

# Kauri Syndicate Newsletter - Term 3, 2021

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

Welcome back, we hope you have had a good rest and are feeling refreshed and ready for Term 3. Well done to all the students for the work they put into their Science Fair projects last term and thank you to parents for your support. The judges were very impressed with the standard of entries and the top ten projects will go on to the NIWA Wellington Science Fair at the end of August.

## Term 3 Events

### Class Masses at St Benedict's Church

Grandparents' Mass - Friday 30 July 10:00am

Grandparents' Morning Tea - Friday 30 July 11:15am (Library)

Buddy Mass Rooms 5, 6, 7, 11, 12 & 13 – Tuesday 10 August 9:15am

### Whole-School Liturgical Celebrations

Assumption Liturgy - Monday 16 August 10am (in classes at school)

### External Exams

Australian Maths Competition (Online) Wednesday 4 August

ICAS Writing and Digital technology the week of 9-13 August

ICAS English the week of 16-20 August

ICAS Science the week of 23-27 August

ICAS Maths the week of 30 August – 3 September

(These dates are subject to change if there is a clash with another event.)

### School Events

Year 3-8 Swimming Sports - Thursday 5 August

Year 3-8 School Athletics Day Monday 20 September, Nairnville

Postponement Day School Athletics Day Monday 27 September, Nairnville

Art Exhibition Thursday 30 September, 3-6pm (School)

This term we will be focusing on an integrated inquiry centred around the United Nations Sustainable Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. This is in response to the Student Wellbeing Survey our students took part in during Term 2 with an emphasis on:

- Investigating and/or accessing a range of community resources that support well-being and evaluating the contribution made by each to the well-being of community members.
- Describing and demonstrating a range of assertive communication skills and processes that enable them to interact appropriately with other people.
- Describing the characteristics of pubertal change and discussing positive adjustment strategies.
- Identifying the effects of changing situations, roles, and responsibilities on relationships and describing appropriate responses.

Throughout the inquiry there will be coverage of several curriculum areas. The students will be writing poetry, creating visual art, and music, exploring how wellbeing is linked to and expressed through this media. We will be taking a holistic approach to teaching RE, well-being and resilience. We will link our study of God and the Holy Spirit to relationship changes, and we will be using the Circle Solutions programme. The

students will have an opportunity to inquire into a focus of their choosing and during the Art Exhibition in Week 10 the students will showcase their work.

There are many ways in which you can continue to support your child/ren with this inquiry:

- Suggest a guest speaker or volunteer to be one
- Bring in reading material, books, newspaper clippings, YouTube clips, or photos
- Have conversations at home

### **Reading – Book Groups**

This term we will be running book groups as part of our reading programme. Book groups are student-centered and involve small groups of students reading the same novel. This provides the opportunity for students to read, reflect, discuss and respond to a book in an authentic and natural way. Groups that are working well and having thoughtful discussions will be allowed to bring in some snacks to share during their meetings.

### **Mathematics**

We will also be studying geometry this term, focusing on shape, reflection, rotation, and enlargement. We will begin a focus on fractions, decimals, ratios, and percentages later this term.

### **Te Reo Māori/French**

We will continue with our specialist te reo teacher, Whaea Adrienne, visiting each class every fortnight. We will begin learning basic French vocab using Duolingo and our French 'Oui' programme.

### **Physical Education**

The Nairnville programme will focus on athletics skills from Weeks 1 to 8. All three classes will go to Nairnville on Tuesdays: Room 13 from 9 – 10am, Room 12 from 10 - 11am and Room 11 from 11 – 12pm.

### **Digital Technology**

We integrate digital technology into all areas of the curriculum so that students develop confidence and skill with a wide range of programs, apps and websites at the Year 7&8 Tech programme at Mt Cook School

If you have any questions, either about your child or what is happening at school, please feel free to ask. You can email us at [rebecca.blackwood@st-benedicts.school.nz](mailto:rebecca.blackwood@st-benedicts.school.nz), [paul.cunningham@st-benedicts.school.nz](mailto:paul.cunningham@st-benedicts.school.nz), [richard.smith@st-benedicts.school.nz](mailto:richard.smith@st-benedicts.school.nz) or call the office. We are looking forward to an enjoyable term.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa,

Rebecca Blackwood  
**Kauri Syndicate Leader**  
**(Room 13)**

Paul Cunningham  
**(Room 12)**

Richard Smith  
**(Room 11)**