

Dear parents and caregivers,

Welcome back to what is going to be an action packed term!

Technology / Languages

Technology this term is weekly, mostly Thursdays with one Friday. We hope the buses will be well organised and arrive on time!

Dates are: August 16, 23, 30; September 6 or 7 (TBC), 14 (Friday), 20 and 27.

Please ensure your child has warm clothing and a rain-proof jacket with hood, or a hat. We can get caught in the rain when walking to and from the bus at Karori West. Please also ensure they are at school for the roll at 8.30, we discourage students from developing the habit of arriving just in time to board the bus - being present for the roll is an essential part of school life. Our languages programme (French, Spanish, te reo Māori and Mandarin) will finish at the end of week 5. Whole team te reo Māori continues and our students are currently writing basic readers for younger students using te reo.

Science Fair

Our Northland School Science and Technology Fair is planned for Week 3, it will be held in the Viggers Centre, judging by university post-graduate students will be done between 9am and 3pm on **Tuesday 7 August**. If you would like to send a small plate of food for the judges' lunches and morning tea, that would be greatly appreciated.

The display will be open for public viewing from 3.00pm - 7.00pm on the Tuesday, and again between 8.00am and 1.00pm the following day, **Wednesday 8 August**. We look forward to seeing you there.

All student work, boards, log books and display items (which should, ideally sit just in front of the board) are due in at school by **Friday 3 August** please. Any questions - please email a teacher.

The **NIWA** Science and Technology Fair will be held on 5-8 September (20 students attend for judging on Thursday 6 September 9-12 noon). Venue: Ryman facility (the old Teachers' College in Donald St Karori). This will be open for public viewing on the Friday 7 September, and again on the Saturday morning before the prize giving. Further information will be sent home closer to the date.

We have been most impressed with the level of engagement from this year's cohort. As with past years, the range of ideas and depth of inquiry are excellent. Thank you very much for the mentoring, support and encouragement you have given your children, it is invaluable and past students have said how the process makes a positive difference to their learning in college science.

Production, Literacy and Inquiry Learning

Team Four's production items focus on the Otago Gold Rush of 1861 and the rebuild of Napier following the earthquake that hit the region in 1931.

Reading and writing are around these themes, students are developing information literacy skills and developing questions for individual inquiries which will be presented at the end of the term. Writing includes explanations and reports, and we are focussing on the use of specific and precise vocabulary as well as rich description. In week 4 we begin another round of Literature Circles novel reading and students will work with peers across the team depending on their choice of novel.

Your child will need a few basic costume items and we hope to inform you of these as soon as we have cast roles etc. We think a few op-shop goodies and items lurking at the back of wardrobes will do the trick. If you have access to large pieces of cardboard eg. TV or fridge boxes, we'd love these as we are hoping to get prop making as soon as possible. If anyone has a trailer and would be happy to collect large pieces of cardboard from furniture and appliance stores, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Maths

Maths includes fractions, proportions and ratios, financial literacy, geometry, and algebra. We have a visitor from the ASB joining us to run a lesson on financial literacy, and have a week of lessons covering basic concepts around budgeting and financial management. Students will create a budget for a specific activity and timeframe and use money management tools, including online and hard copy bank statements to monitor a given budget.

Other dates and items:

ICAS English Tuesday 31 July Swimming Sports Thursday 2 August Cricket skills lessons start Monday 6 August Book Week 6-10 August (dress up Friday 10 Aug.) Disco Friday 10 August Science Fair work due in Friday 3 August	Boostrix Year 7 Tuesday 7 August ICAS Maths Tuesday 14 August Mathswell Wednesday 22 August Dress rehearsal for production Tuesday 4 September, Performances 5 and 6 September NIWA Fair Thursday 6 August
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Kind regards,

Alex, Fiona and Katie

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