



October 2020

Team Waka Newsletter – Term 4, 2020

Kia ora koutou whānau

Welcome to Term 4! After such a hectic term 3, we hope you had a chance to relax with family over the break. We look forward to hearing all about the children's adventures.

Our Learning Programme

Our learning programme will continue to place emphasis on the key learning areas of reading, writing and mathematics. Major units of work will be integrated across these curriculum areas to ensure that our students gain from deeper and more meaningful learning experiences.

- Literacy

Reading and writing is of course at the core of our teaching and learning. Children will take part in a wide variety of experiences such as shared reading, small groups, poetry, singing, writing in a variety of genres and oral language. Please remember that the children may not always have a new book every day; they may reread a previous book, choose something from their browsing box, or bring home a high interest book that they will read together with you.



- Numeracy

Maths will be taught in both small groups and whole class, with lots of hands-on activities and use of materials. Our strand maths focus this term is Patterns and Algebra.

School Production - A Thief in Time

We are excited to take our school production to the stage! You'll have received a newsletter that outlines your child's timeline and requirements. Students have rehearsed incredibly hard and they are ready to impress you at the Isaac Theatre Royal on Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 October. The day after the show, the children may be incredibly tired. Please feel free to let them sleep in and have them at school by the end of morning tea at 11.20am. Please make sure you ring or email the office if you keep them home for a sleep in and remind them to sign in on their arrival.

Inquiry/Topic

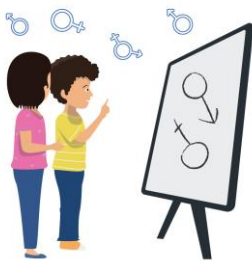
Firewise

Our school will all be working on a Get Firewise unit. The students will learn some fire-safe behaviours. They will practise what to do to get out FAST if there is a fire in a building they are in.

There are three things you can do to get out quickly and safely if a fire occurs in your home.

1. Install working smoke alarms in lounges and living areas, hallways and bedrooms to alert you to the fire. If you are asleep, you cannot smell smoke.
2. Have an escape plan so that every family member knows two ways to get out of every room and knows where to go to a safe meeting place.
3. Practise getting out of every room FAST when the smoke alarm goes off or if someone shouts - FIRE, FIRE, FIRE.

There may be some families in our community who have had an experience of fire. We want to make sure every child can participate positively in this learning programme. Please contact your child's teacher if there are any concerns about your child that they should be made aware of.



Navigating the Journey - Sexuality Education

Sexuality education is one of seven key areas of learning in the health and physical education learning area of The New Zealand Curriculum. It must be included in teaching programmes at both primary and secondary school levels, using the strands and achievement objectives outlined in the curriculum.

Sexuality education in Years 1 and 2 focuses on positive learning environments, personal identity, relationships, growth and development of the human body, and keeping our bodies safe.

Athletics

In the lead-up to athletics day, learners will be having sessions on the track and field. We encourage children to wear suitable footwear and clothing for these activities. We are still confirming a date for this event and you will be advised as soon as we have the information.

Important Dates:

Thief in Time - Tuesday 13th (Room 18/19/TK Group 1)
- Wednesday 14th October (Room 9/14/TK Group 2)

Labour Day public holiday – Monday 26th October (school closed)

Athletics – TBA

Life Education – 9th to 20th November

Teacher-only Day – Thursday 14th November

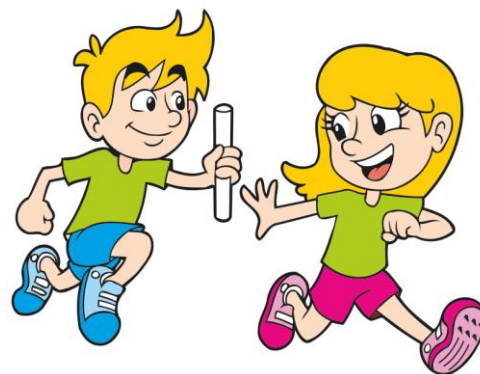
Anniversary Day – Friday 15th November

Swimming – Monday 23rd November until Friday 4th December

Roto/Waka Christmas Fun - Wednesday 9th December

Prizegiving – Tues 15 December 9.00am

Term ends – Tues 15 December 12.30pm



Uniform IMPORTANT (Hats need to be worn from day 1, Term 4)

To ensure a sun-safe environment for students and staff and the wider school community, please ensure that Russley students wear a **named, wide-brimmed sunhat** to and from school and during outdoor play and sport in Term 4. The sunhat requirement enables this school to comply with the Cancer Society's 'SunSmart' accreditation programme.

Please do not hesitate to come and see teachers if you have questions or concerns. We are available via email. We are looking forward to the fun and busy term ahead.

Kia pai tō koutou rā

Team Waka Teaching Team

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