



# WADESTOWN SCHOOL

*Growing and Connecting as Learners*



## **Pohutukawa Team Newsletter Term 4, 2022**

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers and Whānau,

### **Nau mai, haere mai and welcome to Term Four, 2022**

A special welcome to our new tamariki/children in Room 1 - Freya Wang, Arlo Cunningham and Leonardo Guttke who started on the first day of this term, and also to Julia Cutter and George Lange who started this week. Both Freya and Arlo are siblings of current students at Weld Street.

It has been wonderful to come back to **such an exciting playground**, following the recent School Working Bee at Weld Street. The new blackboard had a colourful message for all to read 'Welcome to Term 4' on the first day back of school. The seating looks fantastic and the bank area complete with a rope climb, two marble runs and stepping stones is proving very popular with the students. We are all looking forward to some sunny days so we can continue to enjoy playing outside and making the most of this new equipment.

A friendly reminder that Covid still needs to be managed by us all and so it is really important to keep unwell students at home.

#### **This newsletter will:**

- look at our school *G-R-O-W* values and what we will focus on this term
- briefly outline our curriculum planning for Term 4
- outline the dates for important events

#### **Our Wadestown School GROW Values**

Our school values have the *G-R-O-W* acronym. Here are some current examples of what they mean to us in Pohutukawa Team:

##### ***G - for Gratitude*** *Whakawhetai*, Being thankful

Students and teachers were hugely grateful to the Working Bee parents who worked so hard at the end of last term, and provided us with a **very cool, new outdoor play environment**. To thank the Working Bee organiser, Malcolm McKee, our students drew themselves and wrote a message that was then made into a **BIG** thank you card.

## **R - Resilience** *Manawaroa, Be strong*

Students demonstrated resilience at our recent swimming lessons by doing something new. For some students, learning to swim is a challenge but our students have taken this in their stride and have shown resilience in this situation.

## **O -Others** *Whānaungatanga, Be kind*

This term teachers will lead a weekly "**Circle Time**" session where once a week our students will discuss ways to build resilience and then on alternate weeks they will discuss/act out ways to care for others.

## **W - Wonder** *Mīharo, Be curious*

This value integrates with "Growing into the Future", a school-wide theme for Term 4. Room 3 and Room 0 each did a brainstorm on what they wonder about the future, here's a sample of what they wonder about:

### **Room 3**

Tom "I wonder what was before the Big Bang?"

George "I wonder if aliens are alive?"

Rose "I wonder if the world will run out of food?"

Mia "I wonder what will happen in everyone's future?"

### **Room 0**

Annabel "I wonder where the sun goes at bedtime?"

Jamie "I wonder where clouds go? Who was the first person alive?"

Walter "I wonder how words and letters got created?" "I wonder why germs are so small?"

Pippa "I wonder how caterpillars make their chrysalis?"

## **Curriculum Overview**

### **Inquiry Learning**

Our school-wide theme for 2022 is 'Growth' *Ka mua, ka muri*, 'Walking backwards into the Future.' In Term 4 we will be looking at Growing into the Future. The Pohutukawa Team will have a focus on 'Dreams and Wishes'. Students will look at what their future dream is for themselves, for their school and for their city. We will invite Wellington City Council to hear what student's dreams are for our city in the future.

**Literacy and Numeracy are really important foundational skills and teachers aim to build parent partnership right from the start of schooling at Weld Street.**

### **Literacy**

Book Week provided a wonderful stimulus to our literacy programme and it was lovely having parents coming into classrooms to read stories. Our visiting author, Ruth Paul, was a truly inspirational speaker. She encouraged students to have *ideas* and then to mull over them in order to turn them into a story.

Ruth said stories need a **problem** so you can **think creatively** of different ways to solve the problem. Ruth explained that she takes time to read back over her draft and then makes changes to improve it. She showed a photograph of her as a child in school uniform at the age of our students, along with a photo of what her drawings and writing looked like then too.

This term's topic of *Dreams and Wishes* will lend itself to lots of opportunities for writing. Students will select a piece of published writing that they want to take home and show their parents.

Students look forward to **Derek Piper's weekly Library Skills sessions** where he reads the new books that he has purchased for our library and where he discusses with students the different book characters and themes.

### **Numeracy**

Developing number knowledge helps students to solve number problems and equations. Students are introduced to equations that involve simple number operations e.g. addition and subtraction before moving onto addition as repeated groups (multiplication) and sharing in groups (division).

Later this term students will develop their understanding of positional language, they will be able to make a turn to the right or a turn to the left, they will be able to move forward and backwards. Looking at mazes will support this learning.

### **Te Reo Māori me ngā Tikanga**

***Whaowhia te kete mātauranga - Fill the basket of knowledge.***

Thank you for all your support of the Reo-a-thon last term. As well as being a fantastic fundraiser, it has highlighted the use of te reo Māori at school and at home. Together we are all working to be champions of the Māori language. Your continued commitment to te reo Māori me Ngā Tikanga is greatly appreciated. At school, our tamariki are continuing to extend their learning with the wonderful support of Matua Hemi at Thursday's Kapa Haka and Matua Alwyn, who is visiting classes to teach te reo Māori every second Tuesday.

### **Physical Education**

Swimming at Keith Spry Pool in Johnsonville has gone really well for the first two weeks of this term. It has given students plenty of opportunity to learn self-management skills such as looking after their belongings and listening to instructions. Later this term we will focus on building hand/eye coordination with tennis. Thank you to Lauren Langford for organising the tennis nets for us to use.

### **Term 4 Activity Donation**

There will be **no charge** to your student statement this term for a Term 4 Activity.

## Week 1 Highlights Book Week



Steve Pilcher on Gate Duty



Ruth Paul our visiting author reading "I am Jellyfish"



## Swimming in Weeks 1 & 2



## Parent Helper Request for our Book Return Roster

Teachers are most grateful for the considerable support we have had with the return of guided readers. Due to changing circumstances of some of our faithful helpers, we currently need a couple of extra helpers to be on the roster with Lauren Langford (Arthur's mum in Rūma Tahi, Room 1) and Charlotte Probert (Ella's mum in Rūma Toru, Room 3).

Please email Amanda Lamble if you can help with this request.

## Dates to Remember

31 October:	St John's First Aid for students
31 October:	PTA Fundraiser Tea Towel orders due
15 November:	Smashplay cricket lesson
23 November:	Pre-school morning tea
9 December:	Christmas Family Picnic at Te Ahumairangi (Wadestown Hill)
15 December:	Students visit 2023 class and End of Year Reports go Home

N.B. Year 2 students will have some visits to Rose Street later this term (dates will be advised). The purpose of these visits is to help them become more familiar with Wadestown School at Rose Street in readiness for their move there in 2023.

## Reminders

- Your child needs to have a named school sunhat kept at school in their chair bag.
- Please apply sunscreen at home before school. Your child can reapply sunscreen during the day with a named roll on sunscreen (kept in their school bag).

*We are looking forward to another great term of learning with your children, through our partnership together.*

Ngā mihi nui,

Amanda Lamble [amanda@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:amanda@wadestown.school.nz), Robyn Grover [robyn@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:robyn@wadestown.school.nz),

Ann Marshall [ann@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:ann@wadestown.school.nz), Joy Henderson [joy@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:joy@wadestown.school.nz),

Angela Clark [angela@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:angela@wadestown.school.nz)