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19 June 2020

Kia ora

Staffing

After seven years as one of our Teacher Aide's Hayley Powell has decided to finish at the end of the term. Hayley's wonderful care and support of our students has been widely appreciated and she will be greatly missed by students, particularly in Tūhura where she works, staff and parents. We would like to wish her well.

Lynley Brocket, who has taught our specialist environmental lessons on Thursdays will leave us at the end of the term to take up a full-time position at another school. Ali Johnson will join us on Thursdays and she will offer drama and art lessons alongside Mr B's P.E. lessons. Kate Colbran will join the specialist team for Whakarewa only and will focus on inquiry learning.

We welcome Sue Caddie to Whakarewa next term on Monday and Tuesday afternoons and Fridays. Sue is a long-standing Clarkville teacher and she will support the Year 1 & 2 programme.

Learning Conferences

Our Learning Conferences begin on Monday.

School will finish at 12.30pm on Monday 22 June and Wednesday 1 July. The school bus will run at 12.35pm on both of these days.

sKids will offer care from 12.30 – 3pm for families who would like to take up this offer. Please book with Lee-ann. The usual sKids programme will run from 3pm.

If you haven't yet made a booking, you can still do this and booking will close on Monday morning:

Visit <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code?z=Mqb5KX>

Enter the event code: **w5879**

Teachers are looking forward to the opportunity to connect with families. I am also available for any families who would like to drop in for a chat. Please come to the office when it suits you.

Wellbeing

2020 is proving to be a most unusual year and many people are facing unexpected challenges.

At school, we are taking care to tune in to the needs of each child and we work closely with families to provide support when it is needed. Please do make contact if your family would like support of any kind.

One of the school-based initiatives we have been developing across the school is Bliss Time. When we talk with children about the importance to have downtime from concentrated learning, we also need to give them time to experience what this can be like. Bliss Time offers students the opportunity to immerse themselves in a passion or activity that is fun and relaxing. Here are what some Tūhura students have said about Bliss Time:

"It helps us to think. We've been working hard and it helps our minds to refresh."

"We get to do something we really like and what makes us feel blissful."

"It's really calm and there's no stress or pressure."

"It gets you ready for more learning."

How much time do students spend on devices at school?

With the return to school this term, some teams have continued to use the team website developed over the lockdown as a place for students to access their learning. The first part of the day (9am – 10.40am) is focused on learning core skills in literacy and maths and students can find their work on the website, even though they are mostly recording their work in an exercise book. Teachers run workshops during this time to teach new content and they roam to check in personally with each of their students. Teachers report that they are spending more personalised time with students, providing specific feedback and assistance to support each child's learning. Literacy and numeracy skills are applied across the rest of the day through rich learning tasks such as science experiments, design projects or inquiry learning.

Each team has a different approach to the use of devices in line with the age and developmental stage of the children and teachers are acutely aware of the importance of limiting device time. Early next term, we will conduct an in-depth analysis of how much time children spend on devices at school. We will send the results to families so that parents can engage in conversation with us. I look forward to sharing this information with you.

Juliana Rae
Principal

Mana Ake drop-in service ~ Monday 22 June

Lesley will be here from 1.30 – 3pm, during Learning Conference time, if you would like to drop in for a chat

Parents with concerns about any aspect of their child's wellbeing or development are welcome to connect with Lesley. Meetings are confidential. Lesley is a counsellor with extensive experience and the service is free.

If possible, please let Juliana or Kathryn know if you would like to connect with Lesley but do feel free to drop in.

From our Board of Trustees

Dear parents, hello from the board.

Despite the disjointed times we have been in the board has continued to operate and to meet, via zoom during the heart of lockdown. At our meeting, next week one key agenda item which is particularly timely is Wellbeing. There have been consistent messages about ensuring our own wellbeing during these challenging times. Wellbeing is critical to the health and functioning of a school. Good wellbeing is fundamental to our overall health, it affects how we overcome difficulties and achieve what we want to in life. It is strongly related to happiness. Wellbeing affects student engagement with learning, their social and emotional behaviour and their overall satisfaction with school. It follows then that wellbeing is one of the two goals in our school's strategic plan. Our wellbeing goal is to actively engage students, staff and parents to provide a respectful, safe and caring school climate.

There is a huge commitment and energy invested by our staff in this goal and a deep sense that by deliberately plotting our path to wellbeing we will achieve the culture and learning we want at Clarkville School.

We need to be constantly mindful of the wellbeing of 3 groups in our community.

