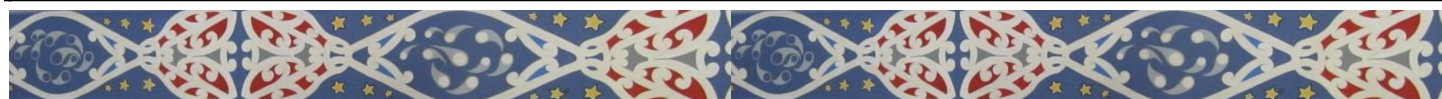


HIKUIAI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



19th June 2023

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Kia ora from the Principal



Kia ora everyone. With staff away last week with influenza our Week 8 newsletter is late getting to you. The last two weeks have seen final mid year progress assessment and reports written, Visits to Opoutere School and W.A.S for technology and cultural exchange, Agrisea visiting us to help with science learning along with banishing boring words in literacy and a new numeracy game adding value to maths sessions for Rooms 4 and 5. The Education Review Office visited earlier this year and our final report has been processed and is available on the ERO website. Included in the newsletter is a summary of the process so far, along with school strengths and next steps. **Learning conferences are set for tomorrow, Tuesday 20th June.** We look forward to seeing you all to share and celebrate learning progress and next steps.

Ngā mihi, Rachell

Service Opportunities

Whole school team work last Friday to brighten up our play based learning area. Such incredible workers!



ERO Report 2023

Te Ara Huarau is the evaluation approach that the Education Review Office (ERO) is using in our school. This is a developmental approach to evaluation where ERO and our school work together over time rather than one off reviews that happened previously. Te Ara Huarau is used in most English-medium state and state-integrated schools.

ERO maintains a regular review programme to evaluate and report on the education and care of young people in the schools. Our school worked alongside ERO to write our Profile Report. This type of report will only happen once as part of our initial engagement with Te Ara Huarau. The profile report reflects our strategic goals and a shared evaluation focus on one or more areas that are important to us as we work together to improve outcomes for all our learners. ERO, like us, has a strong focus on equity and excellence. Future reporting will show our progress and achievement towards meeting the goals we have set. Public reports like the Profile Report are published on [ERO's website](#).

A Board Assurance Report that shows how we are meeting regulatory and legislative Requirements has also been published.

Strengths

The school can draw from the following strengths to support the school in its goals:

- A caring and nurturing environment focused on the individual learning and wellbeing needs of all students.
- Leaders focused on ensuring ongoing organisational capacity building for continuous improvement.
- A well-resourced school that is located within a rich and diverse natural environment.

Where to next?

Moving forward, the school will prioritise:

- further response to student voice and information to provide highly engaging, localised, child-centred learning opportunities
- continuing to strengthen community collaboration focused on reciprocity and the enhancement of the curriculum.

MATARIKI RAFFLE!

Week 8: Thank you for selling your raffle card and bringing in Matariki Hamper goodies. (any last items greatly appreciated!)

Tickets were due back to school last **Friday 16th June**.

We are hoping to sell a few more tickets this Saturday around the area. If you are able to help Mrs Leitch with this job, please give Michelle a call.

The raffle will be drawn on Friday 30th June.



Room 3

Room 3 has been busy with their science learning, finding out all about seaweed. The project sprung from questions around our garden spaces and what plants need to grow well. Soil testing took place and then different types of seaweed were collected for testing. A big thank you to Ali Smith for helping us with our learning investigations. Here is an article from the Whangamatā News detailing our project. We then drafted and produced letters to Bunnings to source what we need to help our garden grow.

AgriSea visits Hikuai School for seaweed gardening



Whangamatā News caught up with Alison Smith – AgriSea Communications Manager, who had a delightful day with Hikuai School students learning all about trials with seaweed for gardening.

Alison told us "It was World Oceans Day and I got invited to talk to Room 3 about soil and seaweed, which they have been studying.

I'm working on a project with AgriSea, a seaweed innovation

company in Paeroa."

AgriSea's main product is actually for farmers, to help their soil and animal health.

"The kids were so full of amazing questions including 'how does seaweed grow?' and 'do sharks eat seaweed?'

They have an experiment where they are using different kinds of seaweed in their school vegetable garden, and comparing the results.

Their teacher, Laura van Leeuwen, encourages curiosity and independent research, teaching the kids that they can call upon people in their community and other experts for knowledge, rather than just using google.

Alison tells us "She's an amazing teacher!"

