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## WEEK 4 KAWERONGO - NEWSLETTER

10 August 2023

Kia ora koutou,



The photo above is an architect's concept design of our proposed **new double class satellite** at **Te Kura o Manunui** (formerly Brookfield School), which we hope to move in at the beginning of term three next year, or earlier if the builders get ahead with the development.

The playground shown is to give you an impression of the site's use. We will be building a purpose built playground further back on the site, at our Board's cost, as the Ministry does not fund this. The building will be moved closer to the front gate to the left side of the photo. The facility will be sited above the new school currently under construction at Millers Road, Brookfield. The school will be officially opened Tuesday 23 January 2024.

We are working with Ministry of Education Infrastructure advisors and designers to fine tune the designs. We will have an update very soon of proposed accommodation arrangements for our students and staff for the first two terms next year.

At our **Welcome Bay Satellite** the **proposed move** on site into a more suitable building is back on track after some delays beyond our control. The actual building will be extensively renovated before we move in which is great news. Our Board will be funding additional features both internally and externally to the development, to provide the best safe and pleasant environment possible.

We will keep our families informed of the time frame in the very near future.

**Ngā mihi Kind regards**

**Barrie Wickens**

**Principal**

### **Important dates and info for Term 3**

Kāhui Ako Curriculum Day, Monday 18 September - school closed

End of Term 3 Friday 22 September

## Pāpāmoa College

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual challenges, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Here at Pāpāmoa College we have competed in the Special Olympics Soccer event in term two and are now preparing and training for the Special Olympics Basketball event that will be held on the 16th of August at Tauranga Boys College. Please come along and support us in our quest for gold!



## Pāpāmoa College

Last week Tauranga Special School hosted two New Zealand Chamber of Music musicians, Cathy and Mark who flew from Christchurch to conduct specialised music sessions with our Akonga. Jolt Dance Academy, also in Christchurch, with Renee and Aleesha, came to contribute to this momentous event by engaging our students with dance as well. TC3 also attended and students from the main school assisted with participation and engagement, making new friends along the way. It was a huge success.



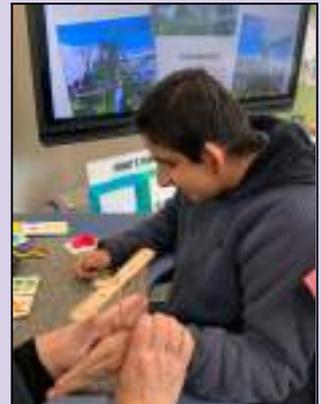
Emelia Cooksley said, "It was fun to be with other students from the mainstream, including Savannah, and doing dancing, music, and conducting a soundscape."

Fergus Aitken said, "I liked the drums, bass and I liked the dancing and visiting my friends from TC3."

Kaleb Hohneck said, "I liked Mark the drum player and the violin player Cathy and listening to them play the music."

## Pāpāmoa College

This term we have been inquiring into different types of transport and what makes them move. We have enjoyed exploring different vehicles through sensory stories, songs, play, craft activities, experiments and community visits. Through these learning engagements we have been learning to develop our skills of observation, asking questions, recognising new signs, symbols and words and engaging with objects in different ways. It's been fun and we still have much more to find out!



We have rolled and raced cars down the ramps at the skatepark, observed planes and helicopters at the airport, played at the Classic Flyers Aviation Club park, made planes, helicopters and spinners, painted with cars, played with transport toys and lots more!

### Room 3

Room 3 loves it when our specialists come in and set up interesting activities.

Kit (Speech- language Therapist) and Erin (Occupational Therapist) are in our classroom twice a week. The students loved Kit and Erin's session last week when they had to hunt for dog bones in the sandpit to feed the dog. There are lots of opportunities for the students to initiate and develop their communication skills during these sessions.



Marcia (Occupational Therapist Assistant) comes in to do a session on teeth brushing and sensory activities every Tuesday. The students enjoy brushing their teeth and Marcia's!



This term's inquiry learning topic is on transport. We have visited the airport, Classic Flyers and The Historic Village. We are looking forward to learning more about all the different machines, vehicles and equipment we see in the world around us.



## Speech-language Therapy

### Information from your Specialist team on using a spoon

(Information adapted from NHS website UK)



Mealtimes are an important aspect of family life. Children begin to develop self-feeding skills from birth. Self-feeding is a very complex task and it is common for children to have difficulty using cutlery to feed themselves. It usually takes until a child is 7 years old before they can successfully use cutlery to feed themselves without being too messy.

### Hints and Tips



- It is important that your child has adequate support when they are learning any new skill. Initially ensure your child is well supported in a chair or on your lap. You can use cushions or rolled up towels to help support your child to stay sitting up straight in their chair.
- As they grow it is important that their feet and back are supported so that they can use their hands freely. Whenever possible ensure that your child is sitting at a table. You could use a sturdy box under their feet and cushions on the chair to make sure they are well supported.

- Always set the dishes and utensils out in the same way to develop a routine and help your child locate items at each meal.



- Think about the utensils you are using. Spoons with thick and/or textured handles are easier to hold. A spoon with a short handle is easier to control. Consider the weight of the cutlery. Sometimes something heavier can be easier to control. Use a bowl or plate with a raised edge so the child has something to scoop against. Place a non-slip mat underneath the bowl to prevent it sliding when your child is learning to scoop.
- When encouraging your child to use a spoon, use foods that stick to the spoon (e.g. yoghurt, porridge, mashed potato). These are less likely to spill, so the child has more chance of succeeding.
- Take your time and be consistent. Learning a new skill takes time so persevere with giving support until you feel that the child is making progress.
- Practice, practice, practice! Give your child opportunities for practice every day.



**We would also like to take this opportunity of saying farewell to SLT, Edwina Burke who has been with Tauranga Special School for 14 years.**

**We wish you well on your next adventure Edwina!**

**We will be welcoming a new SLT to our team - watch this space for an announcement soon!**

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