



## PARNELL DISTRICT SCHOOL

### Newsletter 17

Kia Ora Whanau

The final term is well underway and our children have dived into our new inquiry around 'Natures Curiosity'. The big focus for our inquiry is around using our skills to think and act like a scientist as we explore our curiosities about the natural world.

The final term is always a busy one, and it's important that our whole community know what is coming up. Please be sure to check in with our fortnightly newsletters to know what is happening, and refer back to your 2019 planner for important dates.

*Remember – all children need their navy blue bucket hat in term four so they can play freely while keeping sun safe. I know this week doesn't feel a lot like summer, but please check your child has their hat every day!*

#### Placement 2020

Our Senior Leadership Team are beginning the process of making classes for 2020. We take this process very seriously, and think carefully about the placement of every child. If you'd like to provide additional information about your child's placement, please email [placement@parnell.school.nz](mailto:placement@parnell.school.nz). Suitable comments here would be around your child's specific learning needs, pastoral factors that you'd like us to know, or any other information pertaining to your family that can help us. It is not appropriate to request specific teachers, and any such requests must be disregarded.

We thank our community for respecting the judgement of our Senior Leadership Team in providing every child with the class they need to ensure the best possible learning outcomes.

**Email [placement@parnell.school.nz](mailto:placement@parnell.school.nz) by 5pm on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> of October for your comments to be part of the placement process.**

#### PTA planning meeting 2020

We invite all our interested parents who want to be part of the PTA's efforts for 2020. In this meeting we will be collecting ideas about what the PTA want to prioritise their efforts around, and set up the plan for how we will work to raise funds. If you're interested in helping next year but unable to attend regular meetings, this is your chance to pick up a project that you can run or find out how you can help.

*PTA Meeting 7pm, 29<sup>th</sup> October*



## China trip

Our students are enjoying their trip with Mr George and Mrs Parkinson as they explore our sister school in Cixi, and local points of cultural significance. Mrs Parkinson put together the following summary of their trip so far!

The first four days have been exciting, tiring and challenging with many new experiences each day.

On Saturday, after arriving in Shanghai and travelling from the airport on the Maglev Train we visited the Science Museum and then ventured to the Shanghai Financial Tower. We finished our day with a cruise on the Huangpu River.

Sunday included visits to the Urban Planning, National Museum, Peoples Park, shopping in YuYuan historic area and an Acrobatics show. On Tuesday we visited some Shikumein alleys and journeyed to Cixi to meet our Sister School and buddies. This is the start of 3 days at Chinese School, staying with local families and meeting friends old and new.



Remember our next China exchange will be in 2021, so if you'd like this opportunity for your child, see Mr George or Mrs Parkinson for more information.



## Findings: Math Internal Evaluation

Throughout the year, the Board of Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team engage in regular internal evaluations around the programmes at Parnell District School and the impact these have on student outcomes. You may have noticed that Maths looks a little different at Parnell. Recently, we used internal evaluation to explore what is happening in Math.

Our innovative teachers have been collaborating and re-energising their mathematics programs with best practice initiatives such as; problem solving through rich tasks and flexible grouping. Over the last 18 months our teachers have been inquiring into quality teaching and learning theories in Math and have been implementing new ways to engage and accelerate students in Mathematics. As part of our annual curriculum review we look at the impact our teaching is having and the results are undeniably good in Mathematics.

Our key findings were:

- Teachers are finding more and more ways to innovate around Mathematics and children are achieving accelerated progress through the current approach.
- Students at Parnell are not only consistently outperforming NZ averages in Mathematics but they are also demonstrating accelerated progress across all year levels.
- Term three PAT data shows us that 85% of Year 3-8 students are at or above NZ Average
- Children at all levels of achievement have made accelerated progress, with over half our students making more than a year's progress in six months, some making up to three year's progress in a half year period.

Please take the time to talk to your children about Math at school. Ask them how they solve problems in their classroom and what they learn when they work in groups. Three student's answers when asked that question were...

