

Dear parents and caregivers,

Technology

Technology this term is on the following dates: Tuesdays 30 July and 20 August, and Thursdays 15 and 22 August.

Dance and arts

All of Northland School are having weekly dance lessons with 'Footsteps' dance company. We had our first fun lesson of 'Reggaeton' this week and each Monday will be learning a new dance style for 45 minutes. Students will be showcasing some of what they have learnt for you at the end of the term.

On Thursday 25 July we are attending a dress rehearsal of the biennial combined Wellington College - Wellington Girls' College arts and culture showcase entitled **Tiaho te Ao**. The show will showcase combined musical groups, kapa haka and Pasifika groups.

Science Fair

Our Northland School Science and Technology Fair is on **Thursday 8 August** and will be held in the Community Centre. Judging by university post-graduate students will be done between 9.00am and 3.00pm. Family viewing will be held after school in the Team 4 classrooms on Tuesday 13 August from 3.00 till 6.00pm. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

All student work, boards, log books and display items (which should, ideally fit just in front of the board) are due in at school by **Wednesday 7 August**. Any questions - please email a teacher. The judges will select the top 20 students who will go on to the NIWA Science and Technology Fair. Further information for those students will be sent home closer to the date.

We have been most impressed with the level of engagement, and the range of ideas and depth of inquiry are excellent. We'd like to thank you very much for the mentoring, support and encouragement you have given your children, it is invaluable. Past students have said how the process makes a positive difference to their learning in college science.

Sports and PE

As well as dancing, we attend four double sessions of sports at the ASB Stadium, the Year 3 - 8 swimming sports and Western Zone netball.

Literacy and Inquiry Learning

Our cross-curricular inquiry this term is "Forensics, Fraud and Forgery". Broadly we will be investigating a range of topics such as using forensic science to gather and analyse evidence, and a bit about the New Zealand judiciary system. Students will be involved in observing, investigating, testing ideas, gathering and presenting information, and learning about why and how laws are written and upheld. We are developing our 'writing to explain' skills and writing longer, more developed texts. We run a second round of Literature Circles from Week 3.

Maths

We are completing division and covering fractions, proportions and ratios, geometry, and algebra. A recent document from a group of secondary school maths teachers shared ideas of the most useful skills, knowledge and strategies students should have when entering college. Number one on the list is sound knowledge of basic facts including multiplication and division to 10x10. We agree, good knowledge supports strategy learning, and can be a quick, regular home learning task. Websites such as Prototec can be useful.

Other dates and items:

Swimming Sports Tuesday 6 August ASB sports trips: Wednesday 28 August, 11, 18 and 25 September. Science Fair due in Wednesday 7 August WZ Netball 13 August	Mathswell Thursday 22 August 6.30pm NIWA Fair Thursday 29 August VUW 9-12pm
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Kind regards,

Alex, Gabrielle and Fiona

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