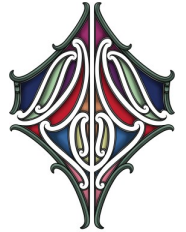




Mokoia School Newsletter

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Phone: 06 273 4106



Awards

Well done to Haamiora, Brianna, Arlo, Maikeli, Seth and Alice who were all awarded teacher awards or tu-meke awards.



Good Bye

It is with great sadness that we say farewell to Ms. Chittenden and Catherine, our valued teacher aide.

Ms. Chittenden has been a much-appreciated member of our school for several years, working as a structured literacy and Reading Recovery teacher. She will be moving into a new role as a Learning Support Coordinator, where she will support teachers and students with additional learning needs across schools in the area. We are excited for her as she takes on this next step in her career.

Catherine will be leaving us to focus on her health, and we thank her sincerely for the care and support she has given to our students.

We are grateful to both Ms. Chittenden and Catherine for their contributions to our school community, and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Dates for Your Diary

2 April	Last day of Term 1
20 April	First day of Term 2

School Growth Committee

We warmly invite your support in helping our school continue to grow and thrive. Maintaining strong enrolment numbers is essential to sustaining the quality of education we provide. To retain two teachers, we require a minimum of 26 students, making every enrolment vitally important.

Beyond staffing, a growing roll brings significant benefits for our tamariki. A larger and more diverse group of students enriches learning experiences, as children gain from a wider range of perspectives and opportunities to learn from one another. It also fosters stronger social connections, giving students more opportunities to build friendships and engage in collaborative play.

In addition, school funding is directly linked to student numbers. Increased enrolment allows us to enhance the resources and opportunities we offer, including school trips, camps, digital devices such as iPads and Chrome-books, books, and other essential learning materials.

A growing school also strengthens our wider community. With more whānau involved, we build a richer, more supportive environment that benefits all learners.

Our Board of Trustees has set a goal of reaching 50 students. This number will help ensure the long-term sustainability of our school, while still preserving the close-knit, supportive atmosphere that makes our rural kura so special.

We truly appreciate your ongoing support in helping our school flourish.

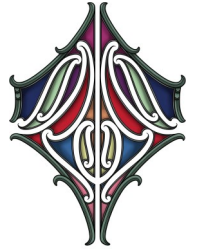
Coffee Morning Friday 24th April, 9am, staffroom. See you then!



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Holiday Reading Challenge!

This week we are sending home reading books for your child/ren to read over the holidays. We are sending home a challenge sheet (also attached) so that your child can participate in reading activities to keep their enthusiasm up.

Children can colour in the challenge box as they achieve each one. If your child repeats an activity, just initial it each time, and then we can keep count. The more they read, the bigger the prizes get– a gold reader (20 activities) gets something from the prize box, a sticker and a lolly, a silver reader (15 activities) gets a pencil, sticker and lolly and a bronze reader (10 activities) will get a sticker and a lolly.

Senior children will need to read for 20 minutes for the “read to...” boxes (although they don’t have to read the entire 20 minutes to an adult) and Junior children will need to read for 10 minutes (this read can include parents reading to their children). We encourage children to read to their siblings, both older and younger, or to extended family members. My own son will be reading jokes from his joke book to his grandparents via zoom!

Re-reads of the same book are perfectly fine– in fact we encourage this as it allows children to build up a visual memory of the whole word, rather than having to sound them out again and again, which also develops fluency.

Children can upload evidence on seesaw or privately message our facebook account (via your account), or bring them into school on the first day back. We would love to make a memento wall of all the ways in which they respond to books.

Book Week!

Remember, in the first week we will be holding a Dress-Up Day, where children can dress as favourite characters from their favourite books. You might want to get some ideas (and costumes) together, over the holidays.

We will let you know in the second week, which day it is.

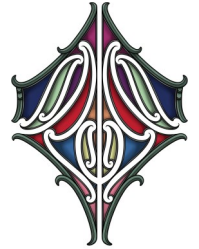




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Seniors

In reading this week, we have been studying the story *The Frog Who Would Be King*. Since we read the story *The Frog Prince* several weeks ago, we have been able to compare the two stories and discuss the themes found in this fractured fairy tale. We also have been looking at the figurative language used and talking about how we can use it in our own writing.

