



Patoka School

through our school we are one

Our values are T.R.U.E.E – Trustworthiness, Respect, Unity,
Excellence and Enthusiasm

Date of Issue: 29 March 2017

Dates to remember:

30 March	Beach Fives Year 5,6 selected students, Ocean Beach
13 April	End of Term 1
1 May	Start of Term 2

Save the Date:

11 and 12 April	Super Sixes, Hawkes Bay Regional Sports Park for selected Y 5-6 students, 9.30-3.30pm
13 April	ANZAC Commemoration Service, Taradale Clock Tower 11am followed by school picnic at Anderson Park
Term 2, 2 June	Digital Photo exhibition 1.30pm

From the Principal, Rachel Huggins

What an action packed past few weeks! I wanted to give you all a sense of the developments in the new programmes we have introduced this year at school.

Enviro Schools update:

Term 1 goal:

Students to understand the Enviro School philosophy and form project groups based on their interests and the needs they identify in the school, reporting to the school community.

Last week the group met Sonya Sedgwick, and decided on the focus groups. From this point on the students will work in smaller groups, based on their ideas for the school's development. The students in Room 3 also gave Sonya a tour of our school. In the afternoon. Finally, Sonya provided the staff with an overview of the Enviro Schools programme, the five guiding principles and answered our initial questions. Look out for our new sign going up at the gate in the next few weeks!



The student groups for Term 1

<p><u>Natural recreation</u> An inquiry into how we can use our school environment more to play in, and the safety codes necessary in schools when creating play areas. <i>Ayla, Maniyah, Joanne, George S, Ari</i></p>	<p><u>Koru garden</u> An inquiry into the purpose, use and development of this newer garden. <i>Emma P, Nadya, Eve, Greer, Ralph, Sofia, Alyse, Nic, Lochie D, Brooklyn</i></p>	<p><u>Edible Garden</u> An inquiry into developing, planning and helping the school to use our edible garden beds. <i>Lilla, Millie, Nate, Michael, Gus, Lexie, Denise</i></p>
<p><u>Rubbish and reusing materials</u> An inquiry into our school's practises of waste disposal and ways we can reuse materials effectively, learning from other schools and organisations. <i>George C and Casey</i></p>	<p><u>Our grassed areas</u> An inquiry into the best species of grasses, diversifying the species to encourage more insect life, permaculture and developing a plan around the functions and protection of our grassed areas. <i>Jayden, Bella and George C</i></p>	<p><u>School planting</u> An inquiry into the trees and plants we have and new additions to enhance our garden. <i>Alyse, Brooklyn and Sofia</i></p>
<p><u>Vision mapping</u> An inquiry into where our school is at right now and ideas we could embrace, involving consultation with students, staff, parents, and the community, also developing care codes to express our beliefs. <i>Charlie D, Cleo, Lochie D, Khan, Lexie, Nic, Casey, Ari, Luke, Eva, Kyle</i></p>		

Alternative Writers:

Term 1 goal:

Students will develop their skills and knowledge about the surface and deeper features of writing and improve their own work.

I have been working with a group of students from Room 2 and 3 who benefit from additional support in their writing journey. So far, we have worked on adverbs and how they can improve our writing, describing the verb. Our examples were: He ate messily, politely, perfectly, quickly, pigishly, noisily, slowly.

We have also worked on connectives, interesting words to join two simple sentences together. We use a pyramid showing more and more difficult vocabulary. The focus of this group is to build confidence, vocabulary and have fun with writing and increase the students' capacity to write effectively.

Kids Lit

Term 1 goal:

Students to use the Kids Lit Quiz structure to excite and inspire their reading motivation, and enable them to develop their reading talent, trying new strategies and learning from their peers.

Students in Room 2 and 3 who are reading confidently and benefiting from additional challenges are working in two groups to participate and train in the Kids Lit process. One group are Year 2-5 and the students in this group use the question structure to introduce and discuss a range of literature, and to inspire them as readers, sharing and deepening their knowledge. Students in Year 6-8 in this group are using the questions, applying their knowledge and learning from each other in competition style. The Hawkes Bay competition for Y6-8 is scheduled for 12 May, more details will be sent home to the team about this event. As this is our first year, the teams will continue to work together after the competition, in training for the 2018 competition.

Literacy support in Room 1

Term 1 goal:

Students will progress through their sight words, confidently and correctly form all the letters. Students will transfer this knowledge into their writing and spell more accurately, write more easily and record more complex ideas.

As a responsive school, we need to meet the students at their point of need and the assessment data for our Room 1 students indicates there are many literacy needs within this group. For this reason, each morning from 1000-1100 we see a co-teaching model in place. We provide an intense literacy session that enables each student to receive group guided reading (Madelene), phonics (Toni) and handwriting/sight word support (Rachel). The process is progressing very well and we are all delighted to see the children growing in confidence and capability.

