

Rata Team



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to the third term of 2019. This is a ten week term and there are no public holidays to note.

This term we welcome to the Rata team Fiona Mead, who has taken over from Miss Davies in Room 12). Mrs Mead has commented on how warmly the children have welcomed her, and all the Rata children and teachers are benefitting from her fantastic musical abilities. Rooms 10 and 11 continue to be taught by Mrs Henderson and Mrs Wood respectively.

We have a busy term ahead both inside and outside the classroom. The Year 4 students participated in the school Swimming Sports last week with great enjoyment and enthusiasm. Next week all Rata students will attend the Children's Film Festival at the Embassy Theatre. Later in the term we will be opening the Rata doors for our Celebration of Learning which is always well attended, and a true celebration of all that happens in your child's school day. The final major event for the term is Artsplash at the Michael Fowler Centre.

Wadestown Rata children will be part of a mass choir presenting a great line up of songs. The School Orchestra will perform in the foyer before the concert which will include several Rata students. You will be advised when tickets are available for the show.

Curriculum Content

The theme of "Change" continues to be interpreted in each class through the different curriculum areas.

To promote important values the students are acknowledged in class when they demonstrate resilience, self management, respect, perseverance, excellence or empathy. When the team assembly comes around someone from each class wins a wrist band with a positive message on it and one student gets to take our "Wise Owl" back to class.

Literacy

The Reading Programme will continue as before with children having daily opportunities to learn in a group setting, in whole class sessions and as an individual, selecting material that interests them. The teacher will also read to the students, novels or stories that relate to the class programme. This term there is a focus on report writing and much of this work will be evident through the Science curriculum and our study in the Reduce, Re-use and Recycle unit of work.

Grammar, punctuation and spelling will be taught through specific language lessons. Students will write in multiple areas of the curriculum and they will write every day.

Maths

Students will continue to have daily practice of basic maths facts which might be a task, a maths game, or a computer challenge. Teachers will be moving from teaching multiplication and division knowledge and strategies, to working with fractions. Place value will be ongoing revision work.

Heads Up

- Celebration of Learning (date to be advised).
- Film Festival 6th August
- Artsplash 17th September 5:00pm
- Life Caravan late September

Activity Fees Term 3

Year 3 Students

Reduce, Re-use, Recycle programme	\$3.50
Life Caravan	5.00
Bus to Artsplash Rehearsal	4.50
Film Festival	5.50
Bus to Film Festival	<u>4.50</u>
	\$23.00

Year 4 Students

Bus to Swimming Sports	\$5.50
Reduce, Re-use, Recycle programme	3.50
Life Caravan	5.00
Bus to Artsplash Rehearsal	4.50
Film Festival	5.50
Bus to Film Festival	<u>4.50</u>
	\$28.50

Reminders

- As the days become longer students are beginning to arrive at school earlier. Classrooms are not open until 8.30 and so students who arrive before then are outside and unsupervised.
- If a student arrives at school after 9.00am they need to sign in at the office.
- If a student leaves the school between 9:00am and 3:00pm they need to be signed out at the office, by a parent.

Oral Language

The individual oral language presentations continue. This is the second time Year 4 students have presented in this way and teachers have been impressed by the increased confidence shown. These presentations are part of a school wide Oral Language progression which culminates with impromptu, persuasive speeches in Year 7-8.

Physical Education

Rata students enjoyed the opportunity to explore three new sports at ASB last term - gymnastics, badminton and handball. This term we will continue to have Rata Sports on Wednesday afternoons and the lessons and games and skills will be involving large balls. Daily fitness will continue for each class.

The Western Zone Swimming Sports is on 27th August and those students attending will be advised in due course.

The Arts, Health and Te Reo Maori

The kapa haka sessions with Hemi Prime continue to be a weekly highlight for our students and we hope to be able to share some of this learning with you at our Celebration of Learning. Mastering the difficult songs for Artsplash is really challenging the children with rhythm and beat and their enthusiasm is great to see.

Mrs Honore will work in each Rata class for two days this term and will be exploring the Hinengaro aspect of Hauora (mental and emotional health). We will do activities around emotions and self esteem and look at strategies that might help us to feel stronger.

Science

This term we have registered with an online programme called Reduce, Re-use and Recycle. Each week the students will explore a different aspect of environmental science through experiments, observations and discussions.

Over the final few weeks of term the Life Education Caravan will pay us a visit and will be stationed at the bottom of Purakau Avenue. The programme offered to Rata students will closely align with the Hauora (Health) work that we do in class.

Communication

All emails that arrive in the teachers' mailboxes are read every day and we endeavour to reply as promptly as practicable. Please note that emails will not be dealt with between 9:00am and 3:00pm because all teaching staff are engaged with classroom teaching and learning activities.

Lunchtime duties and after school staff meetings may preclude staff from responding to emails received on that day. Staff receiving evening emails will attend to these the following day or days, again, as soon as is practicable. Please note that phone messages to the office received after 2:30pm cannot be guaranteed to be actioned before 3:00pm

If you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's school life, please make your first contact with the classroom teacher.

Regards

Pip Honore, Joy Henderson, Karen Wood and Fiona Mead





Room 12 looking very creative.



Room 11 all dressed up for Book Week.