

TUI NEWSLETTER: Term Three, 2017

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,

We hope you had an enjoyable school holiday period. Term Two saw a successful end to our science water unit where the students were exposed to the skills and attitudes based on the science capability of 'exploring representations'. Other highlights included a very successful Art Attack week, JRock evening, Cross Country and Swimming Sports.

Term Three is a ten week term that will focus on Ecosystems, specifically that of native bird regeneration; and investigating potential opportunities around the undeveloped arboretum that surrounds the new teaching spaces. We will also be giving focus to the Arts; integrated with International Day near the end of the term. Students will explore a range of cultures and look at how different groups of people celebrate and acknowledge diversity.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wk 2	Tuesday 1 August	ICAS English test
	Friday 4 August	Whakatau (9:00am)
	Friday 4 August	School Sports Photos
Wk 3	Tuesday 8 August	Asian Partnership meeting (5:30 - 7pm)
Wk 4	Monday 14 August	ICAS Maths (NB: this is a new date to fit with Sportsfest)
	Tuesday 15 August	SportsFest and Year 4-6 in-school sports day.
Wk 5	Tuesday 22 August	Year 6 Trip to Raroa (details to come)
		Tui Farewell Assembly for Liz Millar (date and time to be confirmed shortly)
Wk 6	Friday 1 September	Orange Day Parade - more information to follow
Wk 7	Tuesday 5 September	Northern Zone Swimming
Wk 8	Thursday 14 September	Interzone Swimming
Wk 10	Friday 29 September	Last day of term

ICAS EXAMS:

Students who have registered will sit the English (Reading) exam on Tuesday the 1st of August, and the Mathematics exam on Monday the 14th August. Students sitting the English exam

received a practice booklet prior to the holidays and will have one final practice exam on Friday of this week. Practice sessions for mathematics will follow next week.

SYNDICATE ASSEMBLIES and WAIATA:

Syndicate Assemblies will continue to be held most Fridays at 12pm. At 2.15pm we have Waiata with our Te Reo teacher Alwyn Rees. Parents and families are welcome to attend both Syndicate Assemblies and Waiata, however Weeks 2, 3 and 4 will primarily be held as practice singing and performing assemblies for Liz Millar's farewell assembly in Week 5. Students are encouraged to invite you if they are presenting something in assembly.

A special assembly will be held in Week 5 for Liz Millar as part of her farewell celebrations, date and times to be confirmed later.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND LEADERSHIP:

As always, students are encouraged to take on responsibility around the school. This includes Reading buddies, Road Patrollers, bell ringers and Link Programme buddies. Student Leader and Student Council groups will begin this term.

STRIVE HOMEWORK:

A reminder that students get their Strive Challenge booklets signed off after morning tea (at 10:50 am) on Fridays. **Students need to show 'evidence' in the form of a journal or reflection** – please refer to the information on the back of the Strive Challenge Booklet.

Students from Tui should have at least four challenges already completed, reflected upon and signed off to be on track to complete the required number of challenges by the end of Week 6, Term 4.

LEARNING PROGRAMMES:

Writing:

Students will look at writing for a variety of audiences and purposes, across the curriculum. We will also begin to look at persuasive writing and aspects of this such as moot points, language to convince and effective overall structure. At home, you could discuss the reasons why certain opinions are held, how persuasion is all around us, read through letters to the editor and discuss strong emotive language used to strengthen arguments.

Reading:

Please encourage your child to read at home on a regular basis. They still enjoy being read to at this age, so continue to do this as well. Students in Years 5 and 6 should be reading a broad range of books and other reading material (e.g. magazine and newspaper articles). Come and see your child's teacher if you are stuck for new titles or authors. This term's reading focus will be on reading comprehension skills needed for decoding texts across the curriculum with integrated readings around ecosystems.

Numeracy:

Students will continue to build their Numeracy knowledge and strategies. A focus on Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division, and Ratios and Proportions will continue to run throughout the year. In 'Strand' maths students will continue to look at Measurement. At home,

a few minutes a day on IXL (Year 6) and Mathletics (Year 5) would be ideal for all students support their classroom learning. Please encourage your children to revise their basic facts as increased familiarity and speed of recall assists all other area of maths.

We look forward to continuing working alongside our students, their families and whanau this term.

Kind regards,

The Tui Team - Dan, Sarah, Harriet, Jon, Liz and Sophia.

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