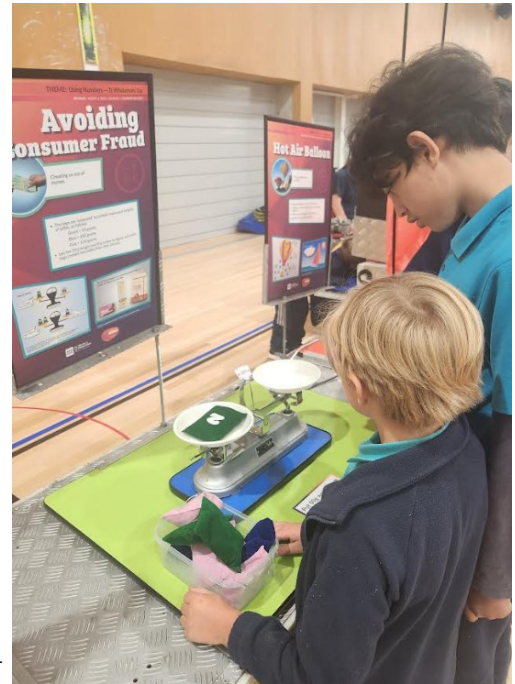
Speaking of writing, we have been working on haiku poems this week! Most of our poems are about autumn, but some are about Easter or our favorite things. We are working to develop our skills in choosing the just-right word in our writing; it's hard in such a short poem!



In maths, we have been finding equivalent fractions and comparing fractions. We had lots of lightbulb moments this week! We will wrap up our work with fractions for now and revisit it later in the year.

We also tried our hand at creating an oil or chalk pastel in the style of artist Georgia O'Keeffe. After break, we'll be using acrylic paint on canvas to create our own floral masterpiece.

We had a great time at the Science Roadshow in Hawera on Wednesday. We saw some amazing science demonstrations and even got to try some of our own!

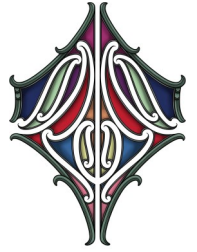




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Juniors

This week we are learning how to compare numbers. Although children can say which number is bigger or smaller, when the numbers are vastly different, it can sometimes be difficult to do this when the amounts are closer.

So this week we are learning how we know that one number is bigger than another one. We started off by making the two-digit number on our tens and ones frames, and then transferring them into our metre rulers. We could instantly see which is longer than another, just through direct comparison.

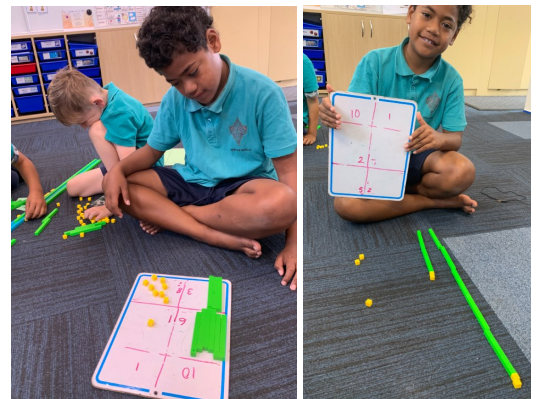
After doing this for a few days, we looked at this through weight. Each of our "ones" weighs 1g and the "tens" weighs 10g, so it was easy to see that the larger amount was heavier.

As part of our work we also looked at sequencing numbers that were not next to each other— like, 5, 24 and 36. The children were beginning to understand that the first number in a 2-digit

number tells you the amount of tens, so if it is bigger (e.g. 3 tens and not 2 tens) the number must be larger.



In phonics we have been learning the "oy" digraph and learning to read and write words with "oy" in them. The Year 1s have been learning how to blend words together and recognise s, a, t, p and n.



We have been reading "Stick Insect" this week and making our own non-fiction books about stick insects.



We did go and look for stick insects, but to no avail! .

In the garden we have been learning about seeds and the different ways in which they are dispersed. Our favourite one was the seeds that get eaten by animals and poo-ed out!

BUNNINGS



**EVERYDAY
LOW PRICES.**

EASTER

Family Night

Thursday 26th March



6pm – 8pm

**KIDS DIY
WORKSHOPS**

**ADULT DIY
WORKSHOP**

**GAMES &
CHALLENGE**

**EASTER
BUNNY
VISIT**

**REFRESHMENTS
&
SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

**GLITTOO
TATTOOS**

**Please register online
to go in the draw to win a prize**