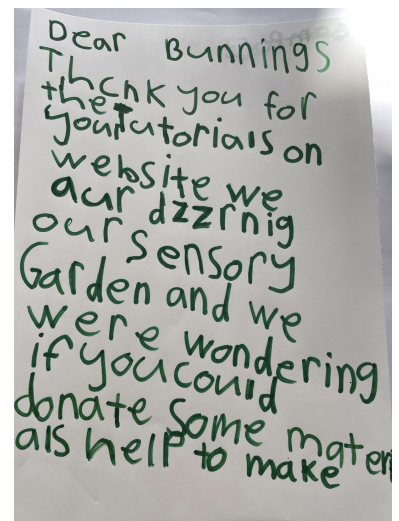
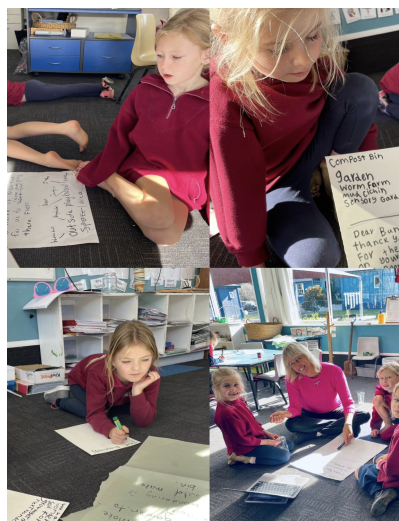
AgriSea's chief innovation officer, Tane Bradley, sent Alison to school with seaweed soaps for each child,

and seaweed tea for the teacher, and a book about seaweed for the kids.

"It was a really uplifting way to spend some of my World Oceans Day!"

Thank you Alison, and that's the wonderful thing about small school numbers – of only 37 students at Hikuai, willingness, curiosity and learning the really cool stuff!

– Jennie Black

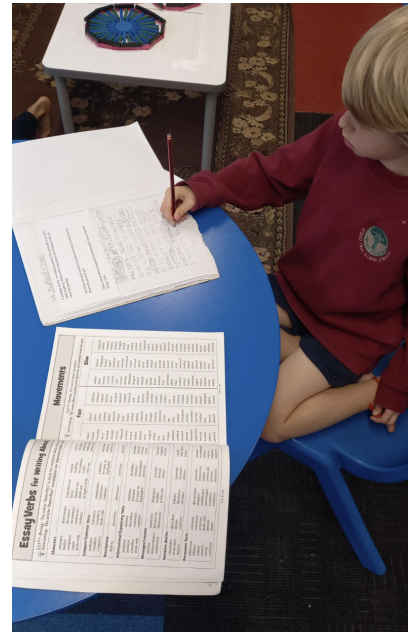
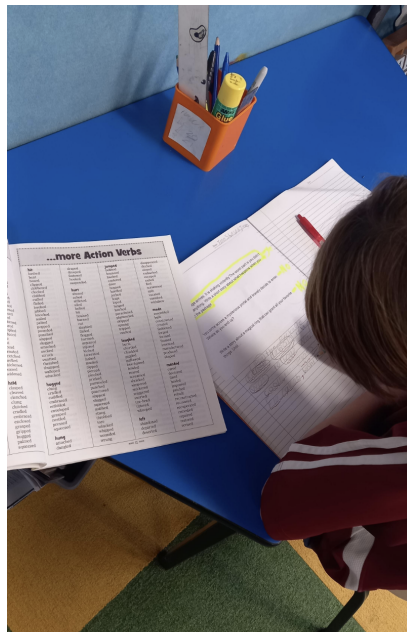
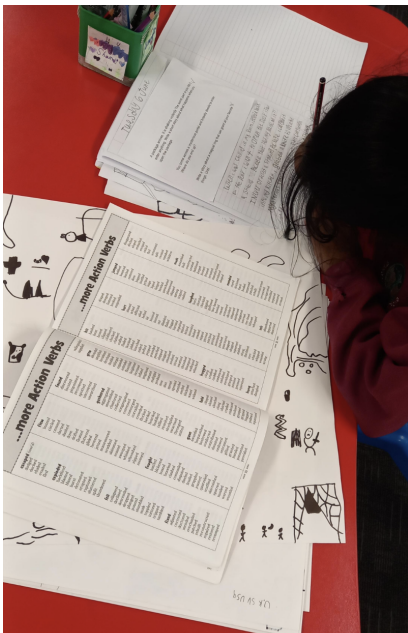


