

# **Kauri Syndicate Newsletter**

## **Term 3, 2018**

Welcome back to Term 3. We hope the students have had a great holiday and have come back refreshed and ready for an exciting term, with the school production as our major focus. Fiona Bolger will be returning from sick leave to teach in Room 12. We thank Paul Cunningham and Anne-Marie Cassidy for teaching the class last term. Please note that Room 11 will be working in the After School Care classroom for the first half of Term 3.

The school production this year is called 'The Amazing Adventures of Superstan'. It will be held in Week 7 on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September at the Memorial Theatre, Victoria University. We will begin the acting and dancing rehearsals early this term. All Yr 7 & 8 students will be involved in a dance and have a speaking part, and some of the students will also be involved in backstage roles. This is always an exciting time for the school and we are looking forward to a great show. Tickets will be on sale later this term.

### **Religious Education**

This term we will finish off the Holy Spirit Strand and then move on to a unit focusing on Suzanne Aubert and the Church. We will celebrate the Assumption of Mary at a Mass on 15 August.

### **English**

Our main focus this term is looking at how students can change their writing styles to suit different purposes and audiences. We will start the term with a Heroes and Villains theme. We will be writing in a range of genres, focusing especially on biographies and comics.

We will also be running book groups, where students meet in groups of 4 – 6 to read and discuss a particular novel that they will read over a few weeks. The aim is to encourage students to enjoy books and to develop their ability to analyse and discuss what they are reading. Groups that are working well and having thoughtful discussions will be allowed to bring in some snacks to share during their meetings.

We will continue to give the children opportunities to read and write in a wide range of genres. As usual, we expect each student to work on improving their reading skills by reading the equivalent of at least one book per week.

### **Mathematics**

In Mathematics we are learning multiplication and division mental and written strategies. We will also be studying measurement this term, in particular area, perimeter, volume and unit conversions.

### **Topic**

The school production will be a major focus this term but we will also be doing a small unit on the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage in New Zealand. We will link this to our work on biographies in English. Towards the end of the term we will be doing a health unit on Changes at Puberty.

### **The Arts**

We will have a strong focus on dance and drama this term as we prepare for the school production.

### **Te Reo Māori / Kapa Haka**

This term we will learn a range of Maori vocabulary and phrases, and continue with our te reo and kapa haka lessons with Jo Raukawa. These will now be on a Tuesday afternoon.

### **Japanese**

We will begin learning basic Japanese vocab and sentences this term, following the Hai! programme.

## ICT

As usual, we will integrate ICT into all areas of the curriculum so that students develop confidence and skill with a wide range of programs and websites. We have a Kauri syndicate blog at [stbensfab.blogspot.com](http://stbensfab.blogspot.com), where you can find information on what we are doing in the classroom, and links to all the students' blogs. We would love to see some comments on our posts, so have a look when you can. The students generally post something once a week and it is motivating for them to know they are writing for an audience beyond the classroom.

## Physical Education/Health

Our Nairnville programme continues this term. Room 11 goes to Nairnville on Thursdays from 12 - 1pm, and Room 12 from 1.30-2.30pm. The Nairnville programme will cover athletics skills this term.

## Weekly Tasks & Homework

Our weekly task sheet is given out every Monday and all work needs to be completed by Friday. We encourage students to hand in work throughout the week so that teachers can give feedback and improvements can be made if necessary. Students need to practice their time management skills by making decisions about which tasks are best done at school and which at home. We appreciate that people lead busy lives, so if there is some reason why your child cannot complete all their work they should bring a note to explain. The weekly task sheet is posted on the Kauri Blog each week so you can keep up to date with what is happening.

### Term 3 Events

#### School Masses and Liturgies

Grandparents' Mass & morning tea, Friday 27 July, 10.00 am  
Assumption Mass, Wednesday 15 August, 9.30 am

#### Class Masses

Room 12 – Wednesday 8 August, 9.15am  
Room 11 – Wednesday 12 September, 9.15am

#### School Photos

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July

#### School Production

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 7pm (Dress rehearsal 12 noon)  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 7pm  
(Late start time of 10am for classes on Thursday and Friday)

#### Swimming Sports

School – Tuesday 21 August  
Northern Zone – Friday 31 August  
Interzone – Tuesday 13 September

#### Exams (these can be subject to last minute change)

ICAS English – Thursday 31 July  
Aust. Maths Competition – Thursday 9 August  
ICAS Maths – Tuesday 14 August

#### HOK Quiz

Friday 3 August

#### Fathers' Day Breakfast

Friday 24 August

#### NIWA Wellington Science Fair

Wednesday 5 September – Saturday 8 September

Kind regards

Rachael Bolger  
Room 11

Fiona Bolger  
Room 12