

Thursday 12 October 2023

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back to Term 4. We hope you all had a restful break. We have been preparing for a busy term and have a very full and exciting programme planned. Children will be reflecting on goals they set for themselves earlier in the year, and celebrating the great learning that has been happening.

Key details about programmes can be found in our Long Term Plan. Here is an overview of some of our programmes for the term.

Term 4 Curriculum Focus

The focus for our inquiry learning this term is “Energy: Windpower”. In this Science/Technology/Social Science unit, we will be exploring what energy is and how wind creates energy, as well as considering whether wind power is a good option for NZ now and in the future. As part of the unit, we will also be creating our own “technologies” which are powered by wind- such as sails, kites, parachutes, and pinwheels.

In literacy we will be exploring non-fiction writing- this will include factual recounts, instructions, explanations and reports and will tie in with our inquiry learning. In maths, we focus on the number strands of multiplication/division and proportional thinking (fractions and ratios). Later in the term, we will be looking at the geometry strand of location and direction.

We welcome Lynda Western to our team this term- she will be running P.E and Health sessions every week for students, focussing on small-ball skills and games, and exploring Hauora- looking at how we keep ourselves healthy and happy.

EOTC

Our Year 3/4 EOTC Week is 27th November- 1st December. This week involves experiences outside the classroom, both at school and off-site, including a beach visit, orienteering, a day of activities at the Akau Tangi Centre, and a hike. We will require parent help for this week. More information will follow about this shortly.

Steeple Rock and Home Learning

All Steeple Rock Challenges should now be completed and will be shared with classes over the next couple of weeks. Please remember that challenges need to be signed off by child and parent before they are shared at school.

Home Learning continues to be set every Thursday and needs to be returned the following Thursday. This term we are particularly focussing on encouraging the children to fill in their reading logs correctly.

Appropriate clothing

In Term Four, children are expected to wear a school sunhat every day. It is also useful to put a named sunscreen in your child's bag as we will remind them to put this on for outdoor events and at lunchtime. Please also ensure that your children are wearing suitable footwear and clothing, so they can run and play safely.

As always, we welcome questions or feedback about any aspect of our programmes. Thank you for your support.

Ngā mihi

Catherine Miller, Gill Billingsley, Jayne Carey, Marion Hair and Louise Noble.