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3rd August 2022

Akomanga Tekau Mā Whitu - Room 27

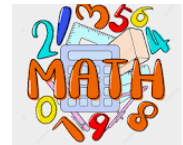
Kia ora Parents, Caregivers, Whānau,

Nau mai hoki mai ki te kaupeka tuatoru nei. Welcome back to the third term. Hope you are all well in this climate of colds, flus and covid, not to mention our delightful Waikato weather pattern of 'all four seasons in one day'.

What's on this term?

We have a few exciting activities and events to look forward to this term.

1. Maths Week is next week. Our amazing maths whizz teachers here have planned fun activities for the whole school to challenge themselves and have fun with maths. I am looking forward to being outdone once again by the students!
2. Our Keeping Safe programme begins soon. Previously this programme was called 'Keeping Ourselves Safe'. More information to follow, however should you wish to learn more, please mark Tuesday 9th August (next week) on your calendar to attend the parent information hui at 5.30pm.
3. Cross-country is in week 5, Thursday 25th August. We have already begun training for this event at school. Maybe your child has already mentioned their sore legs?!
4. Mahuru Māori is week 7 - Māori Language week. Planning is underway for lots of events and challenges that week.
5. Our senior area speech competition looks a little different this year. Our focus is on the oral language skills required to present and deliver a text effectively. Students are able to select any text (eg: poem, story, memoir) that they believe will appeal to their audience and will allow them to practise and show their great oral language skills. We will work on this together in class and all tamariki will participate in developing the oral language skills needed for the effective recital of a text **BUT** participation in the finals is optional. We are allowed to send one year 5 and one year 6 student from our class to the senior area finals. The senior school finals will be held on Rāapa 21 Māhuru (Wednesday 21 September).
6. Week 10 sees the return of our Cultural Celebrations. These are normally held in term 1, however covid changed these plans. Once again, more information will come out closer to the time about this amazing festival of cultures. At this stage our parade is booked for Wednesday. If you can make this event, we would love to see you there.



Break Times

Just to avoid confusion, a reminder that our new break times are 10.50am to 11.20am and 1pm to 1.30pm. These are outside play times. The students then eat their morning tea and lunch immediately after each break, in class.



In Akomanga 27 (and I believe in some other classes too, but please check with each teacher), we stop at 10am for a 'Brain Break', where the students can have a quick healthy snack. This is to keep them going until morning tea, as many students have had an early breakfast, and it's a long wait until 11.20am to eat again. I do emphasise that this is a healthy snack break, something that does not cause a sugar rush, but rather something that can sustain their energy levels for a longer period of time. Good examples of snacks (but not limited to) are a piece of fruit, a low sugar (peanut free) muesli bar, a pottle of yoghurt or vegetable sticks.

Reminder for year six students:

For our whānau with year six students this year, who will be attending intermediate in 2023, please be aware that the intermediates are readying themselves for their open days and enrolments. It is your responsibility to enrol your child at an intermediate, either decided by zone or sibling attendance. We are happy to assist in any way with questions. Many of our students are zoned for Peachgrove Intermediate or Berkley Normal School, however some are in other areas. Information about each school's zones is available on their website.

For further information, please visit the intermediate's website:

Peachgrove Intermediate: <https://www.peachgrove.school.nz/enrolment>

Berkley Normal Middle School: <https://www.berkley.school.nz/enrolment>

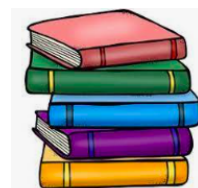
School closure day

A reminder that school is closed on the following day this term:

- ❖ Friday 2 September: Teacher Only Day

Library

Our library time remains on Fridays this term. There are a number of outstanding library books. Please remind your child to pop them into their school bags to return.



Important to note...

- **Medication:** A reminder that a consent form must be filled in and left at the office for any medication administered at school. All medication remains in the office for safekeeping during the day.
- **Cell phones:** We prefer children to leave cell phones at home but understand that some children require a cell phone for safety reasons and to contact family members after school. Children must be responsible with their cell phones, using them appropriately and not during the school day.
- **School Payments:** To avoid office queues, and to ensure your payments are accounted for correctly, we encourage all families to pay school costs online through our Kindo shop. If you do not already have a Kindo account, go to mykindo.co.nz or via the link on our school website. There are no fees for Kindo payments unless you choose to use a credit card. Using a Kindo account is the most efficient way to pay. You do not need to send any paper forms back to school, so nothing gets lost in school bags.

You are welcome to visit at any time, so please pop in and see us.
It's going to be a great year!

Ngā manaakitanga,
Kind regards,

Deborah Wilson

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