*"I get better at Maths in a group because they help me learn. They say it in a different way."* (Year 2 student)

*"I think it's a really cool thing because everyone has their own Math superpower."* (Year 4, student)

*"You get to collaborate ideas and share your expertise in Math to get the right answer together."* (Year 8 student)

If you would like more information about Math please talk to your child's/children's teacher/s or you can find some helpful information and tips

at: <https://nzmaths.co.nz/families> or <https://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/The-New-Zealand-Curriculum/Mathematics-and-statistics/What-is-mathematics-and-statistics>

### Important dates: Term 4

14/10	School begins 9am
18/10	Assembly Room 28
21/10	Week 2
25/10	Assembly Room 7
28/10	Labour Day
29/10	Week 3, PTA meeting 7pm
1/11	Assembly Room 30
4/11	Week 4
6/11	Whole School Athletics at Glover Park
7/11	Mufti and Sausage Sizzle
8/11	Assembly Room 25
11/11	Week 5
13/11	Athletics Save Day
15/11	Assembly Room 27
18/11	Week 6
21/11	Year 0-3 Goal setting 3-6pm
22/11	Assembly Room 26
25/11	Week 7 - EOTC week
29/11	Assembly New Entrants
2/12	Week 8
4/12	Bake Sale, New entrant transition morning
5/12	Auckland City Mission Mufti day, New entrant transition morning
6/12	Assembly: Room 24
9/12	Week 9, Year 4-8 reports available
10/12	School trip to the Parnell Baths
11/12	<b>Celebration of Learning: Prizegiving. 3PM at the Cathedral</b>
13/12	Aotea Assembly, School ends 1pm



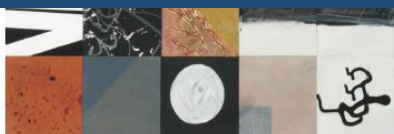
**A Community  
of Coaching,  
Creativity & Care**

Kia Ora!

You may not be aware that our afterschool care team offers more than just delicious food and expert care.

They are also very excited to offer a variety of incredible extracurricular activities, including sports, lego, art, dance, Irish dance and drama. Please call Claire 0272706810 with any questions. To register your child just visit [pds.aimyplus.com](http://pds.aimyplus.com)

**Before and afterschool care, extracurricular education, holiday programmes. [www.pds.aimyplus.com](http://www.pds.aimyplus.com)**



**Term 4 2019: WILD WIGGLES & SQUIGGLES  
(Mixed Media on MDF Tiles)**

This is an extremely fun & tactile mixed media program. We experiment with Indian ink, modelling paste, paint, pastels, pencils, splattering, dribbling, marbling and more. No less than 12 separate artworks come together to form this dynamic, textured masterpiece.

**8 Weeks Monday 14th October to 9th December 2019  
3:15pm-5:15pm in Art Room with Diva**

**Term 4 2019 @ Parnell District School**

Fine Young Artists is an inspirational **fine arts programme** designed for children who are **passionate about art.**

Every term, children take part in an exciting new programme based on the works of well-known local and international artists. Our 8-week course is the perfect way to develop your child's artistic potential.



**ENROL NOW!** [www.fineyoungartists.co.nz](http://www.fineyoungartists.co.nz) P: 09 6341995 E: [enquiries@fineyoungartists.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@fineyoungartists.co.nz)

**Growing Great Humans**





## Parnell School

- 7 weekly sessions
- Starts Tuesday 22nd October
- Time: Lunchtime
- Venue: School Field
- Cost: \$79 per child,  
\$49 per sibling

For more info and sign up: [sergio@msports.co.nz](mailto:sergio@msports.co.nz) and <https://enrolmy.com/m-sports>

**NEW &  
EXCITING**  
INFLATABLE  
FOOTBALL  
PITCH

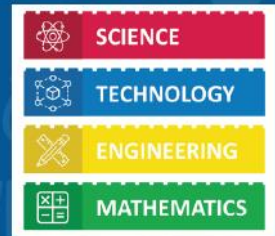


[footykids.m-sports.org](https://footykids.m-sports.org)

Parnell District School



We Learn. We Build. We Play.



**We Learn, We Build, We Play with LEGO® Bricks**

## **BRICKS 4 KIDZ® TERM 4 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMES**

### **Junior Robotics Class - LEGO® WeDo 2.0 (Year 0 - 4)**

3.30pm-5pm \$38

3pm-5pm (includes after school care & afternoon tea) \$46

Starts Monday 14th October (break for Labour Day) - runs 8 weeks

### **Motorised LEGO® Model Building (Year 0 - 6)**

3.30pm-4.30pm \$25

3pm-4.30pm (includes after school care & afternoon tea) \$33

Starts Friday 18th October - runs 8 weeks



STEM concepts and teamwork are combined in this action-packed programme where kids learn real-life skills while having real-kid fun!



