



Te Kura o Hau Karetu

He waka eke noa: *We're all in this waka together*
32 Hillside Drive, Māoribank, UPPER HUTT 5018
Phone (04) 5269-552, 027-5269-552
Email: office@tehaukaretu.school.nz

13 August 2024

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana, Namaste, Kumusta,

Wow, we are in week 4 already! Time is flying.

Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Hau Karetu to Damon who has started in Te Pūao today. We know you're going to love it here at our kura and we are happy to have you here. ❤️

Goal setting interviews: Thank you so much to those of you who attended the goal setting interviews last week. If you haven't already met with your teacher about setting goals for your child, please contact them to make a time. Thank you.



Fathers' Day Raffle: Fathers' Day raffle tickets are for sale. Yesterday, each family was given a book of 5 raffle tickets to be sold please. \$2 per ticket. So far, it's looking like a nice raffle with lots of cool stuff for dads, including socks and dad hankies! 😊 All proceeds go to our senior Camp. If anyone has anything to contribute to the raffle, please drop off at the office. Thanks.

School Gates: A reminder to everyone to please be respectful of our school gate closures. Front gates are closed from 9.30am until 2pm, then again from 2.50-3.10pm. Back gates are closed from 9am-2.55pm. Please do not ask our staff to open the gates for you during this time. The reason we are closing them is for student safety and it becomes chaotic and dangerous if cars are going in and out of the driveway, and as well, we need to keep our vulnerable children safe inside the gates. Thank you.



School Olympics: Thank you so much to those of you who attended the school "Olympics". We had loads of fun including basketball shots, balloon volleyball and gumboot throwing to name a few. It made it extra special with children dressing up and parents attending. We have shared loads of pictures on Facebook.



Basketball event



Gold winners USA



Silver winners France



Bronze winners Brazil



Congratulations to these tamariki who received principal's awards for showing the school values: Kahimou, Rain, Mars-Hauti, Tobias, Otis, Xeamerrah, Archer, Lofi, Leraya, Rewa, Lyla, Ayla, Kyarn, Ivannah, Lalita, Season and Leo. We are so proud of you!



Kaupapa mō te wiki/Value for the week:

Our value for this week is Kotahitanga/Togetherness – “The Power of Yet”. We have recognised that many of our tamariki give up too easily when it comes to their learning. Learning is not easy, it is hard and it takes a brave person to keep going without quitting. We are helping each other by encouraging them to keep going even if they are feeling stuck in the learning pit.

