

17 October 2022

Team Waka – Term 4 Newsletter

Kia ora koutou e te whānau

Welcome to Term 4! After such a busy term 3, we hope you had a chance to relax with family over the break. We look forward to hearing about your adventures. A lot has been going on at school over the holidays and it is exciting to see some of the changes that have taken place on site.

Our Learning Programme

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

- **Structured Literacy**

Reading, writing, spelling and phonics are the core of our junior school teaching and learning programmes. Writing, reading and phonics lessons are taught in small group instruction, allowing these to be based at a level to suit each child. While the children are also involved in full class shared reading, poetry, and library sessions that all encourage a range of language experiences that are love of language.

- **Numeracy**

Most of our maths programme 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.

- **Strand Maths - Algebra: Pattern and Relationships**

Students will:

- Generalise that the next counting number gives the result of adding one object to a set and that counting the number of objects in a set tells how many.
- Create and continue sequential patterns.
- Generalise that whole numbers can be partitioned in many ways.
- Find rules for the next member in a sequential pattern.

- **Physical Education - Athletics**

In the lead-up to the junior athletics day on Tuesday 29 November, we will have regular sessions on the track and field. We encourage all learners to wear appropriate clothes and footwear for these sports activities.



- **Visual Art - Mixed Media**

Students will explore a variety of materials and tools and discover elements and selected principles for creating different mixed media craft pieces.

- **Developmental**

These sessions continue on Friday afternoons in which students are encouraged to participate in a wide variety of activities that support curriculum learning and discovery of new skills. The sessions are student-directed and cater to a wide variety of needs and interests.



- **Inquiry/Topic:**

In Term 4, all classes across the school will be participating in a Health unit called 'Relationships and Sexuality Education – Navigating the Journey'. The Year 0-2 unit focuses on providing students with the necessary knowledge and learning activities around five themes:

- Establishing a positive learning environment - Te whakarite i tētahi ao ako Huapai
- Who am I? - Ko wai au?
- Relationships - Ngā whanaungatanga
- Growing and changing - Te tipu me te huri o te tangata
- Staying safe - Te noho haumarū

The lessons are structured to reflect the achievement objectives in the Health and Physical Education learning area. Lesson content evolves from Year 0 - Year 8 and is taught every two years. The unit of work has been created in consultation with The Ministry of Education, The Ministry of Health and Family Planning.



- **Life Education**

The Life Education Trust will be onsite from week 3 onwards and the whole school will have a chance to visit Harold inside his caravan. Team Waka will be looking at the topic: What makes me unique?

- **Inquiry/Topic: Get Firewise**

Get Firewise for year 1 and 2 is a sequenced programme of learning experiences designed to give 5 & 6-year-olds knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that will keep them safe around fire.

Year 1 and 2 students learn behaviours that will keep them from starting fires, such as not playing with matches and lighters. They practise what to do if there is a fire in a building or room that they are in. There is also an additional section where students learn and practise calling 111 in an emergency.

Important Dates:

Art Attack - Tuesday 18th October (new hall) 2pm-5pm

Labour Day - Monday 24th October

Canterbury Show Day - Friday 11th November

Junior School Athletics - Tuesday 29th November

PTA Christmas Picnic - Friday 2nd December

Waka Fun Day - Wednesday 14th December

Last Day of School - Friday 16 December, close at 12.30pm



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

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

As always, please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions or require any further information.

Kia pai tō koutou rā

Team Waka Teaching Team

Fiona De Wit (Team Leader)	fiona.dewit@russley.school.nz
Sophie Lennon	sophie.lennon@russley.school.nz
Annette Ward	annette.ward@russley.school.nz
Pene Cooley	pene.cooley@russley.school.nz
Gilly Macbeth	gilly.macbeth@russley.school.nz
Derryn McFetridge	derryn.mcfetridge@russley.school.nz
Nikki Nicholls	nikki.nicholls@russley.school.nz