

Thursday 17 October 2024

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back to Term 4. We hope your children have 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 the 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 (also in this Steeple Rock). Here is an overview of some of our programmes for the term.

Curriculum Focus

The focus for our inquiry learning this term is a technology unit, "Coding for a Purpose". Our key questions are "What is coding?", "Why do we need codes?" and "How can we record instructions and codes that others will understand?" In this unit, we will be exploring the technology process by developing/designing coding or instructions for specific needs in a variety of situations, trialling the coding and making changes as required, and explaining and sharing the coding and the process used.

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 Eileen Mueller 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.

National Library Visit

On Thursday 7th November, we will be going to the National Library to view and learn about He Tohu: a permanent exhibition of 3 iconic constitutional documents that shape Aotearoa New Zealand. We will require parent help on this day and a note will be sent to you next week, to ask for your availability to help.

EOTC

Our Year 3/4 EOTC Week is Week 8: 2nd-6th December. This week involves experiences outside the classroom, both at school and off-site, including a beach visit, orienteering, 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 any remaining challenges which haven't been presented 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.