Students use LEGO® WeDo 2.0 programming software to bring to life the models they build, based upon Bricks 4 Kidz® model plans and LEGO® Education products.



In Motorised LEGO® Model Building Class, students will experience hands-on engineering fundamentals as they build motorised models using LEGO® Bricks.

**BOOK PDS.aimyplus.com**

**Growing Great Humans**



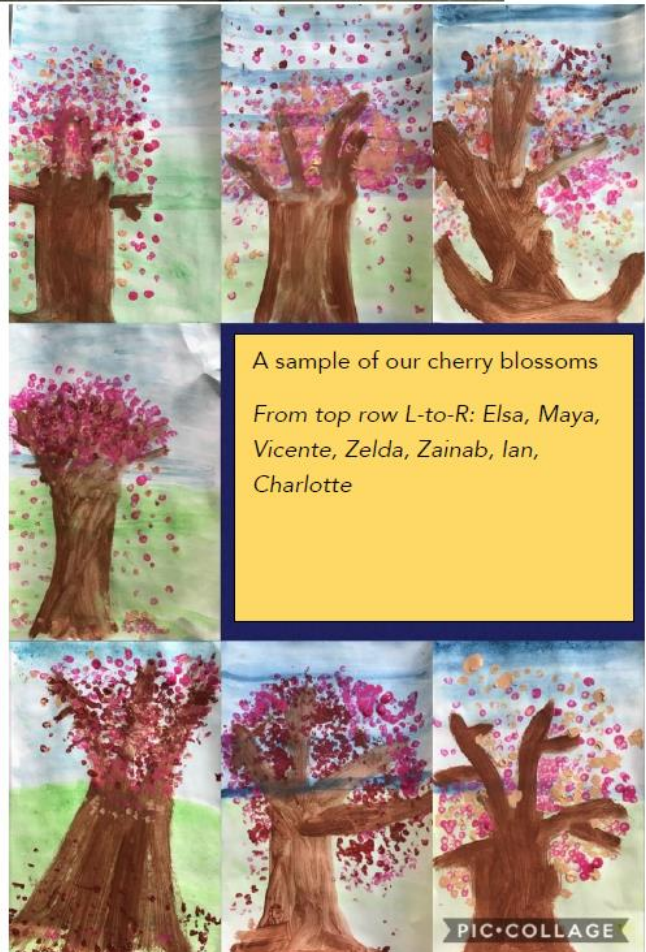
## Rūma Iwa – Room 9



Room 9 were so surprised and excited to start Term 4 with our cherry blossoms in full bloom! Just before we finished Term 3 we noticed how it had started grow buds, now it looks so full and beautiful. Some of us remembered John, our old caretaker who loved to see the cherry blossoms and took such good care of our special trees. So, we decided to write him letters to tell him all about it! We also did some art and writing inspired by it.

*Yesterday we had a wonderful surprise. The cherry tree blossomed. They looked like pink gems. They also looked like little pink crystals. The tree wobbled so much. It looked like hearts falling from the tree.*  
Vicente

*The cherry blossom looks like little lollies are falling from the tree. They also look like marshmallows falling onto the ground too because the wind was carefully blowing them to the ground.*  
Zelda



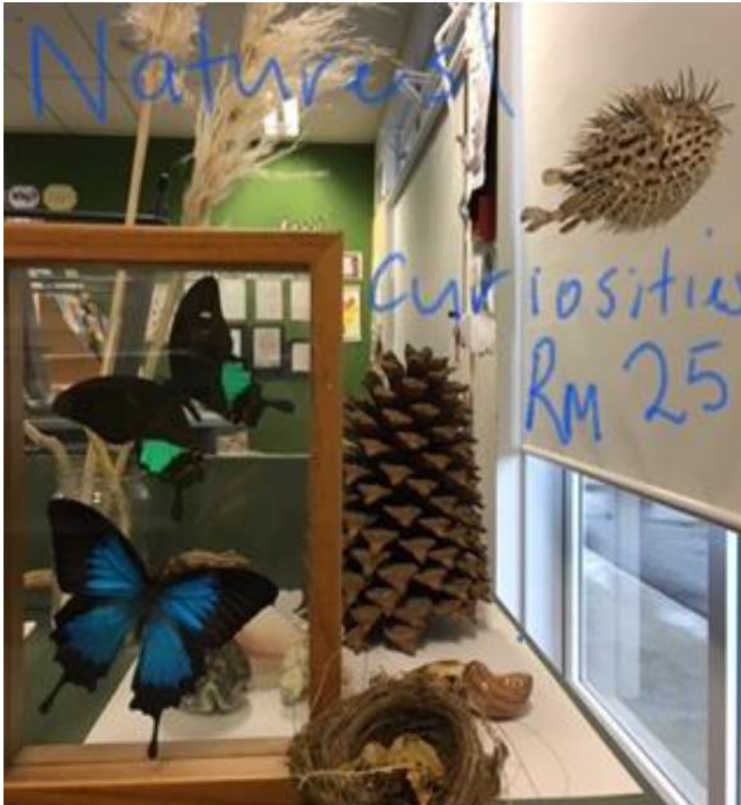
A sample of our cherry blossoms  
From top row L-to-R: Elsa, Maya,  
Vicente, Zelda, Zainab, Ian,  
Charlotte



