



# Team Kahikatea Newsletter

Term Three, August 2016

## Welcome to Term 3 2016

We all hope you had a good break, kept warm and managed to do some exciting things together throughout the holidays. We are looking forward to working with everyone again in the second half of the school year. A huge welcome to Cherie Geddes, who has recently started teaching in Room 12 at West Park School. Please make sure you introduce yourself to Cherie when you see her around the school. We would also like to welcome Erica Leggett and John Green into our team for first 3 weeks of the term. They are very excited to be working in with our Year 5 cohort.

### Term 2 Highlights:

**Carter Observatory (Space Place) Trip:** As a follow up to our Space Inquiry Unit, Team Kahikatea went to the Carter Observatory to explore their educational program. On behalf of our staff and students, thank you so much to the parents who helped on the day. Without this level of support, trips like this one just cannot happen.

### Teaching and Learning in Team Kahikatea:

It has been a term since Team Kahikatea has moved in to our new learning spaces. We have been working extremely hard to cater for the variety of needs in our classes. Leading up to the move and since moving in, we have spent time researching current best teaching practices, attending professional development courses and discussing as a team what changes need to occur in our programs. We regularly check in with our students, seeking feedback as to what is working well and what possible changes need to be implemented to cater for their learning styles. We have also had discussions as a staff around how to successfully transition each year group to the next, to try to avoid starting from scratch with each new year.

Please feel free to organise a time with your child's classroom teacher to observe the classes in action. It would be wonderful to celebrate the new classrooms and student driven learning together.

**Camp:** A 'Parent Information Booklet' will be sent home in the next few weeks detailing all you need to know about our camp this year. This includes the aims and objectives, a map of the camp, timetables of activities and a list of things your child will need to bring. Please ask your child's teacher if you are unsure of anything.

Also, after your initial deposit of \$20, we have calculated the remaining amount to be \$163.60. We have a timeline of receiving \$100 by the end of Term 3 and the remaining \$63.60 in early Term 4. Alternatively, you are more than welcome to pay the full amount in Term 3.

Camp payments are going through the school Kindo account, please [CLICK HERE](#) to make your payment. Once you log on to Kindo you can click on the Senior Camp tab then choose which instalment to pay.

### Term three focus:

Writing: Narrative & Descriptive

Mathematics: Number, Algebra and Measurement

Visual Arts: Photography and Digital Skills

Health: Food and Nutrition

P.E: Striking, dribbling and pushing (control with your feet)

Drama: Initiate and develop ideas with others to create drama

Science: Volcano (Crest Program)

Technology: BP challenge (Crest Program)

### Important dates:

9 August: 1<sup>st</sup> Camp Parent helper Meeting 7pm-8pm

18 August: Parent information evening about current classroom programmes 6pm-7pm (more information to come)

29 August: Year 6 Raroa Intermediate Visit (a notice will be sent out soon)

31 August: Artsplash at the Michael Fowler Centre



## Artsplash:



Our Artsplash performance is on Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup> (Week 6 of Term 3) and we have been hard at work practising our songs. Some dedicated students have been attending lunchtime sessions to help memorise song lyrics and perfect their pitch, and you may have heard your children trying out some of our songs at home, too! We will be increasing the amount and intensity of our practices as we close in on our performance day; it would be great if you could keep encouraging your children to learn the song lyrics at home.

There are two different performance times on the night of Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup>. This year, we have been placed in the later slot, with our performance starting at 7.45pm. We understand that this will mean a late night for our students, though the opportunity to build their confidence through performing in front of a big crowd and showing our school values is something that is quite special for them to be a part of. We hope to see all of our students at the event. Students will need to be dropped off and picked up by a parent or caregiver to the night time performance at the Michael Fowler Centre (the school is organising and funding their travel to the rehearsal, which is during school time on the same day).

More details will follow, along with information on how to purchase tickets to the performance. If you have any questions please contact Alisa Schilder on [alisas@westpark.school.nz](mailto:alisas@westpark.school.nz) or come and see her in Room 15.

## Reminders:

We strongly encourage your children to avoid bringing any valuable items to school. Over the last term, we have seen an increase of toys, such as Beyblades and Pokemon Cards being played at morning teas and lunchtimes. We have also seen an increase of these items going missing.

Teachers have spent their valuable teaching time trying to locate them.

If toys are brought to school, they need to be clearly named and left in your children's school bag at all times. Teachers cannot be responsible if anything goes missing.

We look forward to another productive term in Team Kahikatea. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have or if you would like to spend time with us during the day. We are all keen to have parents be more involved in the classroom to help out.

Warm Regards,

Team Kahikatea

Emily Osborn (Team Leader/Year 6), Alisa Schilder (Year 6), Rob Calder (Year 5), Cherie Geddes (Year 5)