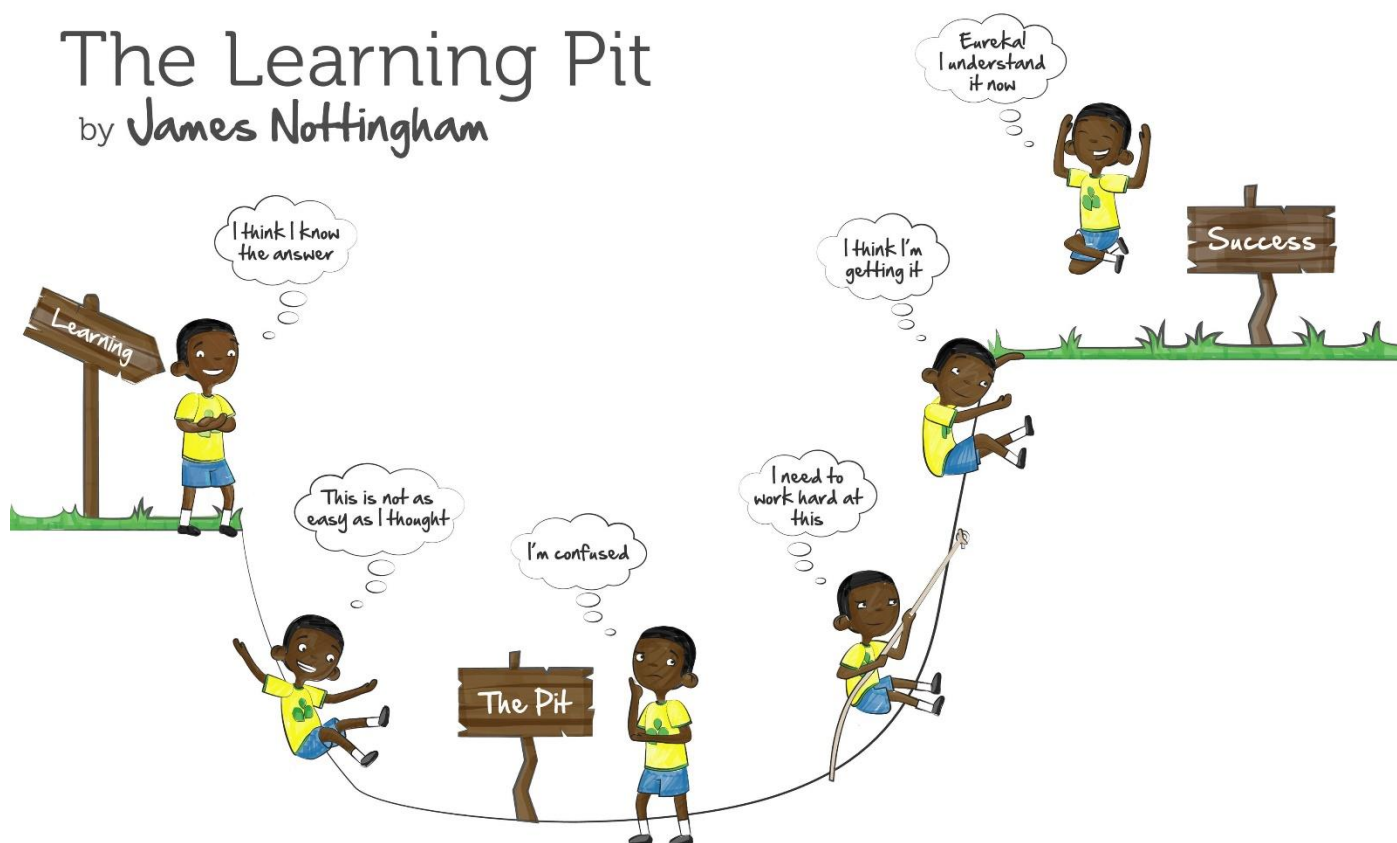
We are learning a lot about the Learning Pit. In the learning pit journey, there are 4 stages we go through when we are learning something new:

1. Concept at the beginning of the pit (what is the question I have to solve and understanding what it means)
2. Cognitive Conflict at the bottom of the pit (these are the thoughts you have about the question and often the part where learners quit if they don't have the belief in themselves or the resilience to keep going)
3. Construct coming up the sides of the pit (These are the connections we can make to existing knowledge and strategies we can use)
4. Consider at the top of the pit (these are the answers we have come up with – the lightbulb moments).

Ask your child about the Learning Pit or the Power of Yet, and see if they can tell you about it.

The Learning Pit

by James Nottingham



Parents with Children who are Neurodiverse – On Thursday 26th August at 5pm-6pm, in the school hall, we have asked Hannah McGill who is a speech language therapist from the Ministry of Education, to come and speak to our group. Speech Language (SL) is not just about how children speak but how they communicate. This would be a great opportunity to come and see how children acquire language, and how you can help your child at home to improve their speech and communication skills.

Afterwards, I will be holding a session with you on writing a letter to the government for more support for our neurodiverse learners. Currently, most of our neurodiverse learners are not funded at all, and some only a small amount compared to their needs. We believe this is inequitable, and that the government should be stumping up with some more resources so we can support all our learners to reach their full potential.

We will provide childcare for this session, as well as pizza and a movie for the kids. Please feel free to bring something to share for the adults to eat also. We will provide tea and coffee.

