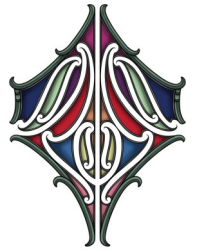




# Mokoia School Newsletter

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## Well Done!

Well done to Tevita, Akanisa, Liddy and Poppy for earning certificates this week. Well done to Isaac and Lola for obtaining principal prizes.



## Weather

As the saying goes, “there is no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing”. We have had some lovely weather, but it is cold and frosty. We will be sending children out in this weather, so they really need to be dressed for it. Please ensure that children have warm footwear and something to keep them warm outside. Coats are a must, but also consider gloves, hats and scarves.

## Thank you

This week was “Principal Appreciation Day”. I hadn’t really taken much notice of it, but my lovely staff did. They bought in a beautiful morning tea and gifted me a stunning basket of treats. I was very moved and grateful. I want to formally acknowledge the amazing team that we have. They work so hard, and keep your tamariki at the forefront of their thinking. They are excellent at what they do, and they care deeply. They often come into work with ideas of how to support individual children or groups of children or how to make things run smoother. I couldn’t be the principal that I am without their continuous and amazing support.

## Term 1 Dates for Your Diary

<b>1 August</b>	<b>Teacher Only Day– Maths</b>
<b>6 August</b>	<b>Nominations close 12pm</b>
<b>8 August</b>	<b>Speech competition (seniors)</b>
	Please arrive for 1:30pm, starting at 1:40pm
<b>13 August</b>	<b>Voting papers issued</b>
<b>15 August</b>	<b>BOT meeting 7pm</b>
<b>25 August (pp 26 August)</b>	<b>Mokoia Cross Country</b>
<b>1 September (pp 2 Sept)</b>	<b>Cluster Cross Country (voluntary basis only)</b>
<b>9 Sept</b>	<b>Mountain trip (whole school) (3 parents needed)</b>
<b>11 Sept</b>	<b>Small group Mountain trip (or whole school is postponed on 9 Sept) 1 parent needed</b>
<b>18 September</b>	<b>PET DAY</b>
<b>19 September</b>	<b>BOT meeting 7pm</b>
	<b>Last day of Term</b>

## Attendance

We have done it! The government’s goal of 80% of the children at 90% of the time has been achieved in term 2. We want to continue on with that trajectory so that children can continue to achieve.

Alongside with that, our writing data has also shown a big improvement, thanks to the structured literacy approach that we are taking. Our big focus this term is improving reading. Please help your child to read after school, as this additional exposure to reading material has a big impact on reading and learning.



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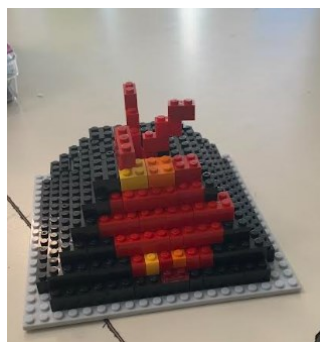
## Discovery Time

This week in Discovery Time, we have been learning about volcanoes from non-fiction books and QR codes. We have been programming the bee-bots to visit volcanoes around the world (marked on world map).

Ms. Chittenden has been teaching us some literacy comprehension games, to help us gain more from our reading.



As part of learning about Rome, we have begun to learn how to do mosaics. It's been interesting to see the seniors, who did this topic in the junior class, take this on at a much more sophisticated level. It seems that they haven't forgotten what I taught them (which is always nice) and for them, has been like revisiting an old friend.



Some of the lego volcanoes were also completed— I think you will agree that not only engineering but design features were employed.