RoboCup Junior

Term 1 goal:

Students are able to use the Lego Robotics equipment to programme simple robots to programme in either RoboCup dance, RoboCup soccer or RoboCup Rescue.

Students from Year 2-8 working in this group will extend their critical thinking and mathematical abilities. The competition runs in three sections and each have a different focus. The initial stages of this group are focused on building the NXT robots correctly and learning to program them using the software. Leading on from this will be the choice for the students to work in groups according to which category they are most interested. Rather than by year level, these groups will develop the students' skills and problem solving around these distinct categories. The school competition this year is in Palmerston North at the end of May. We will be deciding at a later point if our teams are ready for this challenge, or if we use this year

as a training platform and perfect our skills, ready to dominate the field in the 2018 competition!

Digiawards

Term 1 goal:

Through the Digital photography unit, each student will create a range of pieces of work exploring the elements of digital photography.

The students in each class are working on this unit, under the guidance of our resident expert Larissa Drysdale. Each class has a weekly instructional session with her. I will support the process by co-teaching in the three classes, as needed to support the students to achieve their goal. Our progress has been a slowed down by some technical difficulties and as a result the students' exhibition date has been changed until Term 2. We are expecting amazing work and are enjoying the opportunity to see the children's understanding of visual arts grow and be challenged.

I encourage you to contact me with your questions or comments, it is an exciting opportunity and we are creating these ideas, based upon the students' needs.

Tough Kids Rooms 2 & 3



What an amazing event this was! It was a pleasure to see our student take risks, get a bit muddy and cheer each other on! Many thanks to the parents for helping transport our students, we couldn't have offered this opportunity without you.



Performing Arts Tuesdays



On Tuesdays, the school comes alive with singing, dancing and the playing of great music. We are thrilled that Ross Turner teaches his lessons, and our school band, along with Dance Express' India teaching many of our budding dancers.

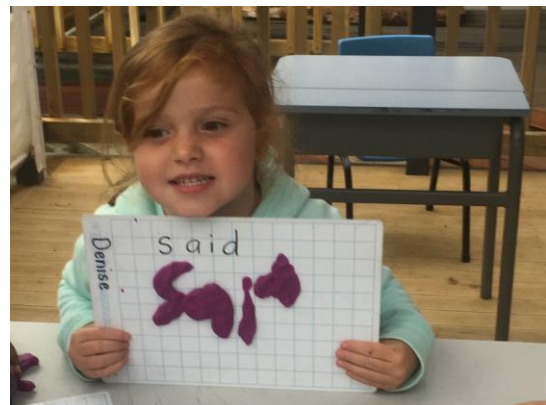
This week I have been reading about how an arts programme can help children to become resilient and stronger learners. The link below is to a clip about the importance of the Arts in education. Though it is set in a high school, I found many parallels and connections to a primary school setting. In Term 2, we are planning to invite you to a performance assembly and showcase our students dancing and music skills.

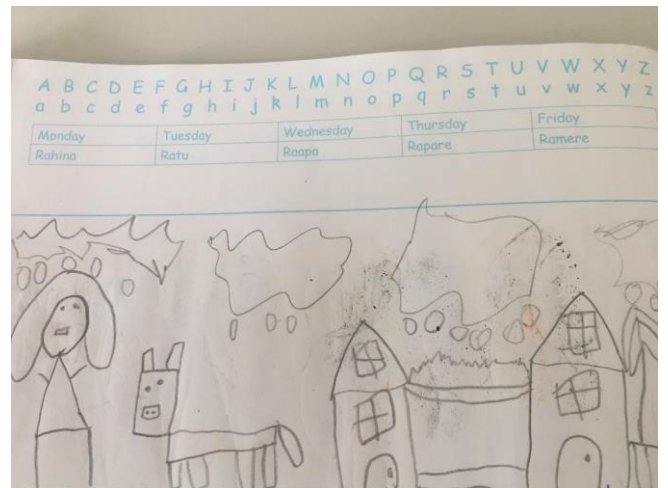
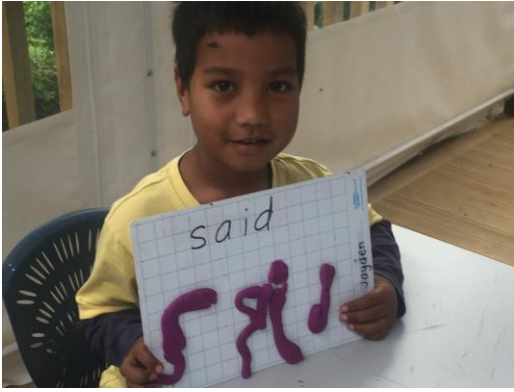
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6sPYE-ihy_4 - action=share

From our writers!

