into how we fit into our community and how we work together to create a happy and inclusive environment. We also look at significant places in our community.										
Mitey	Being Brave Through the story Tu Meke Tōi ākonga are introduced to Tere the Tōi and Tātū the Takahē. Ākonga unpack the idea of what it means to be brave and how thoughts can lead to feelings and actions.			Uniquely Me Ākonga are introduced to ideas about their feelings and the things that make them the same and different to others. Ākonga create self-portraits to illustrate this and these are used throughout the unit to provoke discussion.							
Reading	HFW recognition, letter recognition, phonics skills, and comprehension strategies that include: predicting, visualising, making connections, summarizing.										
Writing	Linking our inquiry studies as a focus topic, we are developing foundation skills in writing which includes formulating an idea, recognising and recording some commonly used words, using our knowledge of letters and sounds to write words and using basic punctuation to support the meaning of our writing.										
PE	Swimming/Playing group games										
Art	Self Portrait	Weaving				Draw/Paint a Waka			STEAM - design and make a waka.		
Te Ao Maori	Pepeha			Colours			Numbers 1 - 10				
Team meetings	👑	PLG	PLG	👑	👑	PLG	👑	PLG	👑		
School - wide events	Te Hui Whakapiri (2nd Feb) Tuesday - Waitangi Day Mihi Whakatau		Digital Safety Week			Dental Van Onsite			Culture Week Swimming Carnival Easter Friday	Easter Monday Easter Tuesday	Parent/teacher interviews

Key Dates

Please check the school calendar regularly. Click [here](#).

- Easter Break Friday 29th March - 2nd April
- Water Skills for Life Demonstration
- Week 10 Parent/Teacher Interviews days tbc

Reminders

For any last minute changes to After School Care or pick ups please contact the office as teachers often do not get the opportunity to check their email during the day.

Please check HERO regularly for school communications and important notices.

School Hours/Absences

School hours are 9am - 3pm

- Learners can be at school from 8:30am.
- If your child is absent please contact the office.
- For appointments during school hours please sign your child out at the office before collecting them.
- Please let your child's teacher know if they attend After School Care.