



NGAHERE NEWSLETTER

Term 4 2025



ELIM EXPLORATION: SUSTAINABILITY/ KAITIAKITANGA

FOCUS: SCIENCES - How can we be kind to the Earth and work together to take care of it so everyone can share its resources now and in the future?

ARISE Aspect: Whakāute/ Respect

Bible Programme

Respect – Valuing People and Creation

This term, ākonga in Ngahere tīma are learning that **respect** means more than just being polite - it is about recognising the value and dignity of people, communities, and the world God has entrusted to us.

We are exploring how to:

- Love sincerely and live with honesty, integrity, and consistency.
- Honour family, heritage, and those in positions of wisdom or authority.
- Practise humility, put others before ourselves, and encourage and support those around us.
- Serve and advocate for the vulnerable, recognising that every person has worth.
- Care for God's creation responsibly, make sustainable choices, and influence others positively.

By focusing on respect, ākonga are discovering how their choices and actions can help others flourish, strengthen relationships, and honour God, while also protecting and valuing the world we share.

Study Scripture

Romans 12:9-10 (WEEKS 1-2)

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honoring each other.

Exodus 20:12 (WEEKS 3-4)

"Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you"

Philippians 2: 2-4 (WEEKS 5-6)

Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Matthew 25:40 (WEEKS 7-8)

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Genesis 2:15 (WEEKS 9-10)

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

Theme / Integrated Inquiry

Theme Focus: SUSTAINABILITY/ KAITIAKITANGA (Caring for Habitats)

This term, our ākonga are learning how to care for the environment, use resources responsibly, and act as kaitiaki (guardians) of the natural world.

Year 5–6: Caring for Local Habitats

- Explore how human choices affect ecosystems and living things in Aotearoa.
- Learn how responsible use of resources supports biodiversity and healthy habitats.
- Investigate ways communities care for the environment.
- Take action by suggesting simple ways to protect and restore local places.

Year 7–8: Global Sustainability and Stewardship

- Investigate global challenges like climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss.
- Understand how actions in one part of the world affect people and ecosystems everywhere.
- Critically evaluate scientific and ethical solutions to environmental issues.
- Collaborate to design and present action plans that make a positive global impact.

Key Idea: Our choices matter - locally and globally - and we can work together to care for people, places, and God's creation.



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ARISE Aspect: *Whakāute/ Respect*

Mathematics

Term Focus: Algebra, Measurement, and Geometry

This term, our ākonga will be developing their understanding of algebra, measurement, and geometry through patterns, real-life problems, and hands-on investigations.

Year 5–6:

- Explore measurements of length, mass, volume, time, and temperature, including conversions and real-life applications.
- Develop understanding of area and perimeter, including irregular shapes, and learn strategies for estimation.
- Investigate volume using cubes and other solids.
- Study geometry, including angles (acute, obtuse, right), triangles, quadrilaterals, symmetry, and classification of 2D shapes.
- Begin exploring algebraic thinking by identifying patterns, using letters to represent variables, and writing and evaluating expressions in real-life contexts.

Year 7–8:

- Explore algebra through patterns and real-world problems, writing expressions using the four operations and fractions, and applying rules to solve problems.
- Calculate area of rectangles, triangles, and parallelograms, and develop understanding of volume for cubes and cuboids.
- Investigate geometry, including angles (vertically opposite, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles), parts of a circle, drawing shapes, and nets of 3D figures.

Key Idea: Ākonga will apply mathematical thinking to solve problems, explore patterns, and understand shapes, measurements, and space in both local and real-world contexts.

Literacy

Term Focus: Instructional Writing & T-shaped literacy (Sustainability)

This term, ākonga in Ngahere tīma are developing skills in instructional writing and reading with purpose.

Writing:

- Write clear, detailed instructions using precise language and sequencing.
- Include diagrams, safety tips, and multi-step procedures to guide readers.

Reading:

- Explore texts about habitats, resource use, and kaitiakitanga.
- Identify main ideas, supporting evidence, and cause-effect relationships.
- Analyse author purpose and viewpoint, and recognise bias or assumptions.
- Apply technical vocabulary and research skills to evaluate solutions to environmental challenges.

Key Idea: Ākonga are learning to write clear, effective instructions and read critically to understand and respond to texts about sustainability, making connections between what they read, write, and do in the world.



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ENRICH Programme: Sustainability, Design & Respect

This term in our Enrich Programmes, our Ngahere ākonga are exploring how creativity, innovation, and care for God's creation come together through Visual Arts, Language & Culture, and Technology.

Visual Arts:

Ākonga are creating with care by transforming everyday waste materials into new works of art through construction, paper machè, and paper making. These projects link closely to our theme of Sustainability and Respect, encouraging learners to care for the environment while expressing creativity.

Language & Culture (Korean & Samoan):

Learners are building confidence in recognising familiar characters and sounds, reading simple words and phrases, and practising respectful interactions within different cultures. They are also learning the Sāsā, a traditional Samoan dance that celebrates teamwork, rhythm, and respect.

Technology (Year 7–8):

Our senior ākonga are designing, programming, and testing simple robotic solutions using block-based coding. Through testing and refining their designs, they are developing perseverance and problem-solving skills that reflect our value of respect for people, ideas, and creation.

Together, these learning experiences nurture curiosity, creativity, and care - helping our ākonga live out the values of Sustainability and Respect in all they do.

What's happening in Term 4

Swimming – Mondays at West Wave

Our Term 4 swimming sessions at West Wave are off to a great start. It's been fantastic to see ākonga building stamina, refining technique, and showing growing confidence in the water each week.

Readathon – Weeks 3–5

The Readathon is underway! This event is a brilliant chance for our learners to set reading goals, explore new books, and contribute towards raising funds for our school library. Thank you for helping encourage a strong reading culture at home.

Year 8 Graduation Dinner – Monday 8 December

A special evening dedicated to our Year 8 graduates, recognising their leadership, growth, and the friendships they've built throughout their time at our school.

Prizegiving – Thursday 11 December

Our end-of-year celebration acknowledging the hard work, progress, and achievements of our ākonga. Whānau are warmly invited to join us for this important occasion.

Last Day of School – Tuesday 16 December (12.00pm finish)

We'll finish the year with class celebrations and farewells before heading off for a well-earned summer break!