



Tui Syndicate Newsletter 2018

Term Three - Monday 23 July - Friday 28 September 2018

Kia Ora Tui Syndicate Whanau - Welcome back!

Hopefully you were able to have some well earned rest and relaxation over the past holiday break. Whether you got away or stayed at home, we hope that there was plenty of quality time enjoyed as a family. Term Two was a busy term and we look forward to working with your children again this term. It is hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year. Year 6s are moving towards their final terms both in Tui and at Ngaio School and as they look ahead, the Year 5s begin to prepare for their time as the leaders of the school.

PERSONNEL:

Congratulations and a word of thanks ...

We congratulate Sophia and Mike on their recent nuptials and wish them a happy life together. Heather Williams has stepped into Sophia's shoes, and alongside Sarah and Chantal, has worked hard with our Year 6 students. We thank Heather for her commitment to Tui over the past three weeks. Heather will be back again in Term 3 at the end of Week 4; this time working in Rata. Liz Blackwell is off to spend some time with her son who is currently studying in America.

Welcome Julie:

We welcome Julie Cederman working in Harakeke syndicate for the first three weeks of the term. Julie will be working alongside the teachers in a support capacity each morning. This support is to offer additional help to students with their learning and wellbeing at school. We welcome her to the team and know that her enthusiasm and expertise will be welcomed.

Student Teacher in Rata Syndicate:

We will be welcoming a student teacher into Rata syndicate midway through the term. We will share further details of this, closer to the time. Daniel Edmonds will work to oversee this teacher, with the support of Liz and Harriet.

UPCOMING EVENTS - Dates for your noting:

School Wk:	Dates:	Events:
2	Monday 30th July @ 9:00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sophia returns to Harakeke• Wholeschool Performance: "Red Riding Hood" - McLeod Hall
2	Tuesday 31st July @ 9:00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICAS English Testing (Years 5 and 6)
2	Friday 3rd August @ 9:10am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wholeschool Whakatau to welcome new families and students (All welcome)
4	Monday 13 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student Teacher begins in Rata

4	Tuesday 14th August @ 9:00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICAS Mathematics Testing (Years 5 and 6)
4	Friday 17th August (5:00pm - 9:00pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole school Disco (PTA event)
6	Friday 31st August (9:00am - 3:00pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Zone Swimming Sports - Regional Aquatic Centre, Kilbirnie
7	Friday 7th September (9:00am - 12:00pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange Day Parade - Road Patroller acknowledgement and celebration <i>**Parental help will be required - information to follow.</i>
8	Wednesday 12th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onesie Day - Wellington Free Ambulance Fundraiser (TBC) • Digital Curriculum Community Evening (7:00 - 8:00pm)
8	Thursday 13th September (9:00am - 3:00pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interzone Swimming Sports - Regional Aquatic Centre, Kilbirnie
8	Saturday 15th September (all day)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Bridget's Kapahaka Northern Cluster Festival (All welcome)
9	Monday 17th September - Friday 21st September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maori Language Week - whole school
9	Monday 17th - Wednesday 19th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 5 Cycle Training
9	Wednesday 19th September (9:30am-11:30am) (5:00pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artsplash Choir and Wearable Arts Rehearsal - Michael Fowler Centre • Artsplash Choir and Wearable Arts Evening Performance - Michael Fowler Centre
9	Friday 21st September (7:45pm- 8:45pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dancesplash Rehearsal - Michael Fowler Centre • Dancesplash Show - Michael Fowler Centre
10	Thursday 27th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-regional Cross Country
10	Friday 28th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day of Term 3.

COMMUNICATION:

Home/School Partnerships and Communication: The Tui team continue to work hard as they venture through their learning journey. As always, parental communication and relationships are valued and are seen as a key way of ensuring student wellbeing and success. Please feel free to pop into the classrooms before or after school to talk with one of the teaching team. Alternatively, you can contact them by phone or via email. If you prefer, face-to-face meetings can also be arranged. While Amanda is also always available for parental conversations or emails, it is appreciated if parents speak to the classroom teacher first in regards to any concerns or questions they have.

