

NEWSLETTER

22 November, 2018

Upcoming Events

Term 4

22-23 Nov	Swimming week from 10-11am
22 Nov	Y7 and Y8 technology
26-30 Nov	Swimming week from 1-2pm
28-30 Nov	Local school camp at school
03 Dec	Surfing at Curio Bay at 9.30am
04 Dec	Across Schools teacher visit
05 Dec	Sports Activator at school
06 Dec	Y7 and Y8 technology
8-9 Dec	Tahakopa Christmas Festival
10 Dec	BOT meeting at 3.00pm, school
11 Dec	Assembly at 2.10pm, school
14 Dec	Christmas Concert at hall, 7.00pm
18 Dec	Last day of the school year

2019

28-29 Jan	Teacher only days (TOD)
30 Jan	School starts for children

Christmas Concert

It is that time of the year again so put on your thinking caps and get creative and join in the fun. We would love to have acts from the community, and make this a real community event for all.

Please let us know what you wish to share.

Friday 14 December at 7.00pm, Tahakopa Hall

Christmas Raffle

Christmas items wanted for the Christmas Raffle
Please drop all items at school. **Tickets \$2 each**

Our Stars



The following children have achieved 100% in their spelling and basic facts work. Fantastic effort and work by you all, great.

Basic Fact Stars:

Week 5 – Clark, Sarah, Izzy

Week 6 – Sarah, Clark

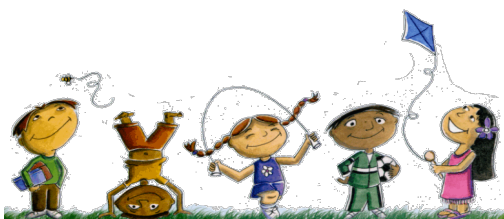
Spelling Stars:

Week 5 – Liam, Clark, Sarah, Alex, Braydee, Izzy, Casey

Week 6 – Clark, Sarah, Alex, Izzy, Casey

From Class:

We didn't make it to surfing this week due to the weather which has made for some very interesting days at school. No power at all on Monday and then the flooding on Tuesday. Lots of fun and games but everyone stayed safe and the only time anyone got wet was during swimming lessons in Owaka. It is great to see the continued improvement in swimming skills with the children, heaps of confidence



Other items:

- **2019 calendars, notepads, cards, and diaries.** Have been ordered and will be given out when they arrive at school next month
- **2019 Term dates:**

Term 1	30 January until 12 April (Easter and ANZAC are in the holidays)
Term 2	29 April until 5 July
Term 3	22 July until 27 September
Term 4	14 October until 18 December

Christmas Concert

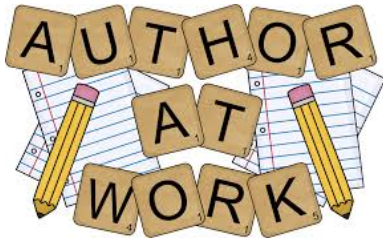
**Friday 14 December at 7.00pm,
Tahakopa Hall**

Come along and enjoy the end of the year, please bring a plate to share after the concert.



Christmas Raffle

Tickets \$2 each



Children's Writing



Cats

They are cute. They like people. They are playing. They like food. They like water. They like hunting. They like sleeping. They like snuggling. They like fluffy stuff. They like birds and they like mice.

Jacquelyn

Yesterday after school I played with the lego. I made a sawmill. It has a pair of forks to flip the logs over and a round blade to cut the wood. I built a trailer, the back door goes up and down to put the logs into the trailer. I am going to make a tip trailer today after school so I can tip the logs into a pile.

Clark

The Wind

The wind gushes through the trees
The leaves flutter down
The lawn mower munches them up
They come out in shreds
The wind throws grass at us
The wind throws tiny pebbles under the mower and it
pings them out
The wind is unbeatable.

Liam

Yesterday we went to Owaka swimming pool. I was so excited because I hadn't been swimming in a long time.

First we had to do some warm ups just to warm our bodies up. Then we swam a width doing freestyle a few times.

Five of us got to do a length. Izzy came first and I came third. I was really proud with myself because that was the second time I had done it.

Sarah

Yesterday there was a flood in Tahakopa. It was very wet and the tide was coming in. The river rose 3 metres, which is quite a lot. When we went home we had to drive through the water but it rose more. It covered the paddocks near the river. When I woke up the water was gone. I felt sad because I had to come to school.

Alex

Today we went swimming in Owaka swimming pool.

We were doing backstroke and freestyle. I swam a few lengths of backstroke and a few lengths of freestyle but I had to turn on my back for air. First we were doing widths of freestyle and we did about five of those.

After forty minutes the instructor said we could play in the pool. I asked if we could have a big board, which fits four kids on it. Alex and Clark jumped on and I started towing them to Izzy, Casey and Sarah. Then everybody started jumping on and Clark accidentally got kicked in the hip. In the end we had to put it to the side and then we started to play shark verses man. Which is where one person swims around trying to tag someone.

We're going swimming for two weeks and I need to get better at swimming lengths in freestyle. I am really good at backstroke and I enjoy swimming.

