

# ***Kauri Syndicate Newsletter***

## ***Term 2, 2018***

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2018

Welcome back to Term 2. We hope the students are refreshed and ready for another busy term!

This term one of our major events is the Science Fair. This will be held in the second to last week of term on 27 June. The top ten projects go on to the NIWA Wellington Science Fair. More information about this will be sent home separately.

We begin our swimming and Electives programmes this term. These both start next week – swimming on Thursdays and Electives on Fridays.

We will also begin gearing up for the school production in Term 3 (5 & 6 September). Auditions for the major acting roles will be held towards the end of the term.

### **Religious Education**

We start the term with the “Jesus” strand, then after Pentecost we will move on to the “Holy Spirit” strand, focusing on scripture.

### **English**

This term we will be studying poetry, with a particular focus on language features and inference. Later we will be learning about formal essay writing.

We also plan to set up book groups in the second half of the term. Each group will read and discuss a different novel over the span of a few weeks.

As reading is such an important skill, we will continue to encourage the students to read regularly in their own time. As in Term 1, we expect each student to work on improving their reading skills by reading at least one book per week. Longer books can count as two or three if appropriate – we don't want students to limit the size of the books they choose. There are a range of other reading challenges this term – these can be found on our blog. Please do what you can at home to encourage your child to read regularly.

### **Mathematics**

In Mathematics we are carrying on with addition and subtraction, and will be moving into multiplication and division later in the term. We will also be studying geometry this term, focusing on shape, reflection, rotation and enlargement.

### **Topic**

Our major topic this term will be ‘Water World’. This is a Science topic based around climate change, the water cycle and plastic pollution. As well as learning about the topic, we will focus on improving research and formal writing skills. We will also look at fair testing in Science. This is to help the students carry out their own experiments for the Science Fair, following the scientific method.

### **Art**

In art this term we will be focusing on painting and sketching techniques, including some art linked to our Water World topic.

### **Te Reo Māori**

This term we are happy to welcome Kapa Haka and Te Reo teacher Jo Raukawa to the school. Jo will be taking a Kapa Haka group during Friday lunchtimes and teaching Te Reo and Kapa Haka to Room 11 & 12 students every second Friday.

In class we will continue to use a mixture of the Ka Mau te Wehi programme and the He Reo Tupu, He Reo Ora programme to learn a range of Maori vocabulary and phrases.

### **Spanish**

We will continue learning basic Spanish vocab and sentences this term, following the Si! Programme, and using the DuoLingo app/website.

### **Physical Education/Health**

Our swimming programme begins this term. Room 11 and 12 will be swimming at Keith Spry Pool in Johnsonville from 1.15 – 2.15pm every Thursday from Week 2 – Week 9. Our bus will leave school at 12.55pm. Your child needs to wear their PE uniform and bring their swimming togs and towel with them every Thursday, starting from next week.

### **Uniform**

A reminder that in Term 2 students need to wear the winter school uniform. Details can be found on the school website and parents can purchase uniform items from the school office.

### **Punctuality**

We would like to remind parents that school begins promptly at 8.50am and that we do expect students to be on time. Students need time to unpack their belongings, catch up with friends and settle in so that they are ready to learn. Classrooms are open from 8.30am.

### **Homework**

Homework is given as part of the weekly task sheet. Therefore, it will be given on a Monday and is due back on a Friday. It is our expectation that each child will complete all their work and hand it in on time. If there is some reason why your child cannot complete their work they should bring a note to explain.

A major component of homework this term will be the Science Fair project. It is essential that the project be completed by 27 June (second to last week of term), as we have external judges coming in to assess the projects. It is not possible to complete a Science Fair project at the last minute, so please encourage your child to work steadily on it throughout the term. We need all students to have decided on their topic by the end of Week 2. Please read the separate information letter that will be coming home this week.

### **Term 2 Events**

#### **Masses and Liturgies**

Room 12 – 23 May, 9.15am

Room 11 – 20 June, 9.15am

St Benedict's Day Mass, Friday 6 July at 9:30 am

#### **Cross Country**

School – 23 May (postponement 29 May)

Northern Zone – 7 June (postponement 13 June)

#### **ICAS exams**

Science - 29 May

Writing - 12 June

#### **College visitors to talk to Yr 8s**

St Patrick's visitor – 16 May

St Mary's visitor – 30 May

#### **Science Fair**

Wednesday 27 June

#### **Parent-Teacher Interviews & Reports**

Wednesday 4 July & Thursday 5 July

Kind regards

Fiona Bolger  
Room 12  
Syndicate Leader

Rachael Bolger  
Room 11