Email Communication: All teachers read and communicate through the Harakeke (Year 6) and Rata (Year 5) email. However, if you wish to contact a particular teacher, you can also email the teachers on their individual emails. All contact details can be found at the end of this newsletter. When signing off from the rata or harakeke emails, it is the teacher who composed the email who will sign off with their name first.

Student Absences: absences@ngaio.school.nz

As always, it is helpful for parents to email **both** the classroom teacher and absences when your child is sick or away from school. Please include the reason for your child's absence in this correspondence, as we need to code these absences through the office. If there is a bigger issue sitting behind an absence please also follow up with a phone call to either the child's teacher or Amanda. Where a child is going to be late to school, please advise us of the child's anticipated return time to school. When dropping your child back to school, we require parents and caregivers to sign their child back in through the office. And again, when taking your child out of school ahead of 3 o'clock we require them to be signed out through the office. Thank you in advance with your assistance in these matters.

Cellphones at school: While we understand that students might need cell phones for personal use before or after school, we please ask that these stay in your child's bag during school hours. If a child needs to make contact with their parent through school time, it is our preference that students **do not** make contact with their parent on their cell phone, but that they speak to a teacher and gain assistance this way. This also applies to emailing. Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter. Please note that students may select to hand in their cellphones to their classroom teacher for safekeeping, during the day. This is the best way to ensure that personal items are stored safely at school.

Innovative Learning Environments (IELs): This term we will share information on an ongoing basis about ILEs and collaboration in Tui. Look out for this in upcoming weeks!

HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS:

Tui Tours: Tui in Action! These have proved popular through the year, and will be offered again this term. If you have not already taken up the opportunity, please book in for a tour with Raewyn. These tours allow parents to see the classrooms in action, and to ask questions or clarify understanding of how the Innovative Learning Environment (ILE) operates. If the times and dates do not suit, please arrange an alternative time by emailing or speaking to the teachers, Raewyn or Amanda. This term we are also going to be offering the tours to other staff members as they begin to better understand how teaching and learning takes place in an ILE. We are excited to be able to share with both parents and teachers the work that is happening in Tui. See the School Newsletter for dates and times.

Tui Syndicate Assemblies: We encourage parents and families to attend our Tui Syndicate Assemblies. Students showcase their learning and leadership by preparing and presenting these events. Syndicate Assemblies are held in Tui on a Friday beginning at either 11:45am or 12:00pm; depending on how much there is to showcase. These happen regularly (but not weekly) throughout the term. Notification of these will be via email from the syndicate. Please come and support your child and the other students in the syndicate.

Student Learning Maps: Thank you to all the students and families who attended the Parent Teacher Interviews and/or the Learning Map sharing afternoon, last term. The teachers really enjoyed getting to meet each and everyone of you and the learning maps generated interesting discussion around how the students are developing into 'active learners'. Learning Maps will continue to be used in the classroom and ongoing communication about these will happen between home and school. Thank you for your support of these.

Student Learning for Term Three:

Literacy Learning: Explicit links between reading and writing will be made wherever possible. Teaching these curriculum areas in conjunction, enhances students' understanding of both reading and writing. Where possible, real-life audiences and purposes will be provided through writing activities so students can experience immediate feedback.

This term in Reading, students will be involved in Novel Study groups. Students have selected the books they want to read and will be involved in discussion and deep analysis of their chosen book. Additional to this, students will be involved in their regular Reading workshops whereby students select the workshop that they feel best fits their learning needs and next learning steps.

In writing, students will select workshops based on their individual writing goals as well as other areas of need. The students will be working across the contexts of narration, novel studies (to link back to our reading programme), as well as recount writing later in the term. Students will work to develop their 'personal voice' through the use of language features and will also focus on adding supporting detail to their main ideas. These skills will help the students to develop stronger audience engagement. Please look at and provide feedback on your child's writing, through Seesaw.

