

RURU READS: AUGUST

Upcoming Dates:

30th August: Teacher Only Day

10th-11th September: Botanical Gardens Trip

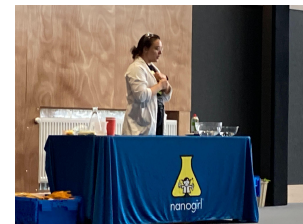
5th and 11th September: Learning Conversations

13th September: Onesie Day (For Wellington Free Ambulance)

20th September: Cultural Day

Reminders: Coats, warm layers at school as the weather is changeable

A term of mixed weather so far but we have all settled back into the new term and before we have blinked it is mid term already! A reminder there is **no school this Friday, 30th August**. We have a teacher only day focusing on writing and PB4L. We have welcomed Jackie to our team who is taking the older children in Ruru Iti for literacy and maths, while the children still are combined for Mahi Rangahau. We have all shared in some great performances this term; NED with all the yoyos, Nano Girl and an amazing performance by our Kapa Haka performance group. I think there are many Ruru children who can't wait to lead the Kapa Haka group in the future. Our inquiry programme, Mahi Rangahau is strongly embedded in the team with lots of different learning opportunities happening across all classes. We look forward to our trips to the **Botanical Gardens on the 10th and 11th of September** ...more details have been sent on HERO. For Health Education we continue to focus on friendships, caring for ourselves, knowing our zones of regulation and developing strategies. We focus regularly on our school values and our behavior matrices for PB4L. And...just a reminder that all of Ruru will be swimming in Term 4. More details will follow later in the term.



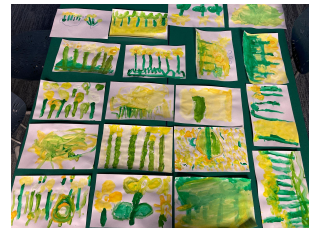
WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN RURU ITI?

Literacy This term we have continued to work on The Code (our spelling and handwriting programme), reading and writing. The children are gaining a lot of confidence We are looking forward to Helen Walls coming in next week to model some composition lessons for writing.

Maths Ruru Iti has some exciting new maths trays to use during independent maths time. In Eleanor's maths groups we are continuing to find confidence in adding and subtracting numbers from 20 and beyond. Our newest students are also writing numbers and identifying the numerals. Jackie's maths groups are continuing to identify numbers up to 20 and beyond as well as using Numicon to add and subtract up to 20 and beyond.

Mahi Rangahau We have been learning about seeds and bulbs and finding out all the different conditions needed for seeds to germinate. Last week we had fun making our own compost after the importance of compost was mentioned by one of the children. We haven't had much luck getting beans to grow but will have another go this week.

PB4L Rewards We have been waiting for a nice week in order to complete our last reward: Wheels Day but have nearly finished a jar for 'bring a toy' to school. We have been focusing on learning the School Values and what they mean. We have also been looking at what it means to be kind; kind hands, kind feet, kind words and being careful with our resources.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN RURU NUI?

Literacy- This term we have been continuing with our Syntax writing project focusing on conjunctions and using 'before' and 'after' to begin questions. We are moving through our Code lessons with a focus on correct letter formation and placement of letters on the line, as well as learning about new spelling rules and patterns.

Maths Ruru had a fabulous Maths Makers week learning about measurement through the Olympics, taking part in 'long jump', 'shot put' (bean bag throwing) and 'javelin' (dart throwing). We are now delving into the early stages of multiplication using Numicon to show grouping of 2s, 5s and 10s, and gaining and understanding that 'x' means 'groups of'.

Mahi Rangahau - Beneath the Surface -

Ruru 1 - Ruru 1 have been busy growing beans in a bag and learning all about how seeds grow. The children have been recording what they see each day and have been keeping a bean diary. Our next step is to get the beans out of the bag and carefully plant them in the planter box.

Ruru 2 - Ruru 2 have been busy learning about how plants grow. We went on a seed hunt up the maunga and brought a collection back. We planted Little Garden seeds and runner beans and we look forward to seeing these grow! Our next wondering is how much water and sun do plants need to grow so we will be doing some experiments to find out.

Ruru 3 - We have been having a very exciting time discovering about the inside of seeds, planting the seeds that we have taken out of various fruits, setting up experiments to see which seed grows the fastest. Each morning it is wonderful to see Ruru 3 come in and measure their beanstalk growth. We were very excited last Friday to discover that our potato plant has popped up out of the ground. As we move on, we will be looking at how the plants gets its nutrients to grow.

