



Mokoia School Newsletter

office@mokoiaprimary.school.nz

Phone: 06 273 4106



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Maikeli, Harley, Brianna and Bobbie, who were awarded teacher certificates. Cirilla and Cael won the tumeke awards.



All Junior Children need new handwriting books – we use the ones that are half of A4 size. They are \$2.48 at Qizzle or \$4.50 at Warehouse.



Cross Country

Mokoia School Cross Country will be on Monday 25 August, at 1:40pm. We will gather in the paddock approximately 1:40pm, and set the runners off. Year 1-2 will run twice around, Year 3 will run 3 times and Years 4-6 will run three times around. Please come and cheer our runners on. We suggest you wear gum boots as the paddock is quite muddy. When we are finished, we will announce the winners for each year group, hopefully in the paddock.

If the weather is quite wet, we will postpone until Tuesday– we will let you know about postponements by 11:30am, via text. If you don't receive a text– assume it is on!

The 1st and 2nd winners will be going to cluster cross country, at Kakarama school, on Monday 1 September. If your child doesn't win, but has a burning desire to attend the cross country, please let a class teacher know as we may be able to accommodate this.

We also need one marshall for Kakarama cross country.

Pet Day

Pet day is fast approaching, and we are looking for help. Please send in your dry good raffle items next week, so that by Monday 1 Sept we can get raffles together and start selling tickets. This is our biggest fundraising event of the year, and we really need you to sell tickets for our school. This is helping to fund our camp to Rotorua, and events in the last few weeks of school.

Term 1 Dates for Your Diary

23 August	Camp Fundraiser
25 August (pp 26 August)	Mokoia Cross Country 1:40pm
1 September (pp 2 Sept)	Cluster Cross Country (voluntary basis only)
9 Sept	Mountain trip (whole school) (3 parents needed)
11 Sept	Small group Mountain trip (or whole school is postponed on 9 Sept) 1 parent needed
18 September	PET DAY
19 September	BOT meeting 7pm Last day of Term

Camp Fundraiser

Last week's fundraiser at Te Ngutu Golf Course was postponed because of the rain. The new date is Saturday 23rd August. If you can donate some time to help us on Saturday, between 8:30am–2pm we would really appreciate it. Children welcome (they are much cuter sales-people than I am!).

We need help cooking and selling the sausages and drinks.

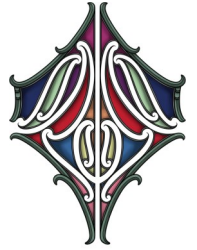




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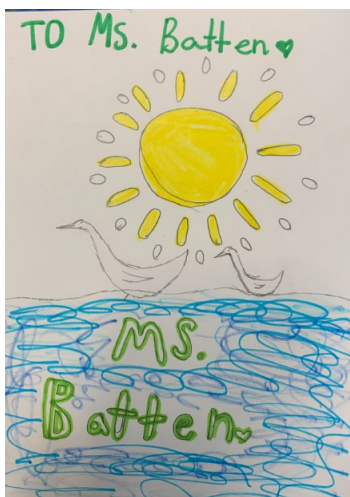
Discovery Time

This week in Discovery Time, we have been looking at the Roman Era. The STEM room has hosted a bamboo marble run, that is acting as an aqueduct. After first constructing it so that the “ducts” (half bamboo shoots) were lying horizontal, the children questioned why the marble wouldn’t move. We talked about the marble needing energy to move and that we could create this by the way we put the marble in, or by creating a slope and using gravity to give the marble energy. Children worked in several fluid groups; sharing ideas and trying things out. One of strategies that they had

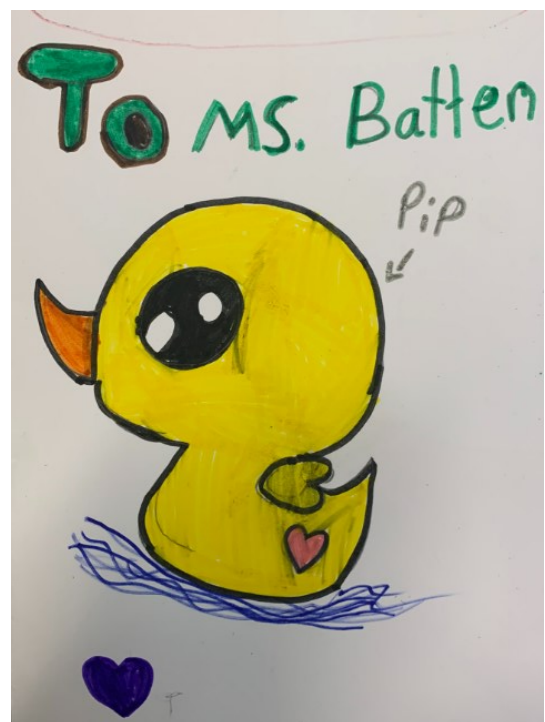


was to raise some of the full bamboo shoots (acting as columns) to differing levels to create slopes or change the gradient of the slopes. They talked about what materials to use (e.g “ we should use wooden blocks because they are hard and heavy”). They also expressed whether they agreed with other others ideas or not (in an incredibly respectful way, I have to say!) and used lots of, “what if” statements.

In other areas of learning, the children made cards



for Ms. Batten. This led to a lot of artwork around ducks and then to some very purposeful painting on the other art table. We also provided round counters to create symmetrical patterns, and had the shop and maths games on offer.

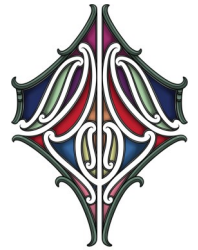




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Junior Class.