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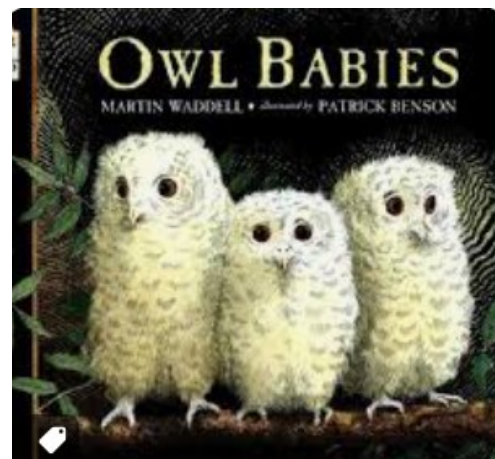
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## Junior Class.

In literacy this week we have been exploring Owl Babies. We have been continuing to look at direct speech, and think about how the different characters might speak. Some of our children are doing this in their reading books, and getting quite good at it. In writing we have been continuing to write about pictures that we can see, and describing what is happening in them. We are beginning to use conjunctions (joining words) like "because" and "so". The more fluent writers are learning about story structure—building on their story each day.



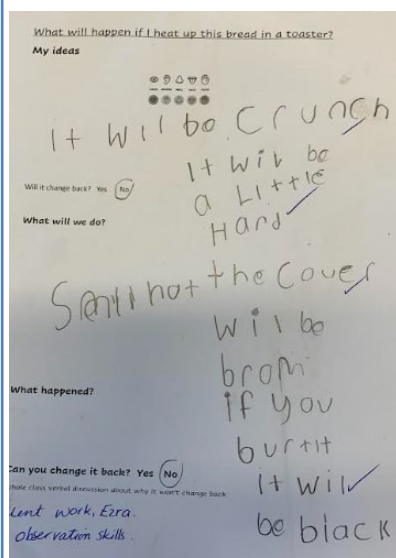
In phonics we have focused on "oo" as in "zoo" and "moon". Children have been finding words that have this sound in, as well as writing words with the sound in.

In maths this week, we have looked at fractions in general, and we have introduced thirds to our halves



and quarters. We have been learning to recognize fractions of these amounts visually (in shapes) and to split amounts into half. Today we even tried to figure out what the whole amount would be, if we only had half. This numicon work is pretty challenging!

In PE we have had Finn visit and teach Rip-pa, we have practiced running each day for cross country, and we are learning to skip with a rope. This is



no mean feat, as little ones find this very tricky. However, once they have it down pat, it's a very enjoyable sport to play.

In science we have been learning about irreversible reactions. We compared bread to toast, and looked at the physical differences and how we couldn't "un-toast" bread.

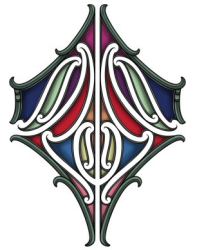
Yellow Spellings WB 28/7/25	Blue Spellings WB 28/7/25
Too	Made
To	Make
Said	Take
Look	Have
And	Haven't
big	him
We	her



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## Senior Class.

In maths this week, the seniors have identifying the different types of triangles, isosceles, scalene, right angle and equilateral. We found out that if we know what type of triangle it is, it can help you work out the angles inside it. So we have been learning how to identify angles in a triangle using a protractor or adding up to 180.

In writing we have been learning descriptive vocabulary for volcanoes. We have been focusing on acrostic poems and describing what we know through them.

In phonics we have been learning to drop the y at the end of a word, and adding "ies" or ied (e.g. copy– copied, copies).

For topic we have been revising the ring of fire, how volcanoes are formed and looked at famous eruptions, for example White Island and Vesuvius.

Today we made volcanoes out of salt day– children followed a recipe to make salt dough, created the same through molded ring pots and then smoothed them to make volcanoes. We also made lava through making hokey pokey. More on this, next week.



Main Spellings  
WB 28/7/25

Entrance

Arrange

Written

Gentle

Select

Effort

engage

Group 2 Spellings

WB 28/7/25

Bicycle

Bowl

Brother

Calf

Cent

Chose

Coin

cricket

