

# YEAR 3 AND 4 SYNDICATE

## TERM 3 NEWSLETTER



Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2015



### NAU MAI, WELCOME TO TERM 3 2015

We hope everyone had a great holiday and that you've returned to school fit and well, ready for lots of exciting learning opportunities. The term is off to a flying start with the launch on Monday, of our Inquiry topic – Adventures in Wonderland. We had a sumptuous tea party set up in the PAC by Cherie Folster and Michelle Roscoe, the highlight of which was the delicious jam tarts made by Terri Ewart (all 90 of them.) The White Rabbit appeared just in time, slightly late, to read the first chapter of the book. It was certainly a great start to the topic, with all the children highly engaged. A huge thanks to our Mums who worked so hard, provided the ingredients and decorations and helped us to create the dream for the children.

If you have any ideas or resources to support our Alice in Wonderland inquiry, we'd really appreciate them.

**Home –School Partnerships:** Strong home-school partnerships are greatly valued at Tauriko School as they make a positive contribution to children's learning. Communication is the key to positive partnerships so please keep in touch throughout the term. Pop in to the classes at any time, send us an email or leave a comment on our class blogs. We always appreciate parent help with a variety of tasks within the classroom programme. Thanks to those parents who have already offered help. If you haven't, and think you could help in some way please let us know. Sometimes help with cutting out resources at home suits parents who can't make it into school. Your support makes our job much easier ... thanks!

**Home Learning:** this is an opportunity to support your child's learning and help to develop life-long learning skills. Our main focus for home learning is on developing and consolidating foundation skills for literacy and numeracy, such as basic maths facts, spelling and reading each day.

Home Learning will consist of:

- **Reading** - 15 minutes daily reading. Please complete and sign the reading log. For some children this will be independent, own-choice reading.
- **Spelling** - 5 words each week either from their own writing, topic related word lists, or essential word lists they need to know. Sometimes there will be a focus on a group of words such as prefixes, suffixes or word families.
- **Basic Facts** – skip counting and multiplication basic facts are our current focus and the homework sheets outline the order that groups of facts should be learned. Instant recall of all multiplication facts is our goal.
- **Mathletics** – computers are available for use in the class, independently and as part of the maths programme.
- **Classroom Blog** – Students will be encouraged to share our classroom blogs at home and will also be asked to make a comment or prepare a post, which could be then published on the classroom blog. There will also be challenges relating to our Inquiry topics and other class work. It's a great chance to see what sorts of things we have been getting up to. Please encourage other family members to visit the blogs and make comments. It's one way to keep connected with distant family members.

### WEEKLY TIMETABLE

**DAILY** – Jump Rope and Jump Jam

**TUESDAY** – school singing/ choir/ kapa haka

**WEDNESDAY** –Recorder/ Marimba with Mrs. Denize

**THURSDAY** – Team Sports in the afternoon / Mandarin

**FRIDAY** – Assembly

LIBRARY DAYS:

R6 – Tuesday

R7 – Wednesday

R8 – Monday

### TERM 3 TOPICS

INQUIRY –

Adventures in Wonderland

Thinker's Keys

Technology –The Mad Hatter's Tea Party - hatmaking for Ag Day

MATHS –Multiplication and Division, Problem-Solving, Measurement, Statistical Investigations and Number Knowledge

ENGLISH –Persuasive Writing – Speeches (year 4s)

Poetry Reading (Year 3s)

HEALTH AND P.E – Funky Dance

THE ARTS – Marimba/Recorder, Visual Arts –Sketching, printmaking

LANGUAGES – Te Reo Maori  
Mandarin



*Why, sometimes I have believed  
as many as 6 Impossible Things  
before breakfast."*

*Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking Glass*

**Clothing:** With the change of temperatures and changeable weather there is a need for layered clothing, which should to be named. We need to work on developing habits of self-management around our clothing and other belongings. That means bringing book bags every day and remembering shoes and clothing.

**Start of the Day:** Although the bell rings at 8:30 we expect all children to be at school and prepared for learning before that time. There are jobs to be done and tasks to begin, even before the bell. We know there can be the odd occasion when you run late but to help our young learners we need to set them up with a successful start to the day. Thanks for your help around this.

### **Adventures in Wonderland**

Our Inquiry topic this term will involve lots of varied activities to develop our thinking skills and provide opportunities to respond in numerous ways. It will lead through to our technology and printmaking units, which will culminate in our exhibits for Ag Day early next term. We will be doing our bit to help celebrate 150 years of Alice in Wonderland. Be sure to come and check out our work in progress.

Thanks for your on-going support as we work together to grow our young learners.

Kind Regards,

Lynda Palfrey – Team Leader (Room 6) ([lpalfrey@tauriko.school.nz](mailto:lpalfrey@tauriko.school.nz))

Andrea Lockett (Room 7) ([alockett@tauriko.school.nz](mailto:alockett@tauriko.school.nz))

Helen Guthrie (Room 8) ([hguthrie@tauriko.school.nz](mailto:hguthrie@tauriko.school.nz))

Suzanne Billington  
Principal



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### WEEK 1

Learning Partnership Meetings

#### WEEK 5

Year 1-3 Poetry presentation

Year 4 Speeches

Term ends Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September

# WISH LIST

### NEEDED:

- Newspapers
- Cardboard
  
- buttons
  
- Icecream containers
  
- Boxes of tissues