



# RURU READS: MARCH

## Upcoming Dates:

28 March - Teacher Only Day

29 March- Tuesday 2nd April- Easter (school closed)

3-4 April - Learning conversations

9 April - Learning in Action- Sharing in classes with Parents 2;15-3pm

12 April- End of Term 1

Reminders: Coats, warm layers at school as we move into cooler weather.

It has been a really busy term for us all in Ruru and we can't quite believe that it is nearly the end of term. It has been great to see the excitement in the team as the children have explored '**Beneath the Surface**' through the lens of our local pūrakau (legends) and a science/ arts lens. We meet regularly as a team to share the direction of the learning and it is great to see the connections between each class' inquiry.

As you have probably heard, all the classes in Ruru have been connected with a farmer for **Farmer Time** this year. We look forward to sharing our learning with you and are excited about the interactions that can happen with these experiences for our 'city children'.

We hope you have enjoyed all the **posts on HERO** sharing your child's learning this term. We want you to be informed about your child's learning at school on a regular basis rather than just wait for more formal feedback opportunities. We appreciate the dialogue that can happen when parents post a comment back.

To further our communication with you about learning, have you signed up for the **learning conversations** happening on the 3rd and 4th April? See the school newsletter for details. We also would love to show you around our classrooms and share some of our learning on April 9th between 2.15 and 3pm.

As we move into autumn/ winter it would be useful for children to bring layers to school and raincoats when the weather is wet. We do try to get the children out, unless it is pouring, but it is tricky when children don't have the appropriate clothing. It can be really windy at Northland School so layers are really important.



# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN RURU ITI?

## Literacy

We have been continuing to learn all our letters and sounds in Literacy. One of the highlights has been learning about 'qu' and that two graphemes that make a phoneme! In writing we have been practising sentences with a who and a do. We have also been working on writing cvc (consonant, vowel, consonant) words and writing dictated sentences. We have also been doing lots of reading of word cards, practising blending and sliding the sounds together. These helps us remember the sounds in order when we have to say the word quickly. Further reading practise happens when we are reading books in class.

## Maths

So far this term we have had two "Maths makers" sessions where we explore maths strand topics of Geometry (shape) and Measurement (length) and (volume and capacity). These sessions let the children first explore an idea. As teachers we note misconceptions, then explicitly teach those areas. We then have a further exploratory session to explore those new ideas. We have also been exploring and becoming familiar with the Numicon.

**Mahi Rangahau** we have been exploring underneath Papatūānuku. Lots of discussion around the layers of the earth, exploring our understandings through art, using clay and exploring rocks. We continue to go up the maunga most weeks and enjoy being out and about exploring the ngāhere.

**PB4L Rewards-** we chose extra playtime as our first reward for following our expected behaviours at school. We have nearly filled our second jar and it is a close run between having a picnic and watching a movie (the children decide what they are working towards.) We will let you know when we fill the jar.



# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN RURU NUI?

## **Literacy**

We have been continuing with learning different spelling patterns in our Code groups. We are practising segmenting and blending unknown words, as well as finding information in texts. We love our Story Maker sessions where we have had fun creating stories with our friends.

## **Maths**

We have continued to focus on Number in Ruru Nui. We have also had two Math Makers weeks. Our first one focussed on 2D and 3D shape and in our second Maths Makers we investigated volume and capacity.

## **Mahi Rangahau - Beneath the Surface -**

### **Ruru 1**

Ruru 1 have enjoyed exploring what lies beneath Papatuanuku. As a class we have been looking into the different layers of the earth and the changes that occur due to the weather.

### **Ruru 2**

We have investigated what Papatūānuku is made of. We went to the park to collect dirt samples to see what we could find. We are also looking at the different layers with the earth. Recently we have started to look at the colours within the earth and trying to make are own.

### **Ruru 3**

Ruru 3 has been busy exploring the water cycle, looking at the different layers of soil and exploring creative art works around materials from under the ground (charcoal,oil pastels and chalk pastels). We also created some amazing sand pictures relating to Papatuanuku and Ranginui.

# RURU ROTATIONS...

## **Drama**

We have had lots of fun exploring different drama games such as the mirror game and making human machines. We listened to and acted out stories such as 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt.'

## **PE Skills and Games -**

We have been focusing on large ball skills and games relating to the skills we have learnt. The skills include bouncing, catching and throwing. The games we have played include tunnel ball, over and under, dodgeball and Tapu ae. It's been great to see the kids having fun outside and working together as a team.

## **Music**

In music we have been exploring "call and repeat" songs and listening to rhythm and each other. We have been experimenting with singing in parts and rounds. I am overjoyed to hear all those beautiful voices and the enthusiasm all the children bring to music!