



# The Learning Link

Room 7/Karaka

Our Home-School Newsletter

Term 3 2011

with class learning focus points and ideas to support learning.

Welcome back to another term at Owhiro Bay School. We have many quality learning experiences to look forward to this term. Karaka will be taking part in the Owhiro Bay School production in week ten. The production will be based on our Topic theme, Enterprise. Children will learn about enterprising New Zealand explorers for Topic and will learn a dance based on New Zealand explorers for the production. For Book Week, in week five, Karaka will be participating in school-wide literacy activities. Below is an outline of the main learning in term three. The Learning Links are suggested home activities that will strengthen the classroom learning.

**Reading:** From Monday to Thursday your child will take a book home to read. The reading book will go home in a book bag on these days. After they have read their book at home, please remind your child to take their book out of their book bag and put it in their book box. Students are expected to read every night as part of their homework. Please note that our library day is now Thursday. When issuing a book, students are allowed to take home one book and can borrow the book for a fortnight.

**Learning Link:** Encourage your child to read their reading book. Please return their reading book to school the next day.

**Oral Language:** Students will practice their speaking and listening skills during oral language on Mondays and Tuesdays. They will share their news on Monday in groups, pairs or to the class. We ask that toys and valuable items are not brought to school. This is to prevent them from getting lost or stolen.

**Learning Link:** Help your child to prepare for news on Monday by talking to them about something that they did in the weekend or recently. Ask your child what skill they are learning in oral language.

**Writing:** Students will continue to learn how to write recounts and arguments, learning the features and structure of these writing genres. Your child will also continue to learn punctuation and grammar rules in writing. Every Friday your child will publish a piece of work, learning how to edit and correct their work to a publishable standard.

**Learning Link:** Talk to your child about what an argument or a recount is and how they know the difference.

**Spelling:** Every week, the students in Karaka will have a word, letter and a sound of the week. The class will participate in language activities to help them identify and write the letter, sound and word. Homework will reinforce what the students have learnt. According to the individual learning need, your child will be given a sound, letter or word to practice at home. Some students will also receive spelling words based on the sound of the week. These words will be part of a 'word family' to help your students learn the words.

**Learning Link:** Ask your child what the sound of the week is and ask them to tell you as many words as they can from the word family, for example, see, me, tree, we.

**Mathematics and Statistics:** In mathematics, students will learn multiplication/division, addition/subtraction and place value. In measurement, students will learn about the time and in geometry, students will learn about movements and positions as well as repeated patterns. Please note that your child will have maths homework some weeks during this term.

**Learning Links:** To help with telling the time, practise skip counting in fives, identify different times on the clock and have discussions about what time your child goes to bed, has breakfast etc.

**Topic:** For Topic, students will learn about New Zealand explorers who showed enterprising qualities. The knowledge the students gain about the enterprising explorers will link to the class dance for the school production.

**Learning Link:** Discuss who some New Zealand explorers are and look for facts about them in books or on the internet.

**Health/PE/Fitness:** Every day Karaka will participate in morning fitness, which includes a range of physical activities (inside and outside). This term, Physical Education will be based on movement and dance.

**Learning Link:** Listen to different types of music and discuss what type of movements would go with the music, for example, fast/slow, big/small or stationary/mobile.

**Te Kete Rourou and Kapa Haka:** Every Tuesday, Whaea Lisa will continue to teach Kapa Haka and Te Reo. All students in Karaka will participate in Kapa Haka. Te Kete Rourou is optional but we encourage all children to opt in to Te Kete Rourou (Maori language extension). If you wish your child to attend, please fill in the Te Kete Rourou form. The form is available from Wendy in the Office.

**Learning Link:** Practice greeting each other using Te Reo.

**The Arts:** This term, students will learn about realistic art (realism) and abstract art (cubism). Students will compare the two genres and create a cubist self-portrait based on Picasso's artwork.

**Learning Link:** View cubist and realist art and talk about how they are different. Look at Picasso's art and discuss how he has changed the portraits and objects to make them look different to realistic art.

## Some important dates for our class include:

Walk 'n' Wheels to School Day – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August  
Wheels Day – every Wednesday  
Community Meeting – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August  
3 Way Conferences – 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August  
Enviro Day – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August  
Book Week – 29<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> September  
School Production – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October  
Last Day of Term – 2pm, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October

I am looking forward to another positive term of quality learning. If you have any queries or would like to discuss something, then please come and see me in the classroom or e-mail me at: [abby@owhiro.school.nz](mailto:abby@owhiro.school.nz)

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