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Awaroa Team Term 3 2022

Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

'Connecting with our people, our learning and our place'

Welcome back to Term 3!

It was great to welcome the Awaroa children back to school on Monday. Despite the return to wearing masks and the wet and wild weather, our children have been amazing in the way that they have quickly settled back into their learning and school routines. The value that we are basing our inquiry on this term is Mōhiotanga - learning. We hope that in looking closely at how our brains work and what helps us to learn, that we will be able to take on new challenges in Term 3. A highlight for Awaroa in Term 3 will be our camp to Hanmer Springs in Week 9. Further information on this camp will either be sent home in letters or attached to our weekly Friday Pitopito Kōrero in the upcoming weeks. We also look forward to meeting up with you in person (or online) next week for Learning Conferences. This is a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress and to talk about their most recent report. We look forward to seeing you all then.

Our school Vision and Values is central to all that we do. Last term our focus with our students was 'Connecting with our place - Kaitiakitanga'. This term we will be exploring what 'Connecting to our learning - Mōhiotanga' means to us. Our school curriculum is 'place based' this means that we work to explore and begin all learning inquiries with ourselves and our school at the centre before exploring and inquiring into how this impacts at a local, national and possibly global level.

What do our Term 3 curriculum programmes look like?	
Inquiry:	Our Inquiry Learning Focus for this term will be our school's character strength of Mōhiotanga. Mōhiotanga is all about immersing ourselves in new learning opportunities and developing our knowledge, understanding and awareness of ourselves as lifelong learners. To do this, we will be learning about *how* people learn. This will involve studying how the human brain works, the different theories of various learning styles and how developing a 'Growth Mindset' can make us all better learners. Later in the term we will put this learning into practice by challenging ourselves to learn a new skill. We are looking forward to seeing the results!
Literacy:	For the first part of the term, our reading will centre on two sophisticated picture books titled 'The Watertower' and 'Beneath The Surface', both written by Gary Crew. These are engaging books with an element of mystery and intrigue that leave much to the reader's imagination. They are perfect books for developing our children's skills in retrieving information and inferring meaning. These books will provide an excellent stimulus for narrative writing and we are looking forward to being able to let the children's imaginations fly. Later in the term, our writing will focus on Speech Writing. The preparation and delivery of these speeches will take place in Weeks 7 and 8.
Spelling:	We are continuing to make good progress in the delivery of our school-wide spelling teaching and learning, using The Code. The Code is an explicit, systematic approach to learning to spell which is in line with a structured literacy approach. We are beginning to see progress in the children's understanding of the spelling rules and we are hoping to see more evidence of a greater confidence in spelling being demonstrated in their writing as this term progresses.
Maths:	Our key focus to start the term will be fractions, decimals and percentages, as well as multiplicative thinking. Week 3 is Maths Week across New Zealand. Over the course of the week the children will be involved in a range of different maths experiences. There is the opportunity to enter competitions and have fun participating in a range of mathematical challenges. Every child also has the opportunity to take part in Cantamath Challenges. The information was shared with students this week. If your child is interested and did not take the information home, they can ask their maths teacher for the newsletter. Completed projects must be at school by 9am Monday 22nd August.
Health and Physical Education:	This term we will be attending the Zone Winter Sport Tournament and then on to the Canterbury Event if successful. Through our interchange programme students will be focusing on striking and fielding games. These games are designed to develop student's thinking around being able to read the game and anticipate the play when applying fielding, catching and striking skills. Alongside Physical Education our interchange programme will continue to include Well Being.
Science:	Every Tuesday students will be exploring science. Our focus this term is on the Material World. Students will be learning about the structure of matter, states of matter, food chemistry and preservation and working with metals. Throughout the term students will be developing an understanding of these key concepts and complete a range of science experiments designed to deepen their knowledge.
Technology:	Each Tuesday we will continue to travel to Christchurch East School for Technology Education. The children will be learning in the areas of Hard Materials, Soft Materials and Food Design. In Hard Materials, the children will use the design process to make a clock based on their chosen design and learn about the technological processes of planning and modelling. Once they complete this, they will have the option of creating a second item using the skills that they have learnt in Term 2. In Soft Materials, the children will use the design process to create a unique design, cut a template for fabric screen printing and then use this for the creation of a comfortable and attractive cushion. Those students who complete this have the option of creating something else with

	materials provided to further improve their sewing skills. In Food Design, the students will create logos for a chosen food business venture and produce a clay prototype of a food to be sold in their business. In other sessions, they will complete an advertising video to market their business concept and then spend time baking scones, biscuits and cupcakes. The students will have three more sessions in their current technology context (9, 16 and 23 Aug) before they rotate to the final cycle for this year on the 30th August.
EPRO8:	This Year all of our Year 8s will take part in the EPro8 Challenge. This is an inter-school science and engineering competition. Every year over 22,000 students from throughout New Zealand take part. Students participate in a series of events: firstly within their school and then a team is selected to represent Sumner in an inter-school event. These events are designed to promote science and engineering. The is a small cost of $8 per student for equipment hire which will be added to term costs.
The Arts:	A key aspect of our Inquiry Learning this term will be giving the children a choice in how they would like to present their final outcomes to share with parents. Many of the options that will be available to the children will come from The Arts. The book at the centre of our Literacy learning, The Water Tower, uses art to convey its meaning and themes through symbols and hidden messages within the illustrations. The study of the art in this book will allow our ākonga to look at the illustrator's methods and skills that allow the reader to become so absorbed.
Te Reo:	We will be continuing our interchange lessons in Term 3, of which one session per week will be Te Reo Māori. The sessions this term will cover the writing and presenting of our individual pepeha, learning new kemu (games) that use Te Reo Māori, as well as learning new karakia and waiata. We will also be consolidating on the vocabulary and phrases learnt in Term 2.
Team Assemblies:	Awaroa's assembly this term will be on Friday in Week 7. Information about this will be sent home closer to the time although we are hoping that you will be able to attend in person.

Events: Here is the link to our school Calendar of Events. Below is a list of important dates for your diary.

Event:	Date and Time:
Learning Conferences	Week 2 Weds 3rd and Thurs 4th August
Zone Winter Sports Tournament	Week 2 Tuesday 2nd August
Perform Education	Week 2 Wednesday 3rd August
Canterbury Winter Sports Tournament	Week 6 Monday 29th August
Maths Week	Week 3
Sexuality Roadshow	Each Tuesday for 5 weeks beginning in Week 4 (info to follow)
Awaroa Assembly	Friday 9th September
Hanmer Springs Camp	Tues 20th -Friday 23rd September (3 nights/4 days)
Reports Live to Parents	Week 10 Thursday 29th September
Book Parade	Week 10 Friday 30th September
Last Day of School	Week 10 Friday 30th September

Ngā mihi nui,

The Awaroa Team

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