Firstly, that of our children. Since the return to school at level 2 each learning team has made adaptations to their existing programmes or implemented new programmes to enhance student wellbeing. Mindfulness techniques help make students feel calm, relaxed and give them a sense of wellbeing. In Tūhura "Bliss time", an opportunity for students to make choices in their learning, sits alongside the "Pause, Breathe, Smile" programme. The more senior teams have introduced timetable changes in response to students requesting the time, space and silence to be in charge of what they do in their learning. This results in time being freed up for personal choice learning. These initiatives are progressive and forward thinking.

Staff wellbeing is equally critical. The board is well aware that teachers have worked incredibly hard to respond to student needs in recent months. Their Easter holidays were taken up with designing and refining online learning programmes and indeed building websites to facilitate remote learning. During lockdown, our teachers held zoom meetings with their teams from their living rooms, kept in regular email contact with students and parents, marked significant amounts of work and gave encouraging and meaningful feedback to our students. There is no doubt that Covid 19 has added hugely to teacher workload and has required them to be even more adaptive, creative and responsive. The board is mindful of our responsibility to support their wellbeing and we are committed to doing so.

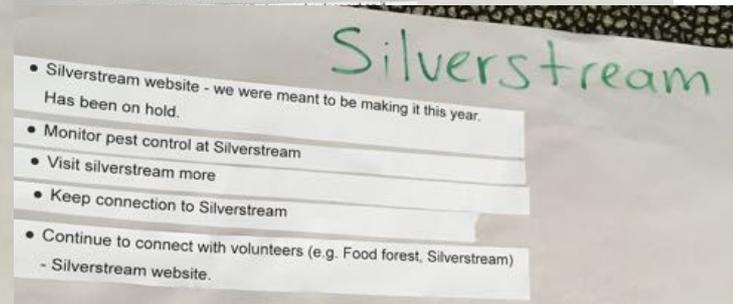
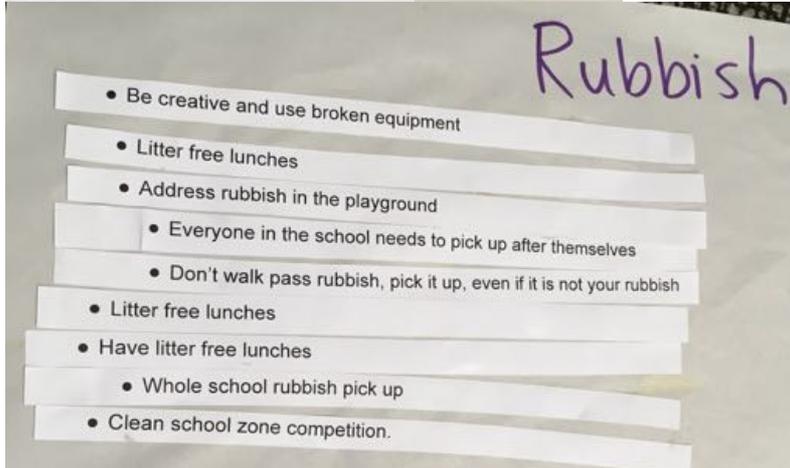
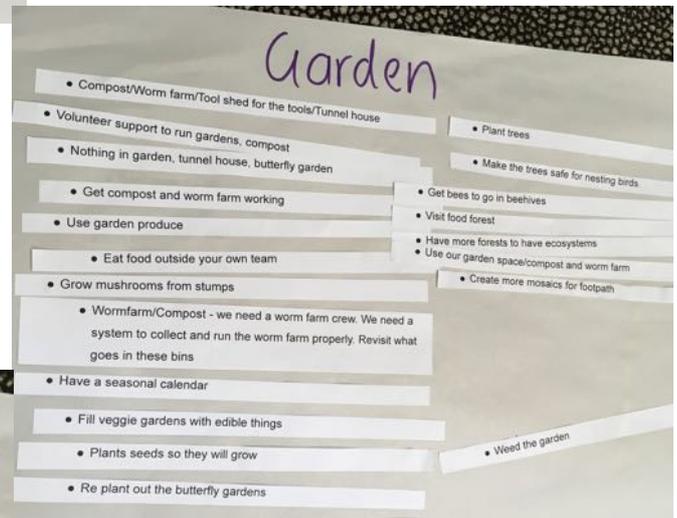
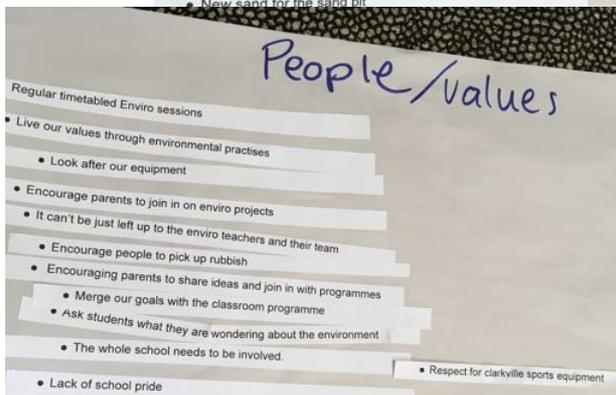
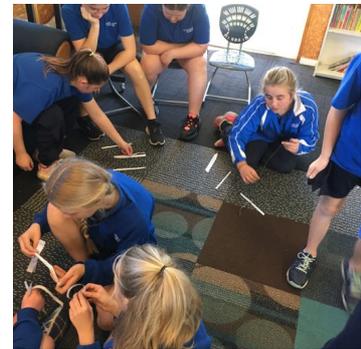
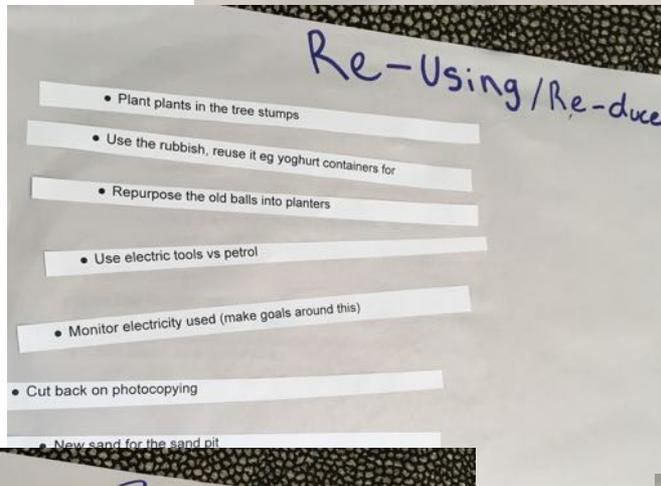
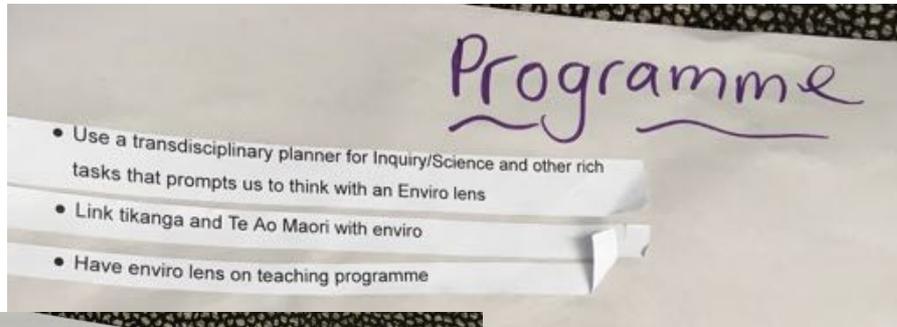
The wellbeing of our parent community matters too. I know that Juliana has made excellent use of our school app to keep you well informed and to regularly offer you any practical assistance or support that might be helpful. That offer remains on the table, both from senior management and from the board. We do understand the current stresses in our community. Please do let us know if we can help. Please do take up offers of support. A functioning community cares for all of its members and responds as best as it can in times of need.

