

Term 4, 2025

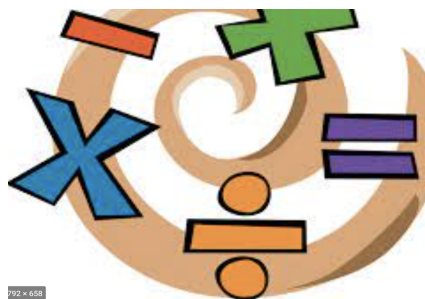
Dear parents/caregivers,

Term 4 learning opportunities

Mathematics

Vane from ASB Bank is coming to Discovery School to teach our tamariki about Financial Literacy. He will work with the senior students for three 1 hour sessions during weeks 1&2 of term as part of the 'Getwise' programme. Classes will continue this learning during their maths programme.

Following this unit, the seniors will complete an Algebra unit. They will learn about rules, formulas, patterns and graphs. Then they will focus on Geometry and Measurement. This will include looking at maps and coordinates and reading timetables.



Literacy

Our main focus for this term will be speech writing and oral presentations. This will include impromptu speeches and full (3-4 minute) persuasive or informative speeches. Each student will write and present a speech to their class during week 6 and some will be chosen for speech finals which are on Friday, week 7. *It would be beneficial for students to start considering their speech topic over the holidays. We don't want them to start writing it, just start thinking of potential topics.*

The overall winner of our syndicate speech competition will get the opportunity to present their speech at the Parumoana Inter-school Speech Competition at the end of week 8.

Following speeches, we will move onto narrative writing.

Children will complete shared and guided reading activities, listen to class novels and visit the school library. They will continue to learn spelling and grammar rules through the IDEAL programme.

Topic/Inquiry

Senior tamariki will learn about kaitiakitanga. They will spend some time working on an area of the school that they can improve, such as the gardens and the orchard area. Their focus will be on care and respect for the environment.



PE and Health

We will start the term practising our athletics skills; running, jumping and throwing. Senior Athletics Day will be held at Adventure Park on Tuesday, 21st October (pp. Tuesday, 28th October).

Interschool Athletics is on Tuesday, 4th November (pp. Thursday. 6th November).



During the remainder of the term, the children will be learning small ball games/catching, throwing and striking skills.

We will be continuing our water safety programme with Beach Education lessons at Paekakariki Surf Life Saving Beach. Classes will complete this programme two at a time on Friday, 5th December and Monday, 8th December. A notice will come home early in term 4 asking for parental support.

Languages and Culture

In term 4, we will complete our final languages rotation for the year: Japanese with Nic Kibblewhite, French with Sarah Jenner, New Zealand Sign Language with Stacey Mew and Italian with Shaun Bishop.

We continue to integrate te reo Māori into our class programmes. Most days, each class begins by saying karakia, whakatauki and singing a waiata. They also learn new vocabulary.

On Thursday, 4th December from 5:30pm, the whole school is doing a cultural performance on the school field. Kapa Haka and Poly Club groups will be performing. If it is wet that day, this event will be postponed until Tuesday, 9th December.

Note that the senior students need to wear bare feet and plain black clothing for this performance please (t-shirts, leggings, shorts, skirts, trackpants..)

K-Mart is currently selling plain black t-shirts for \$4.50.

Technicraft

Thank you to those of you who have paid for Technicraft (\$70). This was due at the end of term 1.

Some reminders from the Brandon Intermediate staff:

- * All students require covered shoes - Crocs and Birks are not allowed
- * Students need their hair safely tied back



Homework

Just a reminder that our homework tasks are uploaded to this [Google Slideshow](#). Please support our home learning programmes by ensuring that children complete tasks by the due dates.

Other dates for your diary

*Mihi Whakatau for new students - Monday, 6th October

*Sports photos and year 8 formal photo - Monday, 20th October
Year 8s will be given a copy of this photo at the year 8 dinner

*DSPTA Disco - Friday, 24th October

*Labour Day - Monday, 27th October

*The year 8 Aotea College Orientation day is on Tuesday, 9th December (all day). This is for all students enrolled to attend Aotea in 2025.

*The final day for Technicraft is on Wednesday, 10th December

*Our annual team BBQ is on Friday, 12th December (regardless of weather).

*Year 7s will meet their 2026 class on Monday, 15th December.

***The year 8 dinner is at the Plimmerton Boating Club on Monday, 15th December. Please note this date on your calendars.** We encourage all year 8s to attend this event. Parents are welcome for formalities at the beginning of the evening (no siblings). More details will be sent home to year 8 parents during term 4.

*The Leavers Poroporoaki is on the final day of the school year: Wednesday, 17th December. Time to be confirmed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

Ngā mihi,

Sarah Jenner
Senior Team Leader