

October 2020



Team Moana – Term 4 Newsletter

Kia ora parents and caregivers

Welcome to students and whānau. We hope you enjoyed the break after an extremely busy Term Three. Moana students are to be commended for working hard and maintaining high standards during a term which disrupted their normal routines, especially around production rehearsals, be they leads or learning the dance routine and other acting responsibilities. While we won't give too much away, the show looks fantastic and we are privileged to be able to perform to our school community at the Isaac Theatre Royal. We also have many in the team who are in the Kapa Haka Rōpū. This year's group is performing at an exceptionally high standard. We look forward to supporting them at the Tūhono Festival on Sunday 1st November.

A Thief in Time information:

The first few days of term will be busy but exciting as students have final practises at school before heading to the Isaac Theatre Royal. Specific information regarding pick-up and drop of times and hair and makeup was sent to you last term and on the app in the holidays). To recap, for the majority of students (leads excluded) Monday will be a pretty normal day at school, with final dance practices included. Rooms 2 and 4 will spend the day at ITR on Tuesday, before their performance Tuesday night and Rooms 1 and 3 will do the same on Wednesday. It is important to note that on the day students go to the theatre, they need to **arrive at school by 8:15am** to be in time to catch the bus.

On their performance night, students need to be dropped back off **at the Isaac Theatre Royal at 5:45pm** wearing black production trousers, black production shoes and black socks with a mufti top that is easy to get in and out of. Remember hair for girls needs to be slicked back into a low ponytail and boys' hair can either be slicked back or spiky (a strong, army-style look). Makeup will be applied at the theatre by staff. Students will need to be collected from the alleyway about 10:10pm after the show. Please refer to the notice that was previously sent out. If you haven't bought tickets yet, it's not too late! <https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/Shows/Show.aspx?sh=THEIFTIM20>

Learning Programme

Term Four is busy! Our focus for the first week is the production and after this our normal learning programme will resume. The literacy programme will look at information and explanation writing and reading. In mathematics we investigate statistics, probability and algebra, while maintaining number knowledge. We encourage students to keep visiting Mathletics and other similar online learning programmes.

After the production we will begin learning about careers. Later in the term we will look at sexuality education. A parent evening will be held before we begin the sexuality unit (date to be confirmed shortly). Moana also has a few sessions with the Life Education Trust.



Athletics

Athletics Day will be at Russley School on Tuesday 3 November. Due to our field being reduced in size, on this day only Teams Moana and Awa Nui will participate. Teams Waka and Roto will have an athletics event later in the term. We'd love parent support on the day - more information will go home soon. Many of our Moana students will progress through to the North West Zones which will be held on Monday 9 November.



Year Eight Formal

Year 8's will have their end-of-year formal on Wednesday 9 December. This is a wonderful evening and a highlight of our year. As preparation for this evening, students will have four formal dance sessions with instructor Vanessa Cole. If you would like to learn a few moves yourselves, come on down! A letter will follow shortly. The cost for the formal is \$35, which includes a buffet dinner, disco and photo booth.

Year Eight Girls Self-defence

We are privileged to again access funding from the Women's Self-defence Network to teach self-defence to Year 8 girls. There is no cost to parents. This programme is designed to teach safe physical and emotional boundaries and build self-confidence and assertiveness. Feedback from the girls has been extremely positive and it certainly boosts their self-esteem! There are four sessions, each around two hours. A letter will go home soon.

Team fun day

We are currently working on a team outing. More details once this is confirmed.

Teacher-only Day

Russley will be having a Teacher-only Day on Thursday 12 November, the day before Canterbury Anniversary Day on Friday 13 November.

Technology

Kirkwood technology continues in term four on Monday afternoons.



Diary / Home Learning / Excellence Awards

Many students in Team Moana undertake the optional school home learning programme. This programme incorporates an Excellence Award badge. Our Home Learning is designed to have our students acknowledge and take ownership of their own learning. We began awarding Excellence Badges in the last weeks of term three and it has been fantastic to see the extra learning some of our students are completing. The Home Learning programme continues in Term Four.

Uniform / Drink Bottles / Sanitising

Team Moana students are role models for the rest of the school in how they wear the Russley uniform and we expect this to continue in Term Four. Sun hats are compulsory this term and we strongly encourage students to wear sunblock. We are also encouraging the team to maintain the sanitising and washing of hands that has been working successfully this year. Please ensure your child brings a named water-bottle to school every day.



Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions or require further information. You can contact your classroom teacher by phoning the school office or emailing them on the addresses provided. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your children through an adventurous term four.

Yours sincerely

Team Moana

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