

# Te Pihinga Hub Newsletter Term 2, #1 2019

*Matipo - Horoeka - Toe Toe*

Welcome to Term 2. The teaching team hope you had a lovely Easter and enjoyed some quality time with your children and families. The aim of this newsletter is to communicate with you about what is happening in our hub with events and learning and to remind you of hub and school expectations and celebrations.

## Maths Learning

We have noticed our students are lacking fluency and speed in the area of Basic Facts. This is addition and subtraction facts up to 20, multiplication and division (when they are at Stage 5 and above). Fluency and speed in Basic Facts is important because it aids estimation and mental manipulation of numbers; develops conceptual understanding; and strengthens connections within and between big math concepts. To strengthen our students in this area, we will soon be starting the "Bricks" programme, where children work their way through bricks to master all the basic facts. To be truly effective this needs partnership between school and home and we look forward to working with you in this area. There will be more information coming home soon about this.

On a general maths note, we are continuing with addition and subtraction for a few weeks and will then move onto Multiplication and Division concepts.

## L.I.G.H.T.S

We have begun our Food learning in LIGHTS. Currently we are still LOOKING (L) at the current situation and finding there are many problems with how food is produced, transported, disposed of and consumed! Each class spends two weeks with a different teacher (including Mr Marshall from Te Mahuri) learning about these different topics. When we move into the "I" (Investigate alternatives) section, we will be looking for parent experts! Please get in touch with us if Food is an interest area of yours.

## Reading

We have just marked the reading tests the children had at the end of Term 1 and were very pleased with the results. Your children are becoming better readers in many ways, including inference, expanding vocabulary and making connections across texts. We expect that they read at home every night for 20 minutes. It may be a book of their choice. Please encourage them with this by borrowing library books and by talking about what they are reading. The only children who will bring a prescribed book home are those reading at the Orange or Purple level. It is essential that these children read their book every night with you.

Soon some children will also be bringing home reading logs. This is to encourage reading a wide genre of books and also to challenge them. Not all children will have these at this stage.

## Spelling

Spelling is another partnership between home and school. Every Thursday children will bring home new spelling words glued into their spelling notebook. They should then spend until the following Wednesday learning those words, bringing their notebook back to school in time for Thursday. We expect Year 3-6 students to manage themselves in this area, but encouragement and support from parents never goes amiss. Please help them remember THURSDAY I NEED MY SPELLING NOTEBOOK AT SCHOOL! If it is forgotten, a reminder note will come home and children will need to transfer the words to their spelling book at home.



# Reminders

## Slime

This is a distraction at school so please leave the slime at home. If your child requires a calming toy it should be something that can sit in their pocket. Please discuss this with your child's kōhanga teacher.

## Learning Times

Learning time begins at 8:55am. Please ensure you have said goodbye to your child when the bell rings so teachers can move promptly to taking the roll. You will need to notify the office if your child arrives later than 8:55 am. To ensure a smooth, calm start to the day, teachers are not available for conversations after 8:50am. We are in class at 8:30 and available for casual conversations, and also available at 3pm. If you would like an extended chat, please book a time after school with your child's kōhanga teacher.

## Hats & Shoes

In Terms 2 and 3, hats are no longer compulsory. Feel free to take these home and bring them back as needed. Polar fleeces are recommended each day next term - ensure these are named. Shoes should be taken off as children enter their Kōhanga door and placed in their cubbies with their bags.

# Up-and-Coming Events

<b>Week 1</b>	Tues 30 April	<b>Yr 5 &amp; 6 Rippa Team training</b> - begins at lunchtimes, please bring sports gear to change into for this lunchtime session. Parents of the children involved have been emailed regarding this.
<b>Week 4</b>	TBC	<b>RCS X-Country time trials for Zone entry</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	Mon 27th May	<b>Selwyn Zone X-Country</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	TBC	<b>Yr 5 &amp; 6 Selwyn Zone Rippa Tournament</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	Tue 2nd July	<b>Yr 0-4 X-Country Challenge at Hillview Christian School</b>