In maths this week we have been learning about rounding up or down to the nearest ten. We spent the beginning of the week looking at how to do this (building on last week's work). The end of the week was looking at how to apply this learning into real life, like shopping. We have found that the children are struggling to recognize the amounts of different coins— for example the 10c, 20c, and 50c are all equal to 10c, they tell us! We will do some work on this after arts week.

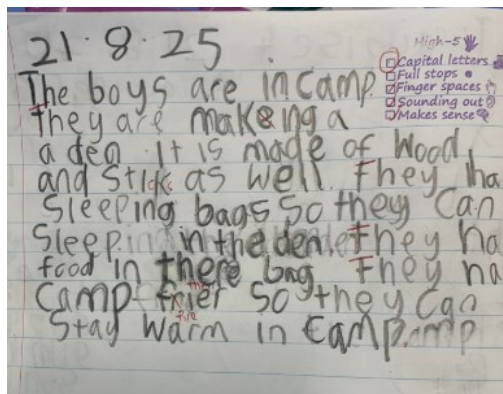


We have also been working on numbers to 20 (for our younger children) and 5 and 10 x tables. Children are using their skip counting, or pattern recognising skills to help them compute the answers.

In literacy we have been focusing on the phonics sounds (and handwriting patterns) of “ay/ai” for a further week.

We have started looking at features of non-fiction books, through a lovely book about NZ birds. Each “chapter” is dedicated to a different endemic bird species. The children are recognising features such as contents page, index, photos and a different style of writing.

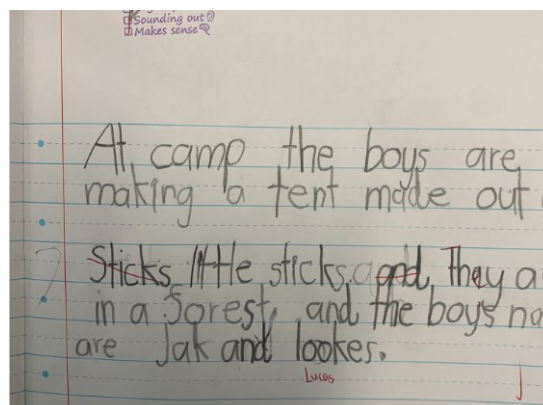
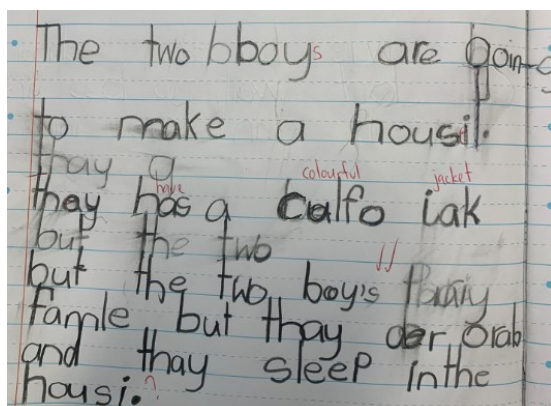
In writing, children have been doing a mixture of writing response (to an idea or picture) and dictated sentences. Children are starting to recognize and use “ing” and “ed” endings in their writing.



We have been practicing hard for cross country, as the weather allows, and are looking forward to the competition next week.

In history we learned about Pompeii and Vesuvius, and practiced retelling the main parts of the story.

No spellings next week, due to arts week.

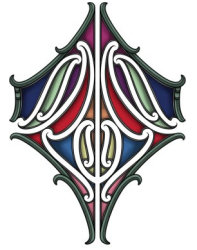




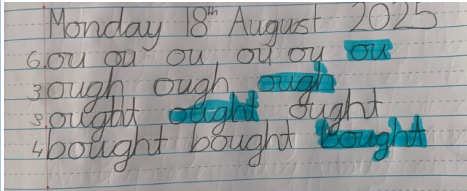
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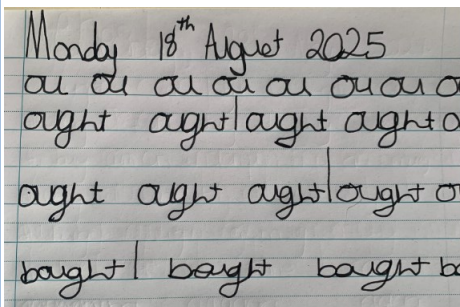


Senior Class.



The senior class have started using Numicon this week and have been exploring fractions, in particular, which number is the denominator and which is the numerator and what that means.

We have also learning to order fractions from biggest to smallest. There is a lot o hands and discussion. The answer is important but it is more important to be able to explain how you got to the answer.



All the seniors are busy researching their passion projects and discussing how they would like to display that work. If you don't



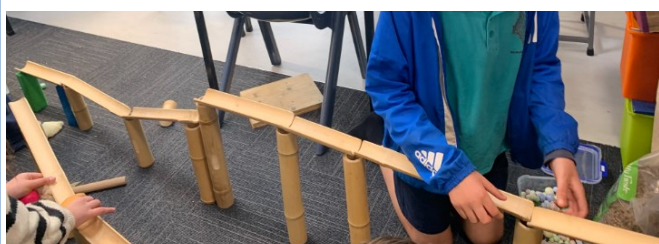
know much about Ancient Rome, wait until you see the passion project and how much the seniors have learnt.

We have finished out clay pots and are looking forward to having these fired.

The seniors have been writing news reports about the eruption of Taranaki. This has been challenging keeping to the facts and not embellishing their writing too much.



We have a senior challenge going on in spelling. If you get your spelling correct every week for 5 weeks, you earn a special prize. Congratulations to Liddy and Edward who hit 5 weeks today. Everyone is getting into the spirit of the competition. Look out Koka, others are well on the way to receiving a prize.



Cross country training has gone well and we are looking forward to the School Cross Country.

No spellings next week, due to Arts Week.