Teachers monitor the workshops that the students attend, and guide them to suitable workshops that align to their individualised literacy goals.

Numeracy Learning: Work on number strategies will continue this term. Students will work in the domain areas of addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and ratios and proportions and will further develop both their strategy knowledge and their number knowledge. In order for students to extend their strategy knowledge, it is important that their number knowledge is secure. Number knowledge includes basic facts, place value, ordering and sequencing of numbers, and general fractions knowledge.

A focus on problem solving will be introduced this term and this work will form the basis of the strand work in mathematics. This work will focus specifically on students working in groups to collectively solve rich problems. This work is based on professional development that some members of Tui have been involved in. It comes out of Massey University and is based on the research of Jodie and Bobby Hunter. This approach is based on mixed ability groupings and the opportunities that this style of working provides for students to extend their thinking by explaining and talking through their strategies. As all students approach problems from different perspectives, everyone has something to contribute. Another feature of this way of working is that the problems are set around real life contexts that are meaningful to our Ngaio school students. One example of this would be a teacher setting problems around the recent Swimming Sports.

The Arts: Students in Years 4-6 will be involved in an 'Arts Rotation' for term three. Students will select the area of 'the arts' that they are most interested in and will work with that group for the course of the term. Those students participating in Artsplash, Dancesplash or Wearable Arts will work during this time to prepare for their performances at the Michael Fowler Centre at the end of the term. Other options for students not involved in these events will include a range of Arts activities based on the visual arts and drama.

Science: In science this term, the students will continue with their personal inquiries around our 'Sustainability in the Environment' unit. They have been very engaged with this topic and we look forward to seeing what information and further actions they decide upon based on the data they find. This work will be linked to the Science Capabilities with a specific focus on 'critiquing evidence' which will encourage students to use their gathered data to critique their supporting evidence.

Te Reo: This term's major focus will be myths and legends and the use of basic te reo in a classroom context. The students will explore a range of Maori myths and legends; choosing one to research in greater detail. Alongside this, students will begin to explore basic vocabulary and phrases that will help to further develop their day-to-day te reo vocabulary.

Fitness and Sport: Students will continue to be involved in the Sports Start units that were introduced last term. This school-wide initiative aims to teach students the skills, game sense and strategy needed for participating in a range of physical activity. The Tui syndicate fitness circuits remain, and students continue to be offered the choice of developing their fitness skills through drills and running or dance fit classes.

Student Leadership and Responsibility: The Student Council (Nga Rangitahi o Ngaio) begins their work with Kirsten Reid (Associate Principal) this term. We acknowledge of others across a range of areas including our Sports Leaders and our MacAttackers. We are grateful to the students who have been working hard and taking on areas of schoolwide responsibility as Road Patrollers, Bell Monitors, Sushi and Subway Delivery and as the organisers of a multitude of schoolwide events and fundraisers including wonderful days such as the anti-bullying "Pink Shirt Day".

STRIVE: We were able to sign off a number of STRIVE projects in Term 2 and look forward to seeing more this term. Students can get their Strive projects signed off after morning tea (10:50 am) on Friday mornings. 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.

Kind Regards,

The Tui Team: Daniel, Harriet, Liz, Sarah, Chantal, Sophia and Amanda.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Rata - Yr 5 Syndicate: rata@ngaio.school.nz	Harakeke - Yr 6 Syndicate harakeke@ngaio.school.nz	Overseeing Syndicate Leader: Amanda Frater
Liz Blackwell - l.blackwell@ngaio.school.nz Harriet Quin - h.quin@ngaio.school.nz Daniel Edmonds - d.edmonds@ngaio.school.nz	Chantal McKee - c.mckee@ngaio.school.nz Sarah Smart - s.smart@ngaio.school.nz Sophia Gowans - s.gowans@ngaio.school.nz	a.frater@ngaio.school.nz