Room 4

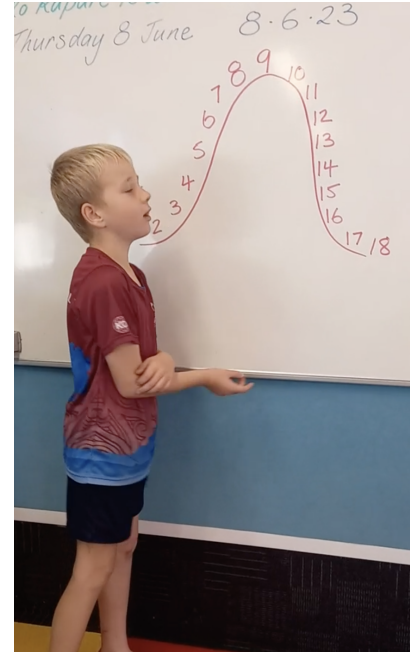
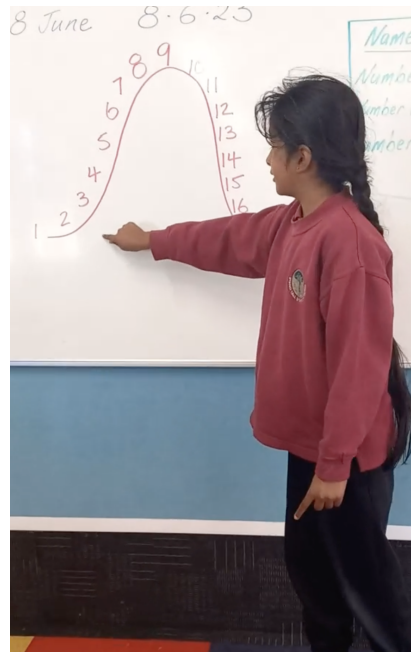
It is very common for students to have wonderful ideas for their writing, but struggle to express them clearly and descriptively. They can often recognise strong and specific words, but can't always retrieve them on their own, and using a thesaurus is time consuming.

During today's 'creative writing' session, we utilised our 'Banish Boring Words' books to assist us in accessing such vocabulary. In some ways, it is like a condensed thesaurus which provides students with shortcuts to finding descriptive words that will enable them to write with greater clarity and sophistication.

We are excited to share our stories with you once they are completed.

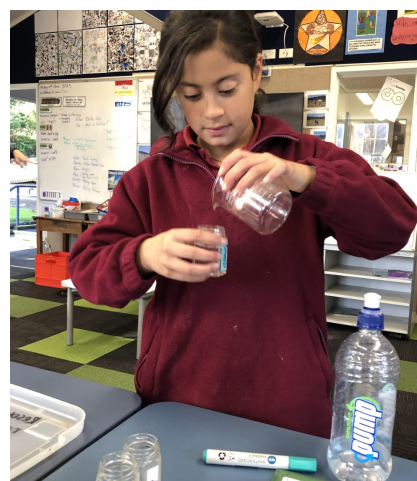


Numeracy development skills: We are learning to problem solve using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of 2-3 digits. This is an example of a multi levelled maths task that caters for a range of students.



Room 5

Our science projects are well underway and we will be presenting them on display boards for you to share at the Matariki Evening. Here is a sneak peek at our experiments:



Room 5 enjoyed Teen Esteem in week 7 developing leadership skills and learning about identity through art. We also enjoyed the NZ Playhouse production last Tuesday! The performance was fun and very funny. Great to see the arts visiting Coromandel schools.



UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

Here are some dates that we already know about for Term 2.
More will be added as they come to hand.

Term 2 June 2023

Kapa Haka	Tuesdays 9:00-9:45 with Matua Brandon weather and roads permitting!
20th	Learning Conferences School closes at 12:30 pm. Bus and Van leave at this time. Conferences start at 1:00pm.
22nd	TOTARA Assembly: 2:15 in the M.P Room
23rd - 25th June	Hikuai School Hunting Competition
26th	Room 4&5 visit The Van Leeuwen Farm for Matariki Cheese Making
28th	Room 3 visit The Van Leeuwen Farm for Matariki Cheese Making
29th	MATARIKI FESTIVAL 5:30pm -7:30pm
30th	Last day of Term 2 Tairua Library visits for Matariki learning and fun!



COMMUNITY NEWS, EVENTS and SUPPORTERS

Hikuai School Pig Hunting Competition 23-25 June

<https://events.humanitix.com/hikuai-school-pig-hunting...>

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