I hope that the upcoming holidays are more normal for everyone. In the meantime, please stay connected with us, keep talking to us and please be part of our goal to produce a respectful, safe and caring school where wellbeing is something we value and strategically plan to achieve.

Kind regards,
Sarah Long
Chair, Board of Trustees

Engage in Enviro

Vision Map Goals: We've been putting together possible goals from ideas across the school and grouped them. Our next step is to decide on our focus for the rest of the year. Watch this space!!



Matariki Seed Planting

We had a great time in our buddy groups building our knowledge of winter vegetables and planting a seed.

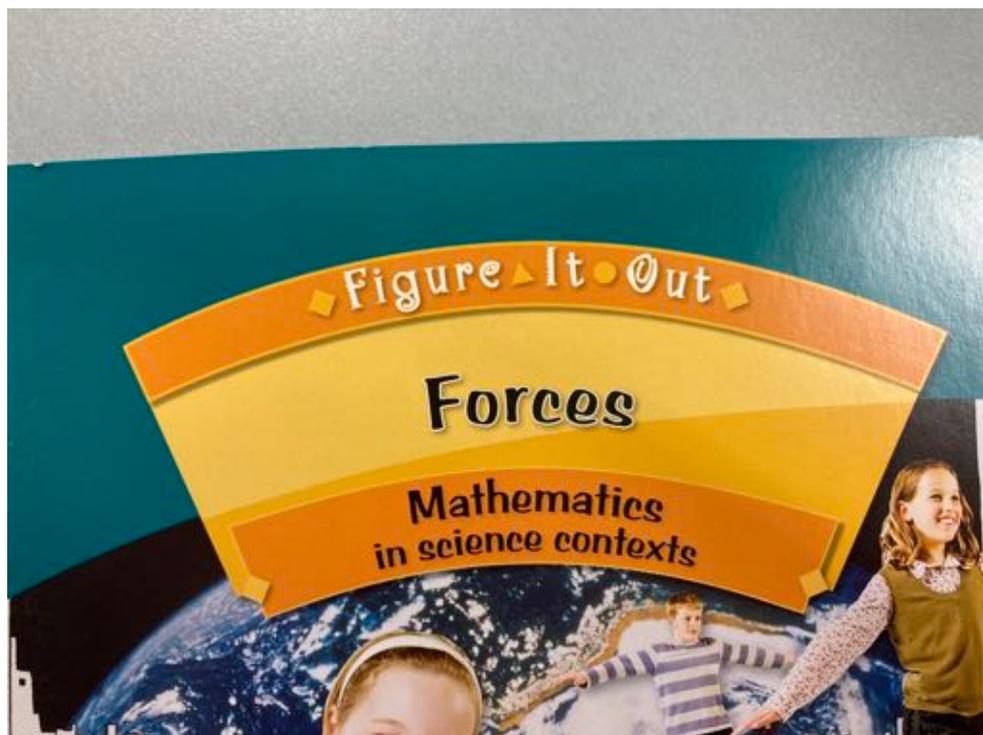


Maths and Science in Hōpara

We have amazing resource books in the school called 'Figure it Out'. One of the books we are working with is called "Forces: Maths in Science Contexts"

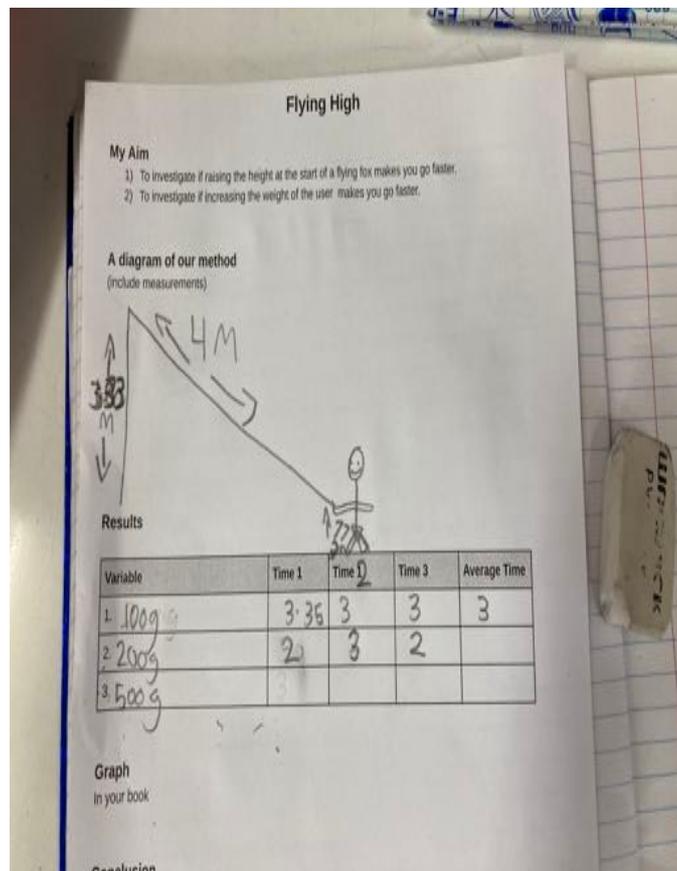
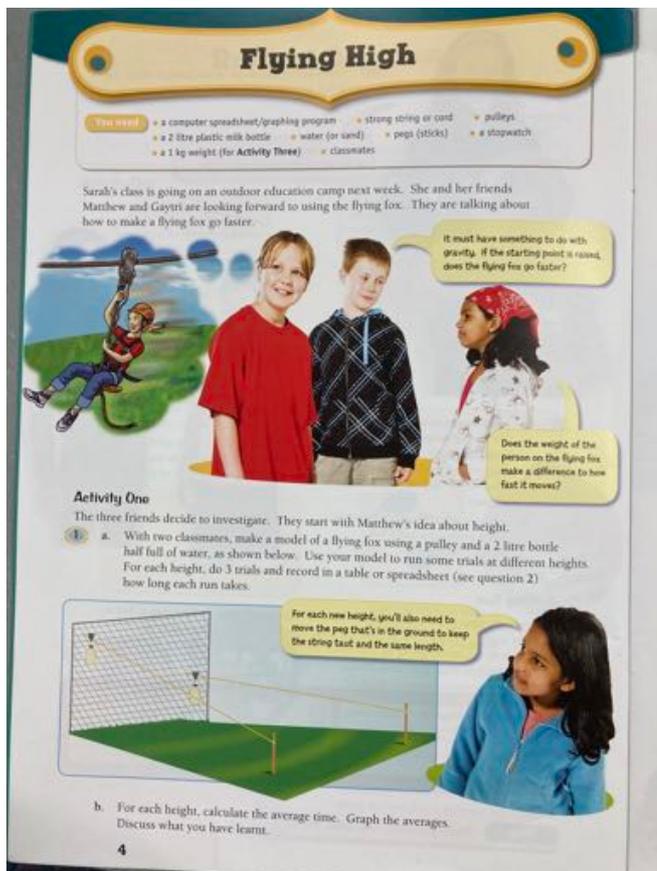
Our experiment today was to investigate flying foxes by making a model with weights, string and a pulley. The children needed to answer these two questions:

