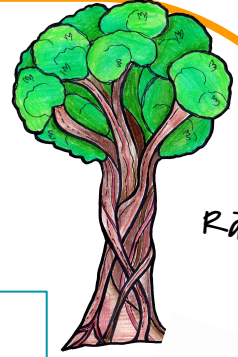


# Te Mahuri Hub Newsletter #13 2021



*Totara - Rātā*  
*Growing Christ-like, Creative, Critical Learners*

**Week 5 Bible Verse: Psalm 23:4a**

**4 a** Even if I walk through a very dark valley, I will not be afraid because you are with me.

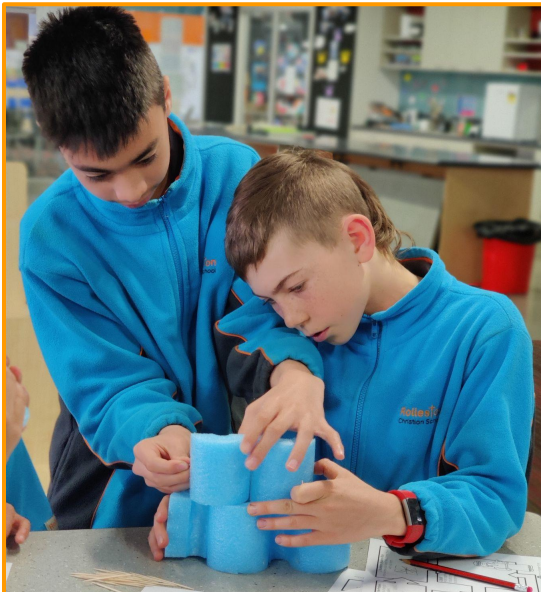


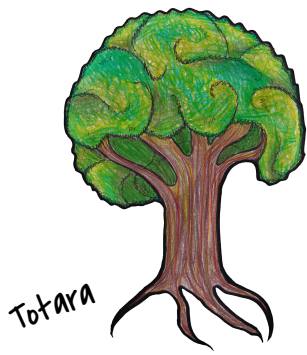
***This newsletter was written before lockdown and has been left as is for a touch of normality!***



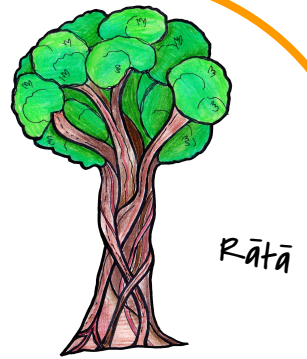
## Nehemiah Challenge - integrating STEM

As you know, this term our values focus is Love/Collaboration, so in Te Mahuri in Living Christianly we learnt about Nehemiah rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem - what collaboration and strategic thinking that took! Our students were given their own STEM challenge, with a team, to build a wall at least 30 cm high, that could stand on its own using the materials given. They followed a simple engineering design process and had to show their "plans" before construction could begin. There was much discussion, arguing, pulling down and rebuilding and all teams in the end presented a wall that met the criteria. Congratulations to the boys at the orange table who won "Best Construction" due to having supports on both sides of their wall, and to the builders of the Yellow Wall who won best team work.





# Te Mahuri Hub Newsletter #12 2021



Totara - Rātā  
Growing Christ-like, Creative, Critical Learners

## Exploring the full potential of Math Learning

### What is conceptual understanding?

Conceptual Understanding

- Recognise representations
- Describe & express ideas
- Connect related concepts
- Predict outcomes, relationships

Conceptual understanding is students being able to transfer their mathematical knowledge into new situations and apply it to new contexts. Adding context builds in skills of analysing and evaluating, and having the chance to be creative and curious with their knowledge.

For example, conceptual understanding is being able to use the knowledge of how to add fractions and show this through the ways suggested in the bullet points. It is more than just writing  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} = \frac{8}{15}$ .

#### A spotlight on Conceptual Understanding

Conceptual Understanding



$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5}$$

- I can draw a picture or use materials
- I can use a number line or create a story
- I could rename the fraction to arrive at a common measure

THE LEARNER FIRST

$$125 \div [ ] = 5$$

On the farm there were 125 sheep. 5 sheep were in each field. How many fields were there?

Elka earned five dollars each day, how much more days does she have to work to get one hundred and twenty five dollars?

Here is another example where the students are being asked to show their conceptual understanding of division through a word story. The answer some children gave are to the left. They were reminded they did not have to solve the problem, just write a word story for it.

Question: Write a word problem that can be represented by the following number sentence.

$$125 \div [ ] = 5.$$

# Upcoming Events



Note: this schedule is now “up in the air” !

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Week 5 &amp; 6</b><br>Monday 23rd Aug -<br>Friday 3rd Sep | <b>Swimming</b><br>Swimming every day for 2 weeks at the Selwyn Aquatic Centre. Te Mahuri lesson time is 2pm. We will leave school shortly after 1.30pm. |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>Wednesday 25th<br>Friday 27th August        | Mrs Cleave - Leadership Release, Reliever in Rātā<br>Mrs Cleave - Professional Development (ELL)   |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>Wednesday 1st Sep<br>Friday 3rd Sep         | Mrs Cleave - Leadership Release, Reliever in Rātā<br>Mrs Cleave - Professional Development (ELL)   |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>Monday 6th Sep<br>Wednesday 8th Sep         | Mrs Cleave CRT - reliever in Rātā<br>Mrs Manson CRT - reliever in Totara   |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>Tuesday 14th Sep<br>Thursday 16th Sep       | Mrs Cleave CRT - reliever in Rātā<br>Mrs Manson CRT - reliever in Totara   |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>Thursday 16th Sep                           | <b>Christian Schools Speech Competition (Year 7 - 10)</b>  |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>Monday - Wednesday                          | <b>Life Education Bus visits</b>   |
| <b>School Holidays</b>                                       | The last day of school is Friday 1st October.<br>Term 4 begins on Monday, 18th October.  |



Arohanui,

Mrs Cleave &  
Mrs Manson

