

Inquiry Focus

Rakinui Pānui Term 2 2023

Kaiako - Nina, Nikeisha, Royce and Emily Ngā Uara / Values - Encompassed in all our learning. Ngākau aroha Manaakitanga Manawanui Respect **Empathy** Perseverance Royce Nelson - Siataga - Albrett MNZM **Introducing Royce** Kaiaki/Teacher - Tōtara Year 7&8 Talofa lava, Kia ora my name is Royce and I will be teaching in Tōtara with the Year 7 & 8 ākonga/students in Term 2. I am a beginning teacher and have just completed my Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching in Learning from the University of Canterbury last year. I am excited to start my teaching career at the school, where I conducted a teacher placement and held a relief teacher position. I have a degree in Environmental and Geological Sciences from the University of Waikato. My journey to become a teacher involved an 11 year career with the New Zealand Army, where I deployed in three operations to East Timor and Afghanistan and helped with the Christchurch Earthquakes in 2010/2011. I have worked as a Youth Justice Residential Youth Worker alongside children with high-complex needs and traumatic backgrounds and a teacher aide in mainstream education. I have a supportive wife, Kat and two tama, Rome (11) and Alex (8) who live with me in Hillsborough. I have grown to appreciate and admire the supportive, close knit, Lyttelton community and hope to use my life experience to teach, learn, inspire and grow alongside our tamariki.

How did early Māori survive and thrive in the environment?

This term we will explore this question through the lens of the Aotearoa New Zealand History Curriculum. We will be unpacking key technologies and tools that were developed to aid the survival

of early Māori. Students will be encouraged to think like

	researchers and apply their learning using digital tools.
Newsletters	Please keep up to date with regular news and events through the school newsletter (<u>www.lyttelton.school.nz</u>).
Assembly	The first assembly this term will be on Friday 5th May from 9.15 - 10 am. Continuing on from this they will be every second week.
Drama	Happens once a fortnight for each year group with Mike in LAF.
Rakinui Events	Confirmed events for Term 2: Epro8 internal events - Week 1 Mindfulness in School - Every Tuesday Be right, eat right - Thursday 11th May. Rakinui Cross Country (<i>Heathcote Domain</i>) - <i>Tuesday</i> 16th May Pink Shirt Day - Friday 19th May 'Hangarau Māori' education programme - Week 5 South East Zone Cross Country - Tuesday 30th May Winter Sport - Weeks 5 to 10 Tech Fest - 14th/15th June Matariki/learning celebration - TBC Week 10 We will be participating in the Hagley Winter Sports Tournament in Term 2 due to Rakinui production taking place in Term 3.
Enrichment opportunities	Some of the opportunities we provide for our students to become involved in activities to support their interests, strengths and passions this term are listed below: Epro8 (science, engineering, technology, problem-solving) Nature Rangers (Enviro group) Otago Problem Solving (Maths) Peer Mediators Cultural leadership Whānau group leadership Kapahaka kaea (leaders) PALS (physical activity leaders) Tech leadership Digital Technology club Librarians PB4L leadership Harbour Heroes (Y7-8) Kiwi Competitions (English, Maths, Science)
Matariki	Matariki, the Māori new year, is a time to reconnect with whānau and set goals for the year ahead. This year with the official matariki holiday falling in the school holidays, we will be

	celebrating as a kura on Thursday the 29th of June. More information about this celebration will be shared later in the term.
Digital Technology	Digital technology has become an important focus for our kura as we aim to provide our ākonga with a range of opportunities to create, share ideas and explore the world. With the weather cooling down, this term will see the digiclub up and running to give those interested in pursuing their digital skills in depth the chance to do so. This term's projects will include creating animations to contribute to the Lyttelton Arts Festival and entering the Blue Light short film competition. The Aupaki Tech Fest is back this year and more information about signing up your child for this event will be sent out soon.
Teacher Professional Development	This term our teachers will continue their professional development in Te Reo, Writing, the new Aotearoa Histories curriculum and Maths. We continue to be supported by facilitators in order to upskill and utilise our learning alongside our tamariki.
Literacy	Our literacy covers reading and writing and is integrated into all subjects where possible. We encourage daily reading at home to complement what we do at school. Students will be reading from online sites as well as School Journals and age appropriate reading books. They will be required to read from a book every day, this can be from either the library or brought in from home. We also engage in a variety of writing each day, this is closely tied to both our terms inquiry and English language rules explicitly taught through our spelling programme. This year we will continue to utilise our Reading plus programme which provides students with text to read suitable to their fluency, and uses vocabulary and comprehension strategies. This programme allows for in depth teaching of skills related to critical thinking when reading as well as improving their stamina for reading. Students are able to access this programme online at home.
Maths	This term we will be focusing on incorporating Volume, Capacity and Mass into our Maths mahi. Alongside this we will continue to explore number knowledge and strategies in a range of contexts.
	We will be using e-ako as a digital learning tool this year which provides good resources for practising times tables and basic facts knowledge at home. Also see https://www.timestables.co.nz/ .
Kapa Haka	This term all tamariki will be involved in learning waiata for upcoming mihi whakatau and our Matariki celebration. Our senior

	kapa haka performance group will also be preparing for the Aupaki cultural festival coming up in term 3.
Y7/8 Technology	All Tōtara students are involved in weekly Technology at Christchurch East School on Monday afternoons throughout the year. Learning contexts for 2023 include creative design (fabric and metal) and food technology.
Languages	Te reo will be integrated wherever possible through our daily practice. This term we are specifically exploring kupu related to our inquiry around early Māori settlers, hauora and matariki. Tōtara will also begin learning French and Japanese every Friday which will continue over terms 2 and 3.
Peer Mediators	Selected students from across Rākinui will continue to take part in the Cool Schools initiative this term. This program is where students are trained to assist younger students in resolving playground disagreements.