



Nau mai haere mai, Greetings | Tena Koutou | Talofa Lava | Malo e Lelei | Namaste | Ni sa bula | Noaia'e mauri | Fakalofa lahi atu | Kia Orana | Asalam Alykum | Ni Hao | Konnichiwa | An Nyung Ha Sai Yo | Nay Ho | Goeie Mōre | Привет



## From the Principal

It has been a busy start to the term with the classroom fire and with the Education Review Office on site. The fire was very upsetting for everyone and at the same time we have been blown away by the expressions of help, donations of goods and the resilience of the students and staff.

The Ministry of Education has been extremely supportive and are moving very fast to replace the burnt classroom with two classrooms. They won't be new ones, but we have been assured they are not very old. We are getting an extra classroom as we continue to grow in student numbers.

The Education Review Office look at every aspect of the schools operations especially teaching and learning. The process is extremely thorough and highlights what we are doing well, and areas for future development. We were delighted with the positive feedback and once the report is finalized, we will be able to share the findings with you.

Room 9 and Room 10 have been built ahead of schedule, so if the council issue the building compliance certificate this week, we can start using them next week when we start new junior classes.

We welcome Mrs. Adeline Martin to the junior school. Mrs. Martin was previously teaching at Stonefields School in Auckland.

A huge thanks to all those parents, suppliers, schools and others that have offered their support in so many different ways following our fire on Sunday. Aside from offers of everything from stationery to classroom furniture to classrooms, below is just some of the donated items we've received from OfficeMax and Faber Castell. We've also received learning resources from Lioncrest Education and have enjoyed some delicious morning teas thanks to Cockle Bay and Baverstock Schools, Pukeko Preschool, PTA, HPPA and APPA. It has been overwhelming to experience the community spirit shown to us. A special thank you to all, from Mr Hopkinson & children of class 23.



### Oral Language Development

We are finding more children arriving at school with poor oral language development. There are many reasons for

this but one might be the increasing use of smartphones and tablets by preschoolers. I found this interesting article by Sarah Knapton, Science Editor of the Telegraph Newspaper.

Putting babies in front of iPads before the age of two stunts speech development, a new study suggests. In Britain children under the age of three spend an average of 44 minutes a day using smartphones and tablets, but it is the first time researchers have shown it can impact language skills.

Researchers from the University of Toronto and The Hospital For Sick Children in Toronto found that every 30 minutes of screen time increased the risk of delayed speech by 49 per cent.

By the age of two to three, infants should be able to communicate in sentences of between three and four words. But those who spent the most time on handheld devices were found to struggle with communication skills.

Although guidelines exist for screen time, many parents do not realise that it also applies to handheld devices, the authors warn.

"Handheld devices are everywhere these days," said Dr Catherine Birken, staff paediatrician at The Hospital for Sick Children.

"While new paediatric guidelines suggest limiting screen time for babies and toddlers, we believe that the use of smartphones and tablets with young children has become quite common.

"This is the first study to report an association between handheld screen time and increased risk of expressive language delay."



Every 30 minutes of screen times was associated with an increased risk of speech delay.

The study involved nearly 900 children aged between six months and two years and was presented at 2017 Paediatric Academic Societies Meeting in San Francisco.

Dr Birken said all screen media should be discouraged in children younger than 18 months.

A recent study by University College London found that screen time can also impact the sleep of infants, and possibly harm brain development.

The British study found that every hour infants spent on such devices was linked to a 16 minutes less sleep. Sleep is important for the development of the brain, especially during the first few years of life, when "neural plasticity" is at its greatest.

The researchers believe that blue light from screens can affect the body clock, disrupting circadian rhythms while the stimulation caused by the content of the games or programmes can cause psychological and physiological arousal.

It can be challenging at times being a parent to try to get some downtime. My kids used to watch Telly Tubbies, which was also a mystery to me as to why my children loved the programme, however we were guilty of letting them watch each episode. I believe, like all things in life, it is about moderation and for little children they need our help to set the guidelines and rules, so that they grow to be healthy kids.



House Captains



#### Anzac Day Presentation Reflections:

On Monday 1st of April Adam, Cindy, Jahzarah and I attended the Howick R.S.A Anzac Day presentation. We learnt a lot about Anzac Day and the wars; including Gallipoli, return service officers and heroes.

My favourite part would probably be when we learned about the heroes. They talked about heroes during the world wars and today's heroes like firemen, the police and teachers.

There was also lots of yummy food at the end of the presentation.

*Shayne Scanlan, Head Boy Piwakawaka*

At the Howick RSA we learned about why Anzac Day is important and about local heroes.

The local hero who interested me was Adele White. Adele used to be in the police force. When she was in the police force she worked in the Solomon Islands and provided help and support to the local people.

One way that she provided help was by visiting different schools and trying to give them what they were in need of. One of the schools she worked with had burnt down and they had to find a place where they could still learn. Adele came and helped them by asking some of her friends in NZ to send over some spare books. Another example of how she provided help was when she asked some friends of hers in New Zealand to send over some spare glasses to a group of police officers that had bad vision. Adele is an example of a local hero.

*Cindy Hungaro, Head Girl Weka*

When I went in the RSA they started to talk and I was inspired by this man called Erick, and he is 100 yrs old. I was impressed by all of his badges that he had received from going to war and fighting for our country.

Erick is a good man because he helped to protect his land and his friends and fellow soldiers.

*Jahzarah Knowles-Nepo, Kea House Captain*

Anzac Day is on the 25th of April which was the second Thursday of the school holidays. It is an important day because on this day we remember the soldiers who lost their lives for us.