Property news: - We are currently having our Fire Alarm System upgraded. There will be random wires coiled up around the school for a while. It will take many more months for the workers to complete the work at the school, but we will have a brand new fire alarm system. Just to reassure you, it is a requirement that all workers who are on site at school are police vet checked before they can come and work here.

Sickness – there is so much sickness around at the moment. Apologies from me, but there have been quite a few times lately where I haven't been able to get a reliever to cover for our teachers when they are unwell, so your children are sometimes split into other classes. Teachers have literacy and numeracy contracts that children can take with them to other classrooms so they have plenty of work to do.

We know that having a “well home” is important to keep bugs away. Something that many of you may not know is how important it is to ventilate your home and open some windows – even in the winter. Replacing stale air full of CO₂ (Carbon dioxide) with fresh air O₂ (oxygen) is so important.

Why do you need to ventilate your home?

When you keep your doors and windows closed, the air inside your home can become stagnant, trapping pollutants like dust, pet hair and fluff. Breathing in these pollutants can cause respiratory issues and worsen health conditions like asthma and allergies. Proper ventilation helps to remove these pollutants and improve the air quality in your home.

Alongside improving indoor air quality, ventilation can also help regulate the humidity levels in your home. During the winter, indoor heating can cause the air to become dry. This can lead to dry skin, sore throat, and other health issues. By ventilating your home, you can let in the fresh air and reduce humidity levels, helping to maintain a healthy and comfortable indoor environment. There are also behaviour factors at play. Drying your clothes in poorly ventilated rooms during Winter could make your house damp and lead to mould growth. Or not properly ventilating your kitchen when cooking can lead to excess condensation. Both factors can be detrimental to your home and health.

How can you ventilate your home?

Open your windows

There are many ways to ventilate your home during the winter. Even if it's cold outside, opening windows is a simple way to let in fresh air. You don't need to leave them open all day, around 5-10 minutes at a time will help to remove stale air, and let fresh air in. It is vital to do this once or twice a day. Ideally, open windows on both sides of your house, which allows for cross-ventilation and ensures fresh air circulates around the house. The warm surfaces within the house will quickly warm the cooler dryer air.

Use an exhaust fan

You can also use exhaust fans in the kitchen and bathroom to remove stale air and moisture. This is especially important when cooking, as moisture can circulate around the house. Remember to slightly open the window when doing so. This ensures that conditioned air from the living areas is not sucked outside – (creates a localised circuit). Pre-heating the bathroom before showering will also improve the effectiveness of exhausting moisture. In colder bathrooms, the steam produced will condensate on the walls and ceiling and take a lot longer to dissipate.

Consider when to dry your clothes

If you're drying your clothes inside, consider using a dehumidifier to remove excess moisture. If you don't own one, try to dry your clothes near an open window when it's not too cold outside.

Dry your clothes outside- create a space where you can leave them outside. e.g. peg some clear plastic over your washing line and use an airer to get them mostly dry- finish them off inside if needed.

Insulate your home

Insulation is also important to the ventilation process. An insulated house helps to remove excess condensation and allows the home to regulate temperature. This means your house will maintain a warmer temperature and won't take as long to heat during the ventilation process.



Move bedding and furniture away from external walls to allow airflow. Lack of airflow, particularly in uninsulated walls, can lead to condensation and mould growth.

For more information:

<https://www.cea.co.nz/why-you-still-need-to-ventilate-your-home-during-winter/>

If you think you have a dampness issue in your home, we may be able to arrange a Well Homes visit to see whether there's anything you can do to help you. Let Karen, Steph, or Roseanne know and we will call someone to support you.

