

25 July 2022



### Team Waka - Term 3 Newsletter

Kia ora Team Waka whānau

Welcome to Term 3. We hope you had a wonderful holiday; we look forward to hearing what the children have been up to. We have a fantastic term ahead of us with some great activities planned. Team Waka welcomes teacher Gilly Macbeth who has started a New Entrant class in Room 19.



#### Swimming

In the last two weeks of term 3 (weeks 9 and 10) Teams Waka and Roto will participate in a two-week swim programme at Kings Swim School. Parents will receive an assessment sheet asking about your child's swimming ability - please return this to your class teacher as soon as possible.

Children will swim in class groups, catching buses to Kings every weekday. Swimming skills are so important in New Zealand, and this is always a highly successful block of lessons. Please bear in mind children will need to be able to dress quickly and independently so this may be a good time to practise - especially putting on shoes! Keep an eye out for more information closer to the end of the term.

#### Winter Gear

As the cold weather continues, we remind students to remove muddy shoes and gumboots before entering the classrooms. We encourage them to bring slippers to wear inside. Please also make sure children are coming to school with enough warm layers, including a jacket, and that all clothing items are clearly named.

#### Important Term 2 dates

- Week 2 – NZ Playhouse production - *The Emperor's New Clothes* Wed 3 Aug
- Week 5 – PTA Disco Fri 26 Aug
- Week 9 – PTA Fun Run Fri 23 Aug
- Week 9 – Waka daily swimming lessons @ Kings Swim School
- Week 10 – Waka daily swimming lessons @ Kings Swim School  
– Last day of term Fri 30 Sept 3.00pm

#### Learning Programme

- **Literacy**  
Reading and writing remain at the core of our junior school teaching and learning programme. Structured Literacy which consists of writing, spelling, reading and phonics is taught every day in small groups which allows instruction to be at a level that suits each child. In addition, whole class activities include shared reading, poetry and library sessions, providing a range of language experiences to foster a love of language.



- **Numeracy**

The junior maths program is based around number knowledge and strategy work, taught in both small groups and whole class settings. Learning is based around lots of hands-on activities and use of materials to instil confidence and curiosity.

- **Inquiry - Weaving**

Our inquiry concept is Creativity in the Arts. We will be learning about the history of weaving and looking at how and when it is used in different contexts.

- **Strand Maths - Shape and transformations**

Students will learn about shapes and their properties as well as predict and communicate the results of translations, reflections, and rotations on shapes



- **Physical Education - Skipping**

This term we are focusing on skipping skills and will be learning to jump in both individual and large ropes. PE will move to swimming in weeks 9 and 10.

- **Visual Art - Weaving**

Students will develop an understanding about different weaving techniques using a variety of materials to create art pieces for *Art Attack*, a school-wide art show.

- **Developmental**

Sessions continue on Friday afternoons. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to participate in a wide variety of activities that support curriculum learning and discovery of new skills. Sessions are student-directed and cater to a wide range of needs and interests.



Please do not hesitate to come and see any teachers if you have questions or concerns. You can also contact us by email.

We look forward to a fun and busy term ahead.

Ngā mihi nui

**Team Waka Teachers**

Fiona De Wit -Team Leader

[fiona.dewit@russley.school.nz](mailto:fiona.dewit@russley.school.nz)

Sophie Lennon

[sophie.lennon@russley.school.nz](mailto:sophie.lennon@russley.school.nz)

Annette Ward

[annette.ward@russley.school.nz](mailto:annette.ward@russley.school.nz)

Pene Cooley

[pene.cooley@russley.school.nz](mailto:pene.cooley@russley.school.nz)

Gilly Macbeth

[gilly.macbeth@russley.school.nz](mailto:gilly.macbeth@russley.school.nz)

Derryn McFetridge

[derryn.mcfetridge@russley.school.nz](mailto:derryn.mcfetridge@russley.school.nz)

Nikki Nicholls

[nikki.nicholls@russley.school.nz](mailto:nikki.nicholls@russley.school.nz)