We have compiled a selection of great writing to give you a taste of the developments in the students' writing.

Students from Room One learning to write and read sight words with playdoh!





Today it was raining at my house. I was scared.
 My pig came with me and the rain stopped.
 By Denise

The best day ever

Last Christmas was the best day ever. I woke up super early on Christmas morning, I was just so excited. At last we were allowed to go out. I couldn't wait to open my presents and also give mum and dad their presents. I got a Lego set, a hair brush and mum says it is the best one in the whole house. I also got a sleeping bag and Mum and Dad got a pool for Luke and I to share. I also got some shorts, some t-shirts and a dress. I still couldn't wait to spend time with the rest of my family. We went to my Nana's house first and I got lots of presents there and then we went to my Grandma's house to spend the afternoon there. We also got lots of presents. We had a swim in the neighbour's pool. It was such a good Christmas.

By Eva Herries

The scientist

Dr Vondranscla twisted the screwdriver around once then twice and a third time confidently, his female assistant, Miss Armstrong started to worry as 'THE MACHINE' started to link and konk then KABOOM!!! The audience screamed in horror waiting for smoke to come rising out of 'THE MACHINE' but there as no smoke, fire or explosion so Dr Vondranscla kept on turning the screwdriver and 'THE MACHINE' whirred to life. Afterwards, Dr Vondranscla said, "Well the show was a success!", his voice deep but he was a cheery man. He was in his forties and had only shaved once so his beard and moustache were quite long. He wrote something in his notebook and Miss Armstrong questioned, "What ya writing?" "Oh nothing" answered the doctor suddenly. "The next show's tomorrow night, we should call 'THE MACHINE' Gamecon."

He kept writing stuff in his notebook. That night Vondranscla had a dream he was presenting Gaemcon when he touched the screen and the game he was playing FNAF suddenly came alive, first Freddy came out of the screen, then Bonnie, then golden Freddy, Chica, Sptrngtrap and the puppet all came out of the screen. The next night at the show, Vondranscla touched the screen while he was playing FNAF and nothing happened. That night he dreamed that he punched the screen of Gamecon and his had went right through, he didn't believe it. The next day Dr Vondranscla was playing Astroneer when he slipped and went flying through the screen. Vondranscla woke up with a start, "Worst dream ever" he said to himself. He sat up, there were about a dozen or so Gamecon's lined up against a wall to his right. "What .." he said.

He got up, stretched his legs and noticed that he had been lying on a concrete floor. Dr Vondranscla looked around and noticed that a Gamecon was on, he looked at it and the audience clapped. A tall, skinny man eventually said "Ok, come out now Vondranscla".

The scientist walked away into the real world.
Ari Milne

The Neighbour's revenge

It was Saturday so that meant Mr Kennedy had to sit through four hours of annoying band practise music next door. Mr Kennedy started to plot his revenge when there was a knock on the door.

"Come in!" he shouted from where he was sitting.

The door opened and Mr Kennedy saw Michael, the leader of the dreadful band.

"Hey, here is an invitation to my first ever concert, it will be on Friday night!"

Michael dropped the flyer on the ground and walked out of the room. Just then an idea popped into Mr Kennedy's mind, and in that short amount of time, he started to plot his revenge.

Friday night seemed to take forever to come around. Mr Kennedy walked over the Michael's house dressed in all black. Mr Kennedy went back stage for his sneak attack. He waited for the right time to strike. He jumped onto the stage with his water pistol and fired! Everyone in the crowd gasped. The only thing Mr Kennedy didn't know was the band had been planning this whole thing and Mr Kennedy was the target!

"Water does nothing to me you fool!" laughed the drummer.

Sofia Holt

School t-shirts

If you still have school t-shirts at home from this year, or last, please wash them and return them to Theresa as soon as possible.

Stationery accounts

These have been sent home this week and we ask that you settle these accounts as soon as possible to assist us in our financial process. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa in the school office.

Employment:

We are looking for a person who would be prepared to undertake small repairs in the school as the need arises e.g. cupboard doors, castor wheel replacements etc. We would be very interested in talking with anyone who is handy and would like to work with us. Please contact Rachel Huggins principal@patoka.school.nz

Community Notices:

Patoka Community Pool

The Patoka Community Pool will be closed as of Monday 3rd April.

PATOKA RURAL KINDERGARTEN LAMB DRIVE

Its time for our annual lamb drive. Have you got a store lamb or two you would like to donate to help support our local kindy?



We will be collecting lambs on the 10th and 11th of April to be sold at the stortford lodge sale on Wednesday the 12th.

This is a great way for the community to support the kindy and any help is always much appreciated.

All enquiries to Tim Nelson 8398866 te.wairere@xtra.co.nz

