

# *Harakeke Newsletter Term 2, 2009*

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Thank you for your support during Term 1. I had an enjoyable term and am looking forward to exciting times in Term 2!

## Topic

This term the senior syndicate has two main focuses. Currently, we have begun a unit called 'Kia Kaha' as part of the Health and PE curriculum with links to Social Studies. Kia Kaha revisits the way we manage ourselves at school and in the classroom. It then focuses on what bullying is and how we can work together to make our school a 'bully-free zone'. During the second half of Term 2 we switch to science and technology with a focus on 'Space'. We will be learning about the components of our solar system. If you, or someone you know, has a particular interest or knowledge in this area and would like to be involved please let me know.

## Mathematics

This term we have begun with a focus on statistics. Other work will include: fractions (ordering and comparison), geometry (coordinates, direction and distance); problem solving (whole numbers and standard form) and measurement (time).

## English

As well as the regular daily reading and language programmes, units covered this term include: television advertising, report and explanation writing, note taking and library skills. The Smart Words Spelling Programme will continue for year 5 students this term.

## The Arts

In the visual arts we will be covering symbolism in Pacific art through printmaking. Later we will be creating mixed media works to complement our space topic.

Friday dance and drama will continue with Jenny Cossey.

Later this term I am lining up a music specialist to visit and introduce more music into our class.

## Physical Education

This term's focus is winter sports and large ball skills. Senior sport takes place on Wednesday afternoon for Year 5s. From week 2, the Year 4s are lucky enough to have Rico and Rebecca (Aloysius's dad and Jamie's mum) coming in to take them for 3 weeks of yoga during this time.

## Environmental Focus – HVS school rainforest

This term we will continue to develop our ideas relating to our rainforest. In week six parents will be invited to join us for a day learning and working in the rainforest. More details will be provided in week 4 or 5.

## **Dates for your calendars:**

19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4/5/6 Soccer Tournament Wakefield Park
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Performance Assembly
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Interzone Crosscountry
25 <sup>th</sup> May-26 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5/6 Space Camp (overnight)

I look forward to a busy and exciting term with your child. Please feel free to come in to discuss any questions or queries you may have. I will do my best to help.

Katie Grinsted

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