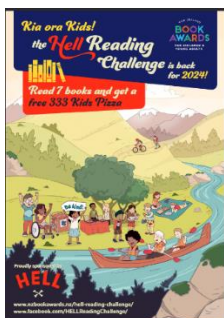
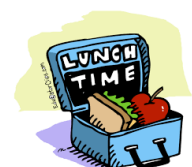
Heads up:

- **Kutu/Nits** – please check your child's head on a daily basis for nits. We have children from multiple classes who are itching. We have treatments at school – please see Rachel or Roseanne for treatments. Please tie your child's hair up if it is long. Thank you.
- **School Start and Finish & Attendance:** Please remember that school begins at 9am and finishes at 3pm. It's important children are at school **every day and on time**. However, we would rather children were at school late than not at all. Getting to school by 9am is important for children's routines. Thank you.
- **MUD!** A reminder to give young children a change of clothes – especially pants. If your child comes up to the office wet and muddy and we have run out of clothes to put them in, we will call you to come and collect them. Thank you.
- **Absences:** If your child is not going to be at school, please advise the office via text on 0275269552, or via the Skool Loop app. Make sure you tell us the reason they are absent.
- **Entry in to and from School: Mornings** - drop your child off at the front gate or the back. Our carpark can be quite full and it's safer to drop your child off at the gate and have them walk in. You do not need to drop them to the office unless they are running late – thank you.



End of the day –

- Front gates are closed all day from 9.30am-3.10pm. We will cross children over at the end of the day. Please use the “crossing”.
- Back gates: These are locked during the day and will be opened again at 3pm. There will be two walking bus teachers to walk your children to the intersection of Hillside Drive, Moeraki, and Norana Roads and will be crossed over by the road patrollers.
- **Breakfast Club:** Runs 5 days per week from 8 – 9.30am. We are always in need of volunteers for Breakfast Club please. If you would like to volunteer for this job, please advise Roseanne or Rachel at the office. Thank you.
- **Lunches in Schools:** We provide lunches each day. The kai will be offered to every child. All children are expected to at least try the kai.
- **Water only:** We are a water only school which means children can only drink water while they are at school. We would encourage your child to bring a drink bottle of water each day.
- **Assemblies:** We hold our weekly celebration Assembly on Fridays at 9am. All whanau are welcome to attend.



The Hell Reading Challenge is on! Your child has received their reading wheels. Each time they read a book, they need to tell record the name of the book and tell their teacher so they can receive a stamp. Once the reading wheel is filled, children can take their completed wheel into Hell Pizza where they will receive a free snack sized pizza.

For further information, go to:

<https://www.nzbookawards.nz/new-zealand-book-awards-for-children-and-young-adults/the-hell-reading-challenge/>

- **School Policies:** Our school policies and procedures can be found at schooldocs.co.nz, username: maoribank and password waka. We would encourage you to check these out as we will ask you to have your say on their review every three years. Our current policies for review are:
 - Concerns and Complaints
 - Media
 - Performance Management

- Protected Disclosure
- Professional Development
- Staff Conduct
- Staff Leave

Ngā mihi nui

Karen Wellington,

Kaihautu/Timekeeper on the Waka

Schedule of Events Term 3, 2024

Week 4 12-16 Aug	Tuesday - Basketball at Walter Nash Stadium – Senior students only
Week 6 26-30 Aug	Thursday – Hui for Families of Children who are Neurodiverse – 5pm. Focus on speech language, and a letter to the government.
Week 7 2-6 Sept	Tuesday - Rippa Rugby at TMP – Matua Shea will send details soon. Thursday is postponement day.
Week 8 9-13 Sept	Friday – Wig and Onesie Day. Fundraising for Child Cancer and Wellington Free Ambulance. Wear a Onesie or wear a wig/crazy hairdo. Please bring a donation.
Week 9 16-20 Sept	Te Wiki o te Reo Māori – Māori Language Week. Watch this space, as you can be sure we'll be doing something amazing throughout this week.
Week 10 23-27 Sept	Book Week and Book Character Day on Friday. Structured Literacy Information Evening for parents Monday 5.30pm. Mrs Wellington gets her new puppy this week!