On Anzac Day you can attend a dawn service. At these services people talk about their war experiences, share poems, lay wreaths and listen to The Last Post.

It is important to attend a dawn service as this shows respect for the soldiers who went to war for us.

*Adam Huggins, Tui House Captain*

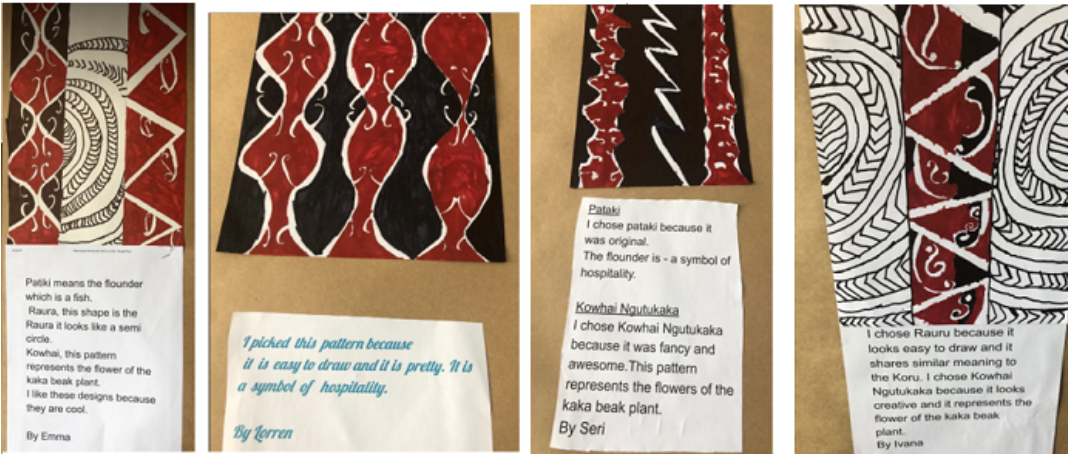


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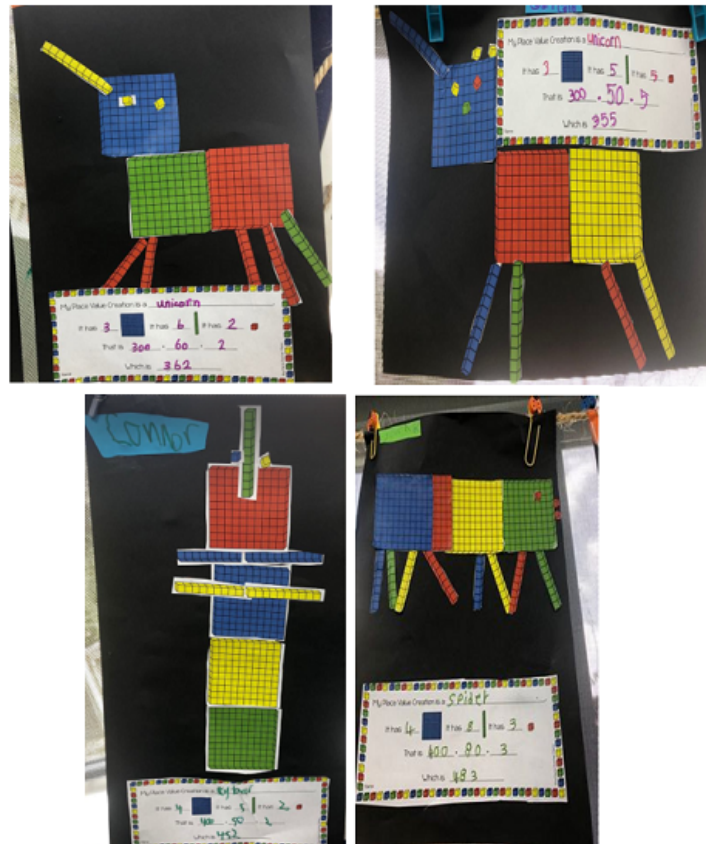
In Room 16 we have been exploring Maori patterns and their meanings with Mrs Hood.

We each chose designs that we liked and discussed the meanings of the designs in Maori culture.

Then we drew our designs into panels on the paper before using black and red vivids to colour in the parts that needed shading. We used traditional Maori colours of black, white and red when creating our designs. After we had finished creating our designs we each wrote a passage about what the patterns were called and why we had chosen them. We welcome visitors to come and view our artwork.



Room 16 have been learning about place value during Maths. We are working on remembering how many ones, tens and hundreds there are allowed to be before it becomes another number, such as a 2 digit number. We discovered that you can't have 10 ones because that makes 1 ten, which is a 2 digit number with 1 ten and 0 ones. To help reinforce our learning we created place value creatures or items. Beneath each of our designs we wrote how many hundreds, tens and ones we had used. Then we added all of these together to get the total number for our creation.



Room 16 have also been learning about ANZAC Day and its meaning through the story of Anzac Ted. Each child drew their version of ANZAC Ted and wrote a story about him. The class were able to make connections to other ANZAC books that we have read in class and can discuss the importance of ANZAC Day to New Zealand. Below are some of the impressive pieces of art created by the class.



Good To Know

### **THE END OF AN ERA - ROOM 23**

The last of Room 23 was removed this morning after a very busy demolition weekend. A big thank you to the Ministry of Education for getting the fire damage work underway so quickly. We are looking forward to the new classroom arriving and being set up ready for learning for the Room 23 students to return to.



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