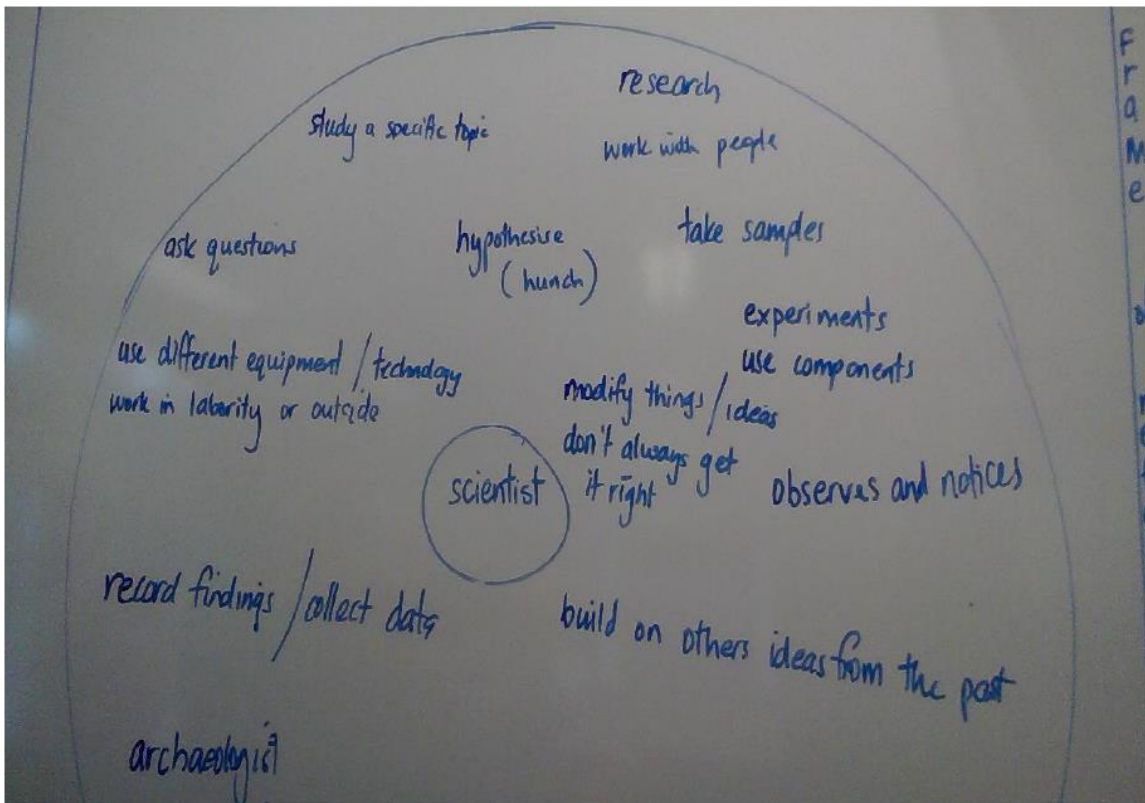
In Maths, we are beginning this term with a focus on counting on to solve number problems. We are practicing putting the bigger number in our head and counting on. We are also coming up with our own number stories to match an addition or subtraction problem. We love sharing them with a buddy who has to try and solve them!



## ROOM 25



We have been learning how to think like a scientist so we came up with lots of ideas about what scientists do to discover more about Nature's Curiosities. We drew a circle map to show our thinking







### **Our wonderings and questions about a Puffer Fish**

How much air pressure does a pufferfish need to suck in to become inflatable?

