

Mighty Middles



Eastern Hutt School

Kings Crescent

Lower Hutt

Phone: 04 – 566 0167

email: office@easternhutt.school.nz

Middles Team Term 2 Newsletter 2019

Kia ora koutou

Welcome back to Term 2. We trust the tamariki have had a relaxing holiday break, and are refreshed and ready to get stuck into an action-packed term. A warm welcome to Keryn Akers and Hannah Ward who will be job sharing in E3.

Key Dates

Week 1	STEAM Week - Celebrating science, technology, engineering, arts and maths. An opportunity for tamariki to share their HACK science projects.
Friday 3 May	Powhiri - Welcoming new students to Eastern Hutt School
Friday 17 May	Pink Shirt Day - celebrating diversity and promoting positive social relationships
Monday 20 May	Middles Cross Country 11am - 12.30pm (<i>Postponement Wednesday 22 May 11am - 12.30pm</i>)
Monday 3 June	Queen's Birthday
Tuesday 18 June	Middles Mana Kid Event 11am - 2.45pm (<i>Postponement Thursday 20 June</i>)
Friday 5 July	Mid Year Reports sent home.

Curriculum Overview

Inquiry

Students will explore the different systems working within their body such as the respiratory, skeletal, and digestive systems. They will discover how the different systems work and what impacts upon them. Students will ask questions, share their ideas and information, and present their learning in a variety of ways. This hands-on inquiry will develop their curiosity and investigative skills. The Life Education Bus will be visiting in the first few weeks of term to support our inquiry. Please let us know if you are an expert in this field and are willing to share your knowledge - we would love to have you in to talk to the tamariki.

Literacy

To tie in with our inquiry, our writing focus this term will be on explaining how things work or why things happen. Students will learn to organise their ideas so their writing is sequenced and coherent. We will be relating our reading texts to our topic of inquiry wherever possible, so the students are able to broaden their knowledge, make connections, and ask questions.

Numeracy

Students will continue to be encouraged to think creatively and flexibly about numbers. This term students will be solving number problems in a range of contexts. They will learn to justify and explain their thinking to others, and work collaboratively on problem solving tasks.

PE & Health

This term the Middles will begin their Mana Kid adventure - a programme developing resilience, teamwork, and core strength. It would be great if they could carry an extra set of clothes in their bag as there will be a bit of mud involved! We will be gearing up for our Middles Mana Kid Event in Week 8. The Cross Country will take place for Year 3 and Year 4 students in Week 4.

E-Learning

We will continue our e-learning focus to develop student awareness of digital citizenship and online safety. Students will build their skills in digital technologies including Google Drive, Seesaw, and Coding.

The Arts

Students will enjoy a range of waiata opportunities, in addition to music and art lessons by our specialist teachers. Students will also enjoy *The Magical World of Crazy Science* - an award-winning show from Australia combining science, illusion, and the arts.

Māori

Te reo and tikanga will continue to be actively promoted within classrooms. Students will look at the concept *whanaungatanga* so they can discover how working together as a learning community can create a sense of belonging. Karakia and waiata will also continue to be promoted as part of our Middles Team and school culture. Matariki will be celebrated towards the end of the term.

General Information

- School officially opens at 8.30am with classes starting at 8.55am. Teachers are at school early but are unable to supervise your child until 8.30am, as we are often out of the classroom preparing units of work or in meetings. If your child arrives before this time they will be asked to play under shelter outside.
- It is important students are at school by 8.45am so they have time to prepare for the day.
- Please name all clothing and equipment. This will help to reduce lost property and allow us to return items.
- It is important for students to have access to water during the day to keep them hydrated. Please ensure they bring a named bottle to the classroom.
- Please ensure your child's footwear is suitable for daily fitness sessions and PE activities. A waterproof raincoat for outdoor activities needs to be included in their school bag.
- Your child is welcome to bring in a pair of slippers to keep their toes cozy in the classroom.
- Please ensure your child has all the learning tools they require to have a successful day of learning.
- The Middles assembly is on every second Thursday from 1.45pm – 2.45pm and we welcome families who wish to join us. Please check with your child's teacher regarding what week it is on. The assembly is student-led and provides an excellent opportunity to share the learning happening throughout the Middles.

How Can You Help?

- If you have some time available to put school reading books away, please let us know. It is a wonderful help and greatly appreciated by the teachers.
- Please let us know if you are able to offer any of your time or skills to help out in the classroom – teachers and students are always appreciative!
- We would appreciate each child bringing in a box of tissues for their class, especially with winter sniffles.
- If you are able to help with your child's class garden in some way, please let us know.



We are looking forward to another exciting term of fun learning opportunities for your tamariki.

Middles Team Teachers