



Senior School Team News

Term 2, 2023

Newsletter #2

Thursday 27th April, 2023

Dear Parents/ Caregivers

Welcome back! It's lovely to arrive back to our beautiful newly refurbished classrooms! The Term 2 programmes for Y7/8 are also included as a separate attachment.

Science Fair: A major focus this term is the Senior School Science Fair. In preparation for this, our English programme will concentrate on reading and writing instructions, reports, recounts and explanations. In maths, we'll look at analysing and displaying data, while continuing to build important number knowledge. In integrated studies, we will learn how to conduct science investigations and to research background information, and our focus in visual language/art will be on the skills needed to present investigations effectively on display-boards (including taking effective photos to record and demonstrate processes, using appropriate diagrams and graphs, and publishing in eye-catching ways).

The finished project will be due Monday in the last week of Term 2 (Week 10 - July 26th).

While the bulk of the work for the Science Fair is done at school, students will also need to spend time planning, testing and preparing presentations at home. They will be provided with clear guidelines about what is required, including a timeline to keep them on track (this can be downloaded from the website). We ask parents to support their children by discussing their ideas with them, asking questions, and monitoring how they are going - but do remember that it is their work that we will be assessing, and therefore, their responsibility. ***All students will be provided with a access to a Science Fair booklet and Slideshow that walks them through the process and gives examples of each step.***

Something you can begin at home is to help your child to find a topic, if they haven't found one already. Something that they can test and will be engaged in. Here is a website to help with process. [Science Buddies](#). Your child will have at least 6 weeks to complete their investigation. They can pick from any of the areas of science that they want.

We will be providing one science board to each child, so you do not need to buy one yourself.

The top 20 projects will be entered into the NIWA Regional Science Fair Competition later in the year.

Homelearning

Reminder: The home learning remains 1 hour a week. This begins week 2.

In addition to this reading: at least 20mins 4 nights a week.

Steeple Rock Challenge Just a reminder; the expectation is for all Y7/8 students to complete 5 challenges by the end of the year, with a minimum expectation of 1 per term. Challenges will be shared during the last week of each term.

Cross-country/Fitness: Training has begun for the school cross-country! The school competition is planned for Wednesday May 4th (Next week). Children will be practicing over the next week, so please ensure your child has appropriate footwear.

KiVa: The KiVa program continues this term, with focuses on respect, fostering positive relationships and understanding and valuing different points of view

Secondary School visits: Just a little heads up for Y8 parents that secondary schools often have their open days during this term, so check out the websites of schools that you are interested in and take your child along. Rongotai College is the only school that offers to transport students to and from their “Rongotai Experience”. Check their website for more details.

Y7 and Y8 Camps at the end of the year: Parent helper - Expression of interest

I know it's a long way off. You may need to apply for leave in order to attend the end of year camps, so we want to organise things shortly.

If you are interested to attend the Y7 camp at Makahika (Nov 27-29th) or the Y8 camp to Mistletoe Bay (Dec 4th-8th) please fill in this [Google Form](#). Before Friday May 26th.

Important information:

The cost of the Mistletoe Bay Camp is: Approximately \$400pp. (parents attending are also charged this)

We do not yet have a cost for Makahika / Year 7 EOTC but expect it to be appx \$350pp

Note: As we usually have a large number of parents applying to attend our Y8 camp, we may not be able to accommodate everyone.

Ngā mihi,

Sam, Rachael, Lucille and Alison