I wonder how a puffer fish inflates into a ball?

How long do they stay inflated and how can they control this expansion?

Why haven't they evolved their shape into being a permanent beach ball shape?

Using describing words on a bubble map we wrote about the Puffer fish

### **Creative writing -Puffer Fish**

In the sea danger lurks in every corner  
A defence mechanism is needed  
Whether its poison that can't treated  
Or spikey spines that will leave bleeding  
The Pufferfish has both of those  
I wouldn't dare to eat it!

I'm a spikey, spiny creature  
And a clumsy swimmer I don't know about you?  
In Japan, you can serve me as a special dish  
For I am a very toxic pufferfish !

Wobbling through the deep blue sea, I spot a deadly eel -it comes closer and closer ready to attack. Then I realize it is coming towards me. I suck in lots of water then..."POOF!" I am ready to defend myself -my toxic spikes puff out prepared to scare away the deadly sea eel. When my puffy protection saves me, and the deadly sea eel turns away, I clumsily swim back home.





## My Eco Wrap Fundraiser

My Eco Wrap is excited to be working closely with Parnell School this term to reduce plastic waste in homes and lunch boxes, and to assist with fundraising. For every set of My Eco Wrap purchased, up to \$5 will be donated back to the school. Here's a little background about the company which is run by one of our very own Parnell School families...

After learning that 1 million sea birds and 100,000 marine mammals are killed from plastic waste in our oceans each year, a Parnell School family decided that their personal solution to making achievable changes was to reduce one piece of plastic per day. This small step in reducing one family's environmental impact has turned into a family-run initiative that hopes to inspire others in their community to live a more conscious life also.



Designed to mimic a food's natural protective and breathable skin allowing it to stay fresher for longer, My Eco Wrap [www.myecowrap.co.nz](http://www.myecowrap.co.nz) is a reusable beeswax wrap that makes the perfect waste-free and non-toxic alternative to plastic food wrap. With young families and children in mind, each wrap is handmade with vibrant and colourful New Zealand designed fabrics which make them really fun to use and a great looking accessory to any lunchbox or eco-conscious home.

The fundraiser will run until **Friday 15 November**. With Christmas fast approaching, My Eco Wrap is a brilliant gift idea too! Order forms will be sent home with each family this week, and samples of the products will be available for viewing at the school office. With every purchase of My Eco Wrap, you will not only be helping raise funds for the school, you will also be making a positive difference by reducing the amount of plastic in the world!

## PARNELL SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Are you keen to encourage waste-free lunches & raise money for our school at the same time? Parnell District School has teamed up with My Eco Wrap to help you with Christmas gifting and to reduce plastic waste in lunch boxes & around your home.

**ORDER USING THIS FORM BY: FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER (END OF WEEK 5)**

### TRIPLE PACKS - \$25

1 x Large (33x33cm) | 1 x Medium (26x33cm) | 1 x Small (18x22cm)



Kowhai & Kereru



Kiwiana



Summer Daze



Happy Holidays

### LUNCH PACKS - \$15

1 x Medium (26x33cm) | 1 x Small (18x22cm)



Llama Llama



Little Fox



Fruit Burst



Kiwiana LP



Whale Watching

### ORDER FORM

PRODUCT	QTY	Price	Raise
Kowhai & Kereru	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25	\$5
Kiwiana	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25	\$5
Summer Daze	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25	\$5
Happy Holidays	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25	\$5
Llama Llama	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15	\$3
Little Fox	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15	\$3
Fruit Burst	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15	\$3
Kiwiana LP	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15	\$3
Whale Watching	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15	\$3

TOTAL TO PAY: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select payment option:

- Cash/EFTPOS at School Office

- Internet payment to 123075 0126269 02

Parnell District School PTA (Ref - student name)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ROOM #: \_\_\_\_\_

Orders will be delivered to your child's class by:  
**29th November (Week 7).**

### PRODUCT INFO

- Designed to mimic a food's natural protective and breathable skin, My Eco Wrap makes the perfect waste-free and non-toxic alternative to plastic food wrap
- Handmade locally in Parnell with 100% biodegradable cotton fabric, certified organic New Zealand beeswax, tree resin & organic coconut oil
- We are proud to say that we source our beeswax from a supplier that guarantees the honeybees are left with enough honey for themselves and that no synthetic chemicals or any type of antibiotics are used in the organic beehives