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# Newsletter Term1 Week 9

**KIA ORA** Welcome to week 9!

## Reminders

- Last day of term is the 6th April (Thursday)
- There is a Teacher's Only Day on the 24th of April.
- Students return to school on the Wednesday 26th of April.
- If you have concerns about your child's vision or hearing, you can contact the Waikato DHB at the web address below to book them in for a check. Remember that children's hearing and vision does change as they grow.

<https://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/your-health/wellbeing-in-the-waikato/childrens-ear-clinic/> or phone on 07 838 3565

**Have a fantastic week!**



# Important Dates

## Important Dates this Term:

Last day of term is the 6th April (Thursday)

## Important Dates Term 2:

**24 April— Teacher Only Day**

25 April—Anzac Day

26 April—Term 2 starts

## Term Dates

### **Term 1 2023**

Tuesday 31st January—6th April (Thursday)

### **Term 2 2023**

26th April—30th June

### **Term 3 2023**

17th July—22nd September

### **Term 4 2023**

9th October —TBC

## **In-Term Public Holidays 2023**

25 Apr—Anzac Day

5 Jun—King's Birthday

23 Oct—Labour Day



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are delighted to inform you that Rukuhia School will be participating in the world-renowned ICAS competition this year.

**What is ICAS?**

ICAS is an online academic competition that is designed to assess students' higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling Bee and Digital Technologies.

Each assessment celebrates students' accomplishments by providing opportunities for recognition and development. Every student who participates will receive a printed certificate and an online results report. Top performers will be eligible for medals.

We encourage you to consider entering your child into ICAS this year.

Learn more about ICAS [here](https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas). (https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas)

If you would like your child to participate you can use the details below to purchase tests

ICAS will close for orders on the 17th of July

Your school access code is: **FVX848**

Your parent page link is: <https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

Room One are having a productive end to the term. I want to say another huge thank you to the whanau members who met with me during parent teacher interviews. It was lovely to share the success of your child with you.

Room One have really settled in to the routines in our classroom. It has been great to see friendships blossoming and students showing kindness and respect to all others in our class and school.

For writing, the students have been working hard on creating their own narratives. We have worked over the whole week to make sure we have all the features we need for a narrative in our writing. This has included a main character, setting, problem and solution. We are now going to illustrate these and then share them with other classes.

In maths we have been learning about measurement. Students are now confident at using rulers to measure and create lines to specific measurements, as well as comparing lengths. Use this topic as an opening to create some great discussions at home.

A huge thank you to all the whanau members who made it to the last assembly where shared our portraits. The students have shown some amazing skills in sketching over the completion of these. Come and check them out in our class if you missed the assembly. We are continuing our sketching abilities with some observational drawing in the afternoons.

Room



This week Room 2 took advantage of the beautiful sunshine and read outside.

It is really important that we read each day to accelerate our reading progress. I am really impressed with the progress Room 2 has already made this term.

We have also been swimming each day and making the most of our time in the pool. We are learning to use our powerful leg muscles to swim faster.



It was lovely to see so many of you at parent interviews last week.

This week we are working on using Google Classroom for our writing and learning how to work from an assigned task, submitted it for marking and getting our scores back. I have been very impressed with how quickly and confidently the children have picked up logging in to their laptops, using google docs and generally being very responsible with their devices. Their google classroom task for the next 2 weeks is to be completed only in class. I will be talking to the children about this. If it goes well, then I can set up some optional tasks for the holidays.

If you have any awesome websites you use at home with your child, please let me know as we would love to check them out for class learning.



In Room 4 we have started to use Book Creator to make our own picture books.

It's great to see students using digital technology as a creative outlet. I have already seen a wide variety of stories.

In Maths we have been learning about shapes and transformation.



Room

4

An exciting week in Room 5 with Passion Projects well on their way for next week's presentation to the entire school. We have project stations being created on World War 2, Cleoptra, Baking, Interior Design, Golden Retrievers and so much more. Mr Jepsen has been falling off his chair in class this week with the incredible results in Reading the students have been achieving and is super excited about testing Spelling next week. Today Room 5 is leaving the classroom and attending the Waikato Show at Claudelands. The day's purpose is to allow the students the opportunity to explore the endless selection of occupations, hobbies and technology on display.

Mr Jepsen would like to say a special thank you to all the parents who attended parent interviews. There is nothing more powerful and rewarding than celebrating a student's success with their parents.

There is an infectious culture of positivity and acceptance in Room 5 that we cannot deny, and I cannot help but have a healthy suspicion it's due to all you amazing parents embracing this culture in your home lives.

Room



Kia ora Parents/Whanau

Thank you so much for attending the parent interviews. It is great to share your child's success with you and thank you for all the positive feedback about our school.

Now that we have finished swimming we are focusing on outdoor games to develop students' fitness and motor skills. We have had lots of fun with the parachute and bean bags. Also in the afternoons we are learning some new waiata, some simple te reo sentences and some stick games. The students are very quick to pick up te reo and hopefully they will share their expertise with you at home.

Our letters this week are: g l v y r and next week they are: a m s f. The word family is: it/hit/sit and for Week 10 it is: in/pin/win. We have noticed a huge improvement in students sounding out words and identifying the individual sounds, then stating what the letter name is. Most of you may have noticed two sets of high frequency words in your child's book bag - "high frequency sight words are commonly used words that young children are encouraged to memorize as a whole by sight, so that they can automatically recognize these words in print without having to use any strategies to decode." Google. The reason they have two sets is so that they can play matching pairs and snap. We run through these words with your child during the week and if your child can recognise them quickly then he/she is given a new set of words. Thank you for your support with this.

Our trip to Pirongia Forest Park is postponed as we swam in the pool for longer than was anticipated.

Sadly we are saying goodbye to Miss Baxter next week so we have decided to have a Teddy Bear's Picnic next Thursday to farewell her. Our inquiry next week will focus on bears. Your child is invited to bring along something to share on Thursday for lunch - parents/whanau/younger siblings are invited to join us, 12.00 pm start. No worries if you are a working parent - we will take lots of photos. Children will be asked to bring along a bear (or a special soft toy if your child does not have a bear) on Thursday and bear stories any other day next week. Please make sure that books and bears have your child's name in them.

Jane, Shivaun and Tyler

## ROOM



# School Reminders

## School Times

8.30am	Classrooms Open
9.00am	School Starts
11.00-11.30am	Morning Tea
12.45-1.40pm	Lunch
3.00pm	School Finishes

## Office Hours

8.30am—3.00pm  
office@rukuhia.school.nz  
07 843 6967

## Absentees

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, could you please call or email the office before 9.00am. If the phone is unattended please leave a message.

## Signing In & Out

If you are late for school or need to take your children out of school for any reason during school time, **parents/caregivers must** come into the office and sign them out and then sign them back in if they are returning before school finishes.

## School Bank Account

If you are wanting to make online payments to the school below are our bank account details:

12 3152 0019783 00

Please make sure you note the child's name and what the payment is for.



**RUKUHIA SCHOOL**

# Uniform Supplier

**Logo U2 are now able to offer your school uniform to be ordered directly from their online shop**

[www.logou2.com](http://www.logou2.com)

- A note from Logo U2: Please wash our shirts inside out. When printed apparel is turned inside out when washing the printing will last longer as it is not getting rubbed against other clothing.

**Logo U2**  
Proudly NZ



**first**  
credit union

First Credit Union provides a school banking service to all pupils at Rukuhia School.

