



# NIKAU SYNDICATE NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Happy New Year and welcome back to school. We trust everyone had a safe, happy holiday and are ready for the 2012 year. Our inquiry focus for this year will be around *Enterprise*. Term One *Bright Sparks* will focus on our strengths and what makes us great. Term Two *Bright Idea* will focus on what makes a great idea and turning it into something, we will also have our own Science Fair. Term Three *The Great Promotion* will focus on understanding the market place and getting our idea ready to sell. Term Four *The Big Sell* will focus on how businesses work.

The staff are very excited about this concept and look forward to seeing and growing the potential of our wonderful Maungaraki children.

## INQUIRY - Bright Sparks

We are all unique but what makes me great? Looking at our strengths, our learning styles, what makes us tick. We will look closely at Gardner's theory and introduce Multiple Intelligences to help gain a deeper understanding of our students' learning styles. We all learn best through our strengths. We will look beyond this year into our future, what would we like to do for a career, what steps do we need to take to help us get there.

## MATHS

Our focus for this term will be largely around addition and subtraction number strategies. We will also be using the statistical enquiry cycle as we uncover facts about ourselves through Bright Sparks.

## LITERACY

We will be reading and writing around personal descriptions. Our final piece of work will be our resume, linking with our Bright Sparks inquiry unit, highlighting our strengths and what makes us great.

## THE ARTS

In the visual arts we will be looking at self portraits and sketching using a range of different media. We will then look at abstracting these portraits into the style of Andy Warhol.

In the performing arts, we will be exploring through drama role plays and different ways for effective

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Initially, we will have the Life Education van (with the make-up lessons from late last year) the focus will be on self-esteem. Throughout this term our focus will be on building and maintaining healthy relationships.

Physical Education will continue to play an important role. Our major unit for the term will be *Striking*, we have Grasshopper Tennis from 13 February for four weeks. A tennis notice will follow shortly.

Swimming lessons will begin on the 12 March for Monday through to Thursday for a total of two weeks. A swimming notice will follow shortly. There will be no swimming lessons on Fridays. Our school swimming sports will be Friday 23 March from 12.30 to 2.30.

## TE REO

Te Reo this term is around our place to stand. Strength comes from knowing where we come from and where we are going. We will look at our mihi's. Some useful phrases are: **Nō hea koe?** (Where are you from?) **Nō Maungaraki ahau** (I'm from Maungaraki).

This term we also have an exciting syndicate trip planned to the Fonterra Science Roadshow on the Tuesday 6 March. We are sure this will help inspire the students in the Term Two Science Fair.

Waitangi Day falls on Monday 6th this year and we are sure your family will find a special way to celebrate this national holiday. We look forward to meeting with you all on Thursday 9 February at our Meet the Teacher evening.

NIKAU SYNDICATE TEACHERS

Michelle Lax, Sacha Fawbert, Sophie Jackson, Jackie Sutherland