1. Does raising the starting height increase the speed?
2. Does increasing the weight increase the speed?



As well as having a lot of fun our children have been busy, making predictions, problem solving, drawing diagrams, gathering data, filling in tables and then drawing conclusions.

These experiments are rich with maths and science learning.





PTA – Entertainment Books

*There has never been a more important time to support us with our fundraising – 20% of each sale goes directly to our school. You now have 6 months to activate your new Membership
We really appreciate your support!*

Purchase here today: <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/134724x>

Term Dates for 2020

Term 2: - Friday 3

Term 3: Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September (10 weeks)

Term 4: Monday 12 October - Friday 11 December (9 weeks)

Teacher only day: Monday 12 October – *please note change of date*

Calendar of Events

The calendar is looking full again, please note the dates in your diary now

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| June | 22 22 23 23 24 24 24 25 26 26 30 | Mana-Ake drop in session 1.30 – 3.30pm Learning Conferences from 1.30 School finishes @ 12.30, bus will run at 12.35) KHS to visit Aspire Learning Conferences, from 3.10pm Sushi for Lunch (order via Kindo) Learning Conferences, from 3.10pm Board of Trustees meeting, 6pm Learning Conferences, from 3.10pm Lunchtime Sausage Sizzle (order via Kindo) Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) Learning Conferences, from 3.10pm |
| July | 1 3 3 3 3 3 20 24 27 31 31 | Learning Conferences from 1.30 School finishes @ 12.30, bus will run at 12.35) Subway, lunch (order via Kindo) – <i>please note change of date</i> Assembl, 9.10am Dance Student's performance 10.40 – 11.00 in MPF Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) End of Term 2. School finishes at usual time Start of Term 3 Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) PTA Meeting @ 6.45pm in staffroom. All welcome Lunchtime Sausage Sizzle (order via Kindo) Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) |
| August | 5 5 7 7 12 12 13 14 21 21 21 26 28 28 31 | Year 6 parent Evening at 6pm Year 8, Kaiapoi High School at 7pm Pizza, lunch. Year 8 fundraiser, order in Library before school on day, cash only Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) Ski Trip (school or ski) Board of Trustees meeting, 6pm Fish & Chip lunch (order via Kindo) Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) Pizza, lunch. Year 8 fundraiser, order in Library before school on day, cash only PTA Disco (more information to come) Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) Speech Comp v Ohoka Lunchtime Sausage Sizzle (order via Kindo) Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) Rotary Speech Competition, Aspire |
| September | 4 4 8 10 11 18 23 25 25 | Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) Pizza, lunch. Year 8 fundraiser, order in Library before school on day, cash only School Photographs (to be taken by School photography NZ) Subway for lunch order via Kindo) Chocolate for sale after school (\$2.00 per bar) Pizza, lunch. Year 8 fundraiser, order in Library before school on day, cash only Board of Trustees meeting, 6pm Lunchtime Sausage Sizzle (order via Kindo) End of Term 3. School finishes at usual time |

Other dates to note, Term 4:

12 October: Teacher Only Day (no school)

21 October: Athletics