



RURU READS: MAY

28 May: Structured Literacy Workshops 2pm and 7pm
31 May: Teacher Only Day: School closed
3 Jun: King's Birthday: School closed
5 Jun: PB4L Meeting (7-8.15)
14 Jun: School photos
25 Jun: Matariki celebration at school (pm)
28 Jun: Matariki Holiday: School closed
5 Jul: Term 2 ends

Welcome to Team Ruru's newsletter for Term 2. It seems like we have hit the ground running with Kelly Sports, lots of new learning and an adjustment to cooler weather. Please make sure your child has a coat and layers at school this term. Wellington's weather is often unpredictable and we do try to get out as much as possible.

This term, we will be continuing our inquiry, looking at *Beneath the Surface* by investigating underneath the earth's crust. We will be incorporating our local pūrākau and waiata from Te Atiawa into our learning. We are planning a trip to Te Papa on **Monday 17 June** so please look out for more information on HERO. **We will need parent help for this trip.**

At the end of this term we will be showcasing some of our learning in an assembly for you. Caitlin (a dance specialist) is coming in to teach the children some dances, which will link to our work in Mahi Rangahau. This performance will take place in Te Kōhanga on **Friday 5th July at 9.15am.**



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RURU ITI?

Literacy: We have been continuing our learning using a Structured Literacy approach. The children have been learning about syllables, vowels and consonants and adding a where to their sentences in writing. It is exciting to see the children so motivated to learn to read and write.

Maths: We started the term with a fun look at statistics. We explored favourite fruit ice cream in Ruru Iti by making our own ice cream shops. Later in the term we will look at repeated patterns. We continue to secure our knowledge of numbers to 100 and are working on adding and subtracting from, within 10, 20 and beyond. You can help at home particularly by practising backwards counting and asking “what is the number before/after a number?” as this helps with adding and subtracting.

Mahi Rangahau: We started off the term learning the pūrākau about The Children of Rangi and Papa. From there we have begun our investigation into What is an earthquake? and learning about the tectonic plates under the ground. In Farmer Time, Myfanwy showed us all the snacks that cows like to eat and talked about how the cows are drying off before having their calves in August. We are excited to name some of the calves.

PB4L Rewards: We are working towards a picnic or a movie as a reward for collecting marbles for expected behaviours and should have a full jar in the next week or two.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RURU NUI?

Literacy

This term we have started The Syntax Project as part of our writing programme. We have, so far, learnt about some of the different parts of speech, for example nouns and verbs. We're continuing with our Code and reading programmes from last term.

Maths

In term 2 we are continuing our focus on number introducing new and exciting games revolving around number knowledge. We have been thinking about statistics in our Maths Makers session. The children have enjoyed gathering information, (data) recording it (tallying) and forming bar graphs so we can talk about what we can see.

Mahi Rangahau - Beneath the Surface -

Ruru 1 - This term we will be unpacking and exploring earthquakes and volcanoes. Last week we enjoyed listening to and acting out the pūrakau of Rangī and Papa's children. We focused in on Rūaumoko (god of earthquakes and volcanoes) and created some lovely art. We are very much looking forward to visiting Te Papa later in the term.

Ruru 2 - We have started the term exploring earthquakes. We revisited our learning around layers from last term and delve deeper into looking at the layers of the Earth. We are using this new knowledge to do some thinking around what causes earthquakes.

Ruru 3 - Ruru 3 has been busy exploring the what we think/wonder is within the centre of the Earth. We have drawn images and explained our thinking. As a creative representation we used different colours of playdough to create a 3D structure of the Earth. Each colour presented a different layer: The core, outer core, mantle and the crust. After cutting our Earths in half we were able to clearly see each layer.

RURU ROTATIONS...

Drama

We are continuing to explore different drama games and learn new ways of expressing ourselves. We will start to use our drama skills to act out known stories as well as imaginative ones.

PE Skills and Games -

In PE we have been focusing on small ball skills and games relating to the skills we have learnt. The small ball skills include bouncing, catching, balancing, striking and throwing. We are also using different equipment such as paddy tennis bats to either strike, balance or hit the ball with, either to a partner, against a wall or over a net. The games we have played include tunnel ball, over and under, dodgeball and Tapu ae. It's been great to see the kids having fun outside and working together as a team.

Music

We will be continuing our choral and call and response songs. We will be adding instruments (shakers) to accompany our singing and looking at using them for keeping a rhythm.

Kelly Sports

We are very fortunate to be able to have a 5 week session run by Kelly Sports. Each class is involved in one session a week involving the use of different PE equipment and some really fun and activity games.

