



July 3, 2020

Term 2#4

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Hi everyone.

Here we are at the end of the term, obviously one of the strangest terms we may ever experience. The kids have been amazing. They have been engaged and enthusiastic and have really enjoyed being back together since mid-May. It was great to get everyone together at our end of term assembly, especially as we missed our first term gathering due to lockdown. The children are looking forward to sharing their dance show and other items at our mid-winter Matariki assembly. Thanks very much to Rach, Anto, John and Aahmes for all of their hard work making this term a success post lockdown, there were a lot of variables to work through but we managed things fairly seamlessly. Thanks also to the BOT for their support and advice and guidance through very new territory. The assembly last night was a fantastic gathering with a marvellous Matariki show put on by the kids. Thanks to our dance instructor Catherine and her inspiration and energy. I forgot to thank Qian at assembly last night for all of her help at school and also for teaching us Mandarin. It is really exciting to learn a new language. I thought the lanterns looked superb with the Chinese characters inked on them. I hope everyone has a very restful enjoyable holiday break, we will see you in a couple of weeks at the start of Term 3.



Trip to Orokonui Eco-sanctuary

We had a marvellous time at Orokonui last week. The weather was crystal clear and crisp. The kids were very engaged throughout. We learned a lot about the Eco-sanctuary building, and about how it was cleverly designed with environmental sustainability in mind. The kids did a cool treasure hunt to find different design features. Our forest walk was exciting as we had up close encounters with takahe, kaka, an Otago skink and many other birds. It was frosty so we had to keep moving! A real treat for the kids was being broadcast live on the radio at lunchtime when Tahu phoned through to Otago Access Radio for her weekly segment. Well done to Anika, Noah and Lawrence for being brave and contributing to this spontaneous broadcast, I thought you summarised our mornings activities and learning really well. And the day was finished off perfectly with a scramble up Mopanui to enjoy the superb views. It was the perfect first day out and about after lockdown. Thanks to Tahu for hosting us and we look forward to our next visit.



Directly underneath a curious kaka at Orokonui.



Fluffy Ducks

The latest recipients of Fluffy Duck, Jennifer, Noah and Liana.

Jennifer

Jennifer always works hard at school and takes great pride in her work which is impressive. She has also composed some excellent poetry recently which I have enjoyed reading.

Noah

Noah is a very thoughtful, polite and helpful student. He not only responds swiftly to assist or help at school but will often take the initiative which is fantastic. Great stuff Noah.

Liana

Liana has been doing very well throughout this term during her school visits. She is always very attentive and enthusiastic and has excellent powers of concentration for one so young.

Recycling with Jennie Upton

We had a very interesting visit last Friday from Jennie Upton, our current Enviro-school facilitator. We had been trying to arrange a trip to the Dunedin recycling plant for the seniors but with Covid19 and lockdown this became unmanageable. So, Jennie came up to school to do a presentation about recycling in Dunedin, with some excellent visual props. We learned a lot and the kids asked some great questions. We learned that plastics with the numbers 1, 2 and 5 on them are the most valuable when it comes to recycling in NZ so are worth looking for on various products. We also showed Jennie our new cleared area by the potting shed to see if she could help us source some materials for that project. She said she would see what she could do! She also joined us for our Friday lunch and was very complimentary about this special part of our school culture.

Thankfulness

Last Friday we did a wee group exercise at the start of the day to think about being grateful about things that we might often overlook or take for granted, especially in comparison to other parts of the world. I was so impressed with the 10 ideas the children first nominated. It was a very mature and informed list! I will write them below.

1. Warmth
2. Food
3. Friends
4. Family
5. Shelter
6. School and Education
7. Equality
8. Good Government
9. Beautiful Environment
10. Abundant Water

Dates for your Diary

Term Three Begins - Monday July 21st

ASK ANTO



AFTER SCHOOL KIDS CREATIVITY

Well here's to another great term of ASK ANTO and Friday singing and cooking! I am so grateful to have a part time job next door to my home, doing the creative things that I love and sharing them with the tamariki in the community! Thank you all so much for your support! Have a lovely break and I look forward to seeing you all next term for some more fun and creativity!

Tim Cook

Principal