By Braydee

Rats

Rats are medium-sized, long-tailed rodent that originally come from Asia and Australia, but now they are found all over the world. Rats are different from mice they are larger with longer, thinner bodies and long legs. There are at least 50 different species of rats. The male rats are called bucks, female rats are called does, pregnant or parent female rats are called dams and baby rats are called kittens and pups. A group of rats is called a mischief.



Brown and house rats are the most common rats as they were stowaways on boats going to every country over the past centuries. They will live anywhere a human would live, and many rats live up trees.

Most rats are nocturnal, except the brown rat which awake most of the day or night.

At school we have rats, their names are Bella and Margarata. Bella is the fat but braver rat, while Margarata is the shier one. They eat vegetables and fruit daily, but they can't eat

peanuts. They really love yoghurt, which a dessert to them. When we pick them up, they crawl all over our hands and our shoulders, which sometimes hurt as they have sharp claws. When they play fight they run all around the cage and squeak at each other. They were born on the 12th of December which is a very good time to be born, they are not quite a year old but will soon be.

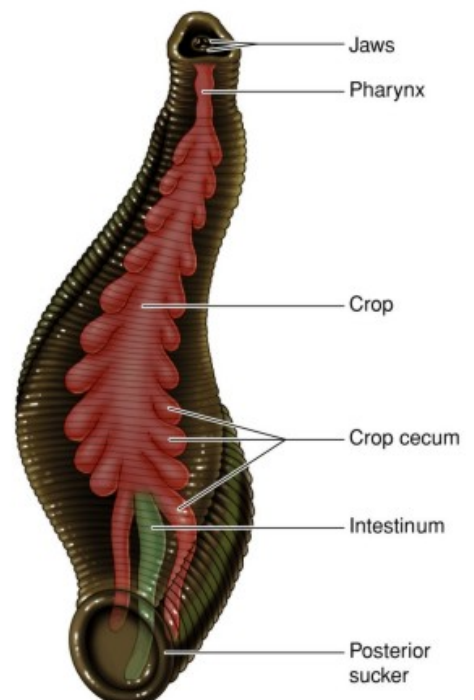
Izzy

Leeches

These worm like creatures are found all over the world, Some can even be found in your region (if you look hard enough). But are they misunderstood creatures. Just think, how would you like to be called a blood-sucking vermin that doesn't do anything but suck blood. That is what we are going to find out today.

Leeches are normally found in muddy swamps all over the world. They have both a posterior sucker and an anterior sucker, but that is only with it being a true leech of the infraclass Euhirudinea. They are divided into two groups: Arhynchobdellida and Rhynchobdellida. "Rhynchobdellida" are jawless leeches, armed with a muscular, straw-like puncturing organ in a retractable sheath. The Rhynchobdellida consist of two families: Glossiphoniidae are flattened freshwater leeches, mostly parasitic on vertebrates such as turtles, and unique among annelids in carrying their young under their bodies. Piscicolida are marine or freshwater cousins of fish, with cylinder bodies and usually well-marked, bell-shaped, anterior suckers.

The freshwater leech is consisted of six different parts. The jaws (the anterior sucker) which bites into the victims skin, The



Pharynx, equipped with powerful muscles, is used to suck and swallow blood. It evaginates into the wound to absorb the blood. Its wall contains numerous salivary glands, the crop, when present, is an enlarged part of the midgut with a number of pairs of ceca that stores ingested blood. The leech secretes an anticoagulant, hirudin, in its saliva which prevents the blood from clotting before ingestion, the crop cecum, the main functions of the cecum are to absorb fluids and salts that remain after completion of intestinal digestion and absorption and to mix its contents with a lubricating substance, mucus. The internal wall of the cecum is composed of a thick mucous membrane, through which water and salts are absorbed, the intestine and the prosterior sucker (as shown on right). Leeches have thirty two brains. The surface of the leech's body can be divided into one hundred and two, but the internal structure is divided into thirty two segments. Each of these thirty two segments has its own segment of brain.

Leeches have been used in medicine for over 2,500 years. They were more popular in earlier times because it was widely thought that most diseases were caused by an excess of blood. As recently as the 19th century, leeches were used to treat everything from tonsillitis to hemorrhoids. These creatures are also used for medical purposes. Since the time of ancient Egypt, leeches have been used in medicine to treat nervous system abnormalities, dental problems, skin diseases, and infections. Today, they're mostly used in plastic surgery and other microsurgery. This is because leeches secrete peptides and proteins that work to prevent blood clots.

If you do find a leech attached to you, don't pull it off, as the mouth parts can remain under your skin and leave a slowly healing granuloma, or lump. "You can encourage the leech to detach on its own by heating it with a lighted cigarette; just as effectively, you can apply some DEET, alcohol or table salt.

So I would say that leeches are a good amphibian and should never be killed or hurt in any way because leeches could save your life one day.

By Casey

Our Hut



Church Service on Sunday 25 November at 9.15am.

Then on Sunday 9 December at 10.30am in the hall.

Everyone welcome