

Te Whare Māia (Year 5/6 Hub)

Term 1 Newsletter - Monday 4 February 2019

Welcome back parents and caregivers of Te Whare Māia children. Te Whare Māia is The House of Confidence. Māia can also mean “brave, bold, capable”, which are some of the values and attributes we want for our senior students. We want our students to be leaders in terms of stepping outside their comfort zone in order to achieve their goals.

The start of the year will be busy with lots of activities: Pedal Ready, Year 6 camp, Waka Ama, Water Safety and Triathlon. Check out the upcoming dates at the end of the newsletter.

The teachers in Te Whare Māia are:

Sharon Hartley, Hub Leader, teaches in Room 7. sharon.hartley@titahibay.nz

Del Gardner teaches in Room 8. delwyn.gardner@titahibay.school.nz

Carly St-Laurent teaches in Room 10. carly.stlaurent@titahibay.school.nz

Janelle Reid teaches in Room 11. janelle.reid@titahibay.school.nz

OUR LEARNING IN TERM 1

Inquiry



Term 1

Our Term events start with our camp in week 3 for our Year 6 students. This is at El Rancho and takes place on Wednesday 13 February until Friday 15 February. We will be focusing on building Unity in Term 1. This will be an important part of the camp culture. We will also be involved in waka ama and once again Unity will be the focus for this. We work hard in Term 1 to set up our classroom culture, which sets the scene for our KURA values for the year.

Also in Term 1 we are starting on a Garden to Table unit. This will start with Room 7, with each of the other classes coming on board consecutively over the next 3 terms.

We are also going to be involved in Active Travel Action - Movin' March which is encouraging our tamariki to come to school by foot or bike rather than by car.

Classroom Programmes

Numeracy Literacy (Reading and Writing)



Numeracy

This term there will be two Maths strands, one in Statistics focusing on probability (If you roll two dice, what is the probability that the sum of the two is odd?). The second half of the term will be Algebra, the focus will be decided by the class teacher but could include patterns, making equations make sense or graphing an algebra statement.

Reading

In Reading, our focus for Year 5 and 6 students is comprehension, (Reading to Learn). We want our students to be able to look at a text in depth, be able to find and retrieve information in a text, and be able to answer questions, justify opinions and support their answers with detail. We also want our tamariki to be able to organise ideas and information from non-fiction texts, and present it in a range of formats that

	<p>consolidates their understanding of the subject, e.g. brochures, posters and reports.</p> <p><u>Writing</u> This term will see our Years 5/6 children writing reflections about personal experiences such as camp and waka ama. We will touch on other genre of writing such as descriptive writing. To increase fluency and output, students will practise speedy writing. This involves writing as much as they can in a short period of time.</p> <p><u>Spelling</u> In Term 1 we will focus on teaching spelling skills that have been identified as gaps based on our Pseudo spelling test in week 2. This may differ between classes depending on test results.</p>
<p>Health and PE</p> 	<p><u>Sport Start Programme</u> This term will be busy with a number of physical education programmes set to challenge our students in both team and individual sports. We will begin our year with Invasion Games. This unit is part of the SportStart programme. The lessons take between 30/45 minutes each, and they are designed to teach specific skills appropriate to our year levels. Students refine their attacking skills and explore a range of ways to defend. They learn how to work as a team.</p> <p><u>KURA Focus</u> Our KURA focus in Term 1 is Unity, as we build new relationships within our classes and our hub. This term our students have the opportunity to build relationships and develop teamwork skills through waka ama. Waka ama is the Maori term for outrigger canoeing. Students will have specialist lessons in Porirua Harbour over eight weeks, beginning in week four.</p> <p><u>Swimming</u> In weeks 5 and 6 of this term all of the Te Whare Māia classes (Rooms 7, 8, 10, and 11) will be taking part in water safety lessons at the Arena Aquatic Centre. These lessons will be focusing on learning simple things like floating and kicking as well as more advanced skills such as critical thinking and more advanced water safety knowledge e.g. how to deal with currents and open water environments. Children are taught by experienced instructors, provided by Dash Swim School. The following are the dates (in February and March) Monday 26th, Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th, Friday 29th, Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th. Your child will need a swim bag with togs, towel, goggles (if</p>

	<p>required), a hat and good walking footwear. We advise putting a little extra in their lunches on these days as swimming and walking uses a lot of energy.</p> <p>To help cover the cost of these very important lessons and the buses (which cost \$1500 for the 8 days) we need each child to contribute \$10. Please send this money into your child's class teacher before swimming ends</p> <p>Pedal Ready</p> <p>The Pedal Ready crew will be back in weeks 7 and 8 to help build students' confidence and competency on the bike. This will lead nicely into our Triathlon, in week, 9 and Movin' March. Dates and times for each class will be sent home in a notice, closer to the time.</p>
<p>The Arts</p> 	<p>Our initial focus for Term 1 will be personal art: portraits and what is important to us. We will continue with Art related to our inquiry through the term. Landscapes after camp, water related art during waka ama and transportation related art during Pedal Ready. We'll finish our term with some large piece collaborative multi-classroom art tying back into our KURA unity focus.</p>
<p>Māori</p> 	<p>Our Te Reo Maori focus this term will be learning whole school karakia (prayer) and waiata (songs). We'll learn some rhythm waiata to help us paddle our waka ama more efficiently as a group. Tamariki will also learn and recite their mihimihi/pepeha. Along with learning classroom objects, tamariki will also learn simple classroom commands and whakatauki (proverbs) based on our KURA Value "Unity".</p>

HOMEWORK

The expectations of homework remain the same. These are listed below:

Maths-Whizz - We recommend three 20 minute sessions a week on top of what your child does in class. If this isn't possible at home we can accommodate by making computers available before school and during break times.

Reading daily - The importance of this can't be emphasised enough. Your child's class teacher will have a system in place. This may involve specific set books from school or personal choice books from home. Regular reading is what makes great readers.

UPCOMING DATES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4th Feb, 4th Mar, 8th Apr ● 13th - 15h Feb ● 20th Feb ● 22nd Feb ● 26th - 8th Mar ● 11th - 14th Mar ● 18th - 27th Mar ● 30th Mar | <p>Pōwhiri</p> <p>Te Whare Māia Camp El Rancho</p> <p>Matua Murray starts</p> <p>Pasifika with Whaea Renata starts</p> <p>Water Safety at Aquatic Centre</p> <p>Pedal Ready for Year 5s</p> <p>Pedal Ready for Year 6s</p> <p>School Triathlon</p> |
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- 11th Apr
- 12th Apr

Triathlon Assembly
Last Day of the term