



Mokoia School Newsletter

office@mokoiaprimary.school.nz

Phone: 06 273 4106



Well Done!

Well done to Fern, Dulcibella, Ezra and Rocco for earning certificates this week. Well done to Bobbie and Arekaanara for obtaining principal prizes.



This Term's Topic

This term we are looking at volcanoes and how they evolve. Seniors will also be focusing on the three different types of rocks, whilst Juniors will look at reversible and irreversible reactions. We will all then learn about Pompeii and Mt Vesuvius, and this will segue us into learning about Ancient Rome.

Enviro Teacher

This week, Claire, our Enviro teacher, came to help us pot up seeds for winter growing. She talked with the



children about the seasons and how different plants are adapted to grow at different times of the year. Over the next few weeks she will be helping us learn about worm farms and volcano geology. She is also planning on coming with us up Taranaki to show us the rock and lava formations.

Term 1 Dates for Your Diary

18 July	BOT meeting 7pm
	Call for nominations
1 August	Teacher Only Day– Maths
6 August	Nominations close 12pm
13 August	Voting papers issued
15 August	BOT meeting 7pm
25 August (pp 26 August)	Mokoia Cross Country
1 September (pp 2 Sept)	Cluster Cross Country (voluntary basis only)
18 September	PET DAY
19 September	BOT meeting 7pm
	Last day of Term

Board of Trustees Elections

Every three years a Board of Trustees are elected to run the school. As a small school, we usually have 4 elected trustees from the community, which we vote on if there are more than 4 nominations. More information will be available, but here are the dates

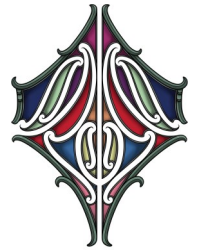
18 July 2025	Call for nominations
6 August 2025	Nominations close at 12pm.
13 August 2025	Voting papers issued (if required)
10 September 2025	Election day closes at 4pm.



Mokoia School Newsletter

office@mokoiaprimary.school.nz

Phone: 06 273 4106



Discovery Time

This term we are improving our Discovery Time Practices. We are linking activities directly to classroom learning. Children are expected to only access the learning activities provided, and staff are closely observing children to look at how we can extend, support and consolidate their learning. One member of staff leads an activity, while one observes the learning and interacts when appropriate.



Reflection time is built into the learning, and each day children are able to reflect with their peers, about what they learned and what they might try the next day.

The feedback from the children has been very positive. They said that they loved the science that we did, that they could see how much the learning linked to the classroom, that it was quieter, that they stayed at activities for longer and in general, were more satisfied by the learning experiences.



Observing the children making lego volcanoes today, I was so impressed with the modifications and learning that they had from each other. It was amazing to see the different stages of development that the different children were going through— some were doing this for the first time, whilst others had done it before and were

able to plan out things like aesthetics because they could do the construction already.

In science we were looking at separating materials, and reversible and irreversible mixing/reactions. Children mixed 2-4 materials and then had to see if they could separate them using a sieve and/or filter paper.

We also made puppets from “The Battle of the Mountains”, made concept boards for “volcanoes” and painted with sticks or cotton buds to create a pointillism effect.

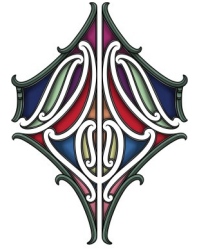




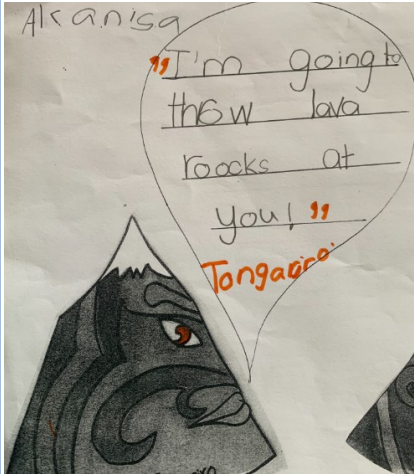
Mokoia School Newsletter

office@mokoiaprimary.school.nz

Phone: 06 273 4106



Junior Class.



In literacy this week we have been exploring The Battle of the Mountains. We have been exposing children to different vocabulary (e.g. threw, chucked, hurled) and focusing in on direct speech. We have been using speech bubbles to write direct speech and then putting in the correct punctuation and transferring this to our books. We have also reviewed plural "s" and possessive "s" and have started using the word "because" in our sentences.

In phonics we have focused on "ee" as in "bee" and "feet".



In maths this week, we have looked at halves and quarters of shapes. We have also looked at what each part of a fraction represents. We have continued to practice 2, 5, and 10 times tables.

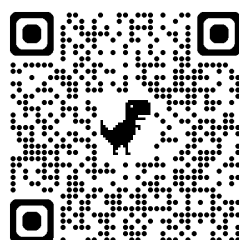


In art we have learned about mosaics and have begun making our own ones out of foam squares. In science we learned about reversible and irreversible mixing. We used our prediction skills to decide if two objects/materials could be unmixed once they had been mixed, and hypothesized on how we could unmix them.

In social sciences we learned about the Earth's crust, mantle and core, and how this can lead to magma escaping and forming volcanoes. We ate Ferrero Rocher as they have a crust, a semi-liquid layer just underneath the crust and a hard core!

We now have two spelling groups. The yellow group is revisiting the spellings that we have already learned and the blue group is

learning new spellings. The children know which group they are in, but if they have forgotten, just message me.



Yellow Spellings WB 21/7/25

The

Like

Cat

Little

Some

am

Blue Spellings WB 21/7/25

But

So

Because

After

Before

or



Mokoia School Newsletter

office@mokoiaprimary.school.nz

Phone: 06 273 4106



Senior Class.

In maths this week, the seniors have been revisiting family of facts for multiplication and division. We have also been revisiting multiplying two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers (e.g. 36×5). Please help your child to learn their times tables. It really helps them to calculate quicker, become more flexible with their mathematical thinking, and gives a sense of achievement. As a guideline, we endeavour to have 2, 5, 10x tables learned by half way through year 4; 3, 4, 11, 9 x tables in year 5 and the rest in year 6. The new curriculum is pushing for this earlier, and so the Junior class are also learning 2, 5, 10 times tables by the end of year 3.

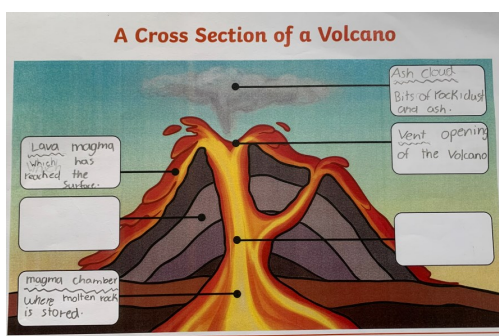
This term our science topic is Volcanoes, and we have begun to explore what a volcano is, how it is formed and why a volcano erupts. We have learnt a lot of vocabulary associated with volcanoes.

We started our topic title pages and we have started to label diagrams with headings and descriptions.

Our reading focus for this term is non fiction. We have been exploring the difference between fiction and non-fiction. We are learning and using the different features of a non-fiction book (for example learning how to use a glossary correctly).



Our writing focus this week has been revisiting proof reading skills and what we need to remember when using speech marks.



Main Spellings
WB 21/7/25

Allowed

Breakfast

Chocolate

Present

Police

Holidays

Hospital

Instead

Luckily

Nearly

Group 2 Spellings

WB 21/7/25

Uncle

Video

Warm

We'll

Won't

Yesterday

All right

autumn

