

Te Motu Term 2 Update 2023

From the Syndicate

Wow! Where did Term 1 go? What a fantastic start to the year we have had. It was so busy but so much fun. Of course Camp was the highlight. Two extremely successful camps were completed in Term 1. All but 6 Te Motu students experienced a week long camp at the wonderful Bridge Valley Adventure Centre in Nelson. Both Camps were supported by an excellent team of parents, who, we are pretty sure, had just as much fun as the kids! Our heartfelt thanks goes out to all of the Camp parents, without whom none of this would have been possible.

Bridge Valley is an outstanding facility and hopefully you have been given the full run down on all of the cool activities we did there. Our day spent out at Kaiteriteri and Anchorage was a very special day and thoroughly enjoyed by all. It is so cool to see all of the students enjoying the SUP boarding and kayaking, and jumping off the pontoon into the sea. Many of them thought they were on a tropical island when they got out to Anchorage. It is such an awesome experience for them all. Although our travels were disrupted due to issues with the InterIslander, having to change travel plans in the last minute for Camp 1, and being rather delayed returning for Camp 2, it all just added to the adventure. Camps were such an amazing experience for us all.

Of course there was so much more in Term 1: the Music Challenge, Tennis and Cricket skills sessions, Moving March, the Fun Run, learning Ki o Rahi, Student Council and Sports Ambassadors selections, and just good old classroom learning. No wonder we were all grateful for the holidays! We hope you have all had a good break and managed to spend some time together as a family. So now here's a run down on some of the things that Term 2 will bring the students in Te Motu.

You may all now be aware that Alice Graham has been away from school since the beginning of March after a health scare. We have been very lucky to secure Gill Snowsill, an ex Te Motu teacher, who will work with Room 13 up until the time Alice is well enough to return to work.

Dates for your Diary

Week 1:

Monday 24 April - Teacher only day

Tuesday 25 April - ANZAC day SCHOOL CLOSED

Wednesday 26 April Kids back for Term 2

Thursday 27 April- Wellington Rugby visiting with Ranfurly Shield & NPC trophies 1:30pm

Week 2:

Thursday 4 May - 7pm Parent Education evening "Kids Online"

Friday 5 May - 9.15am Welcome back Assembly

Week 5

Monday - Wednesday 22 - 24th May - Rippa with Ryan

Tuesday 23 May- NYLD (National Young Leader's Day) - For Student Councillors

Friday 26 May - Te Motu Syndicate Cross Country at Mazengarb Park (approximate start time of 9.20am TBC)

Week 6

Tuesday 30 May - pp for Syndicate Cross Country (approximate start time of 9.20am TBC)

Week 7

Monday 5th June - King's Birthday

Tuesday 6 June - Interschool Cross Country

- Open Day at Paraparaumu College for Year 8s (detailed information will be sent home closer to the time.)

Wednesday June 7 - Year 7 and 8 Immunisations

Week 9:

Wednesday 21 June - Teacher only day for Learning Conferences

(This is also Kapiti College Open Day which will involve the Year 8 students who intend to attend Kapiti College in 2024. The college will provide return transport from our school. Details will be sent to those students affected by this)

Week 10

Tues - 27th June (ppd Wed 28th) - Matariki Celebration

Literacy Programme

Although much of our Literacy is done through our Inquiry Units, classes will still be working on regular writing, reading and spelling programmes. This term will also see a focus on oral language with most classes working on speeches, story telling and public speaking skills.

Maths

This term we will look to cover -

Finding fractions, decimals, & percentages of amounts expressed as whole numbers, simple fractions, & decimals.

Applying simple linear proportions, including ordering fractions and knowing the equivalent decimal & percentage forms for everyday fractions.

Measurement will also be a main focus where we will look at using appropriate scales, devices & metric units for finding length, area, & volume. Finding the perimeters & areas of rectangles, parallelograms & triangles & the volumes of cuboids.

Much of our maths will cover Problem Solving and Logic, and the use of Rich Tasks to bring maths into every day situations and problems. Please note that maths is not always a stand alone subject and will often be incorporated into other subjects such as PE, Inquiry etc.

Physical Education

Fitness programmes will be developed and will continue throughout the year encouraging students to set their own goals and targets. This will tie in very well with our schoolwide Inquiry - Health and Wellbeing and learning about ways we can look after ourselves. The biggest focus will be preparing for Cross Country at a personal level for each student, with the emphasis on striving to do their best and achieve their own personal best.

One of our S.W.A.T. (Study With Another Teacher) subjects this term will be a focus on traditional Māori games which will include learning the stories behind the games and the reasons why they were played, as well as having lots of physical fun!

S.W.A.T

As mentioned above, this term brings the introduction of S.W.A.T, an acronym for Study With Another Teacher. This is where the students move around in class groups to each teacher in the syndicate one day of the week. This is an excellent way for the students to practice their self management in being prepared for each class with what they need, to experience a variety of teaching styles as they will have at college, and to expose them to a variety of topics and activities they may not usually chose to try out. This is an excellent way to prepare our students for college and cover a lot of new learning.

This term's S.W.A.T topics will include Music, Online Safety, Art, NZ Sign Language, PE and French.

Growth Mindset

We will continue to focus on ourselves as learners and looking at how we learn and think, and how to be an active learner. Te Motu students will be taught about different zones of learning and how they can become active and engaged learners working well above their comfort zone. Students will be encouraged to keep raising the bar.

Inquiry

The school wide focus on Health and Wellbeing - Hauora, with the big question being - "How do I look after myself?" will continue this term. Our Camps were a fabulous way to focus on this concept last term. We introduced the concept of Whare Tapa Whā last term and will continue to use this concept to look at ways we can use our wider community, people and resources to look after our well being.

Later in the term we will switch our focus to Matariki and bring our community together as we did last year to celebrate this special event on our New Zealand calendar.

General Information

The Technology programme continues and is held weekly on Thursdays at the Raumati Technology Centre. Covered footwear and long hair tied back is essential for safety at technology.

During the term we will have a few sessions of Rippa Rugby with Ryan from the Kapiti/Horowhenua Rugby Club. He has asked us to send parents the following information, and ask you to complete the registration on the link below.

This Registration does not mean that your child is registering to rugby for the 2023 season and does not mean that they need to attend mid-week training or Saturday games.

This Registration is for rippa rugby in school only. We have a trained professional that comes in and runs rippa rugby (a non-contact form of rugby) for our students in our school.

Rippa Rugby Registration link for Paraparaumu Beach school:

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/212656>

Students are reminded to ensure that they come to school prepared each day with their chrome books fully charged. It is a timely reminder to them all that their chromebook is a school tool, not a thing to play on. We will continue to stress the importance of using their chromebooks wisely and staying safe online, and would appreciate it if you would reiterate this with your child. On Thursday the 4th of May (next Thursday) the school has a guest speaker, Rob Cope coming to talk to parents about what kids are exposed to online, how easy it is for kids to be influenced, and what you can do as parents to help keep them safe. His presentation is very up front and very honest, and we would highly recommend that at least one parent from each family attends. It starts at 7pm and will be held in the school hall. A gold coin entry is requested. We would love to see you there. It may also be timely for you to take a look at our updated school policy on devices at school including cell phones and Smart watches. You can read this in this week's Newsletter or if you would like a copy sent to you, please contact your child's teacher.

We are all looking forward to another exciting term with your tamariki.

Ngā mihi

From the Te Motu Team - Cath, Colin, Teresa, Caty, Larisa, and, Gill and Alice