

Jireh Christian School Newsletter



21 August 2019 Important Dates

Gymnastics 4 x weekly sessions	<i>Friday 23 August</i>
Chicken Madness	<i>Thursday 29 August</i>
TEACHER ONLY DAY	<i>Monday 2 September</i>
Board of Trustees Meeting	<i>Tuesday 3 September</i>
Walkathon	<i>Friday 6 September</i>
Parent/Teacher Interviews	<i>Monday 16 September</i>
WOW Week & Tiwai Sports Camp	<i>23 - 27 September</i>
End Term Three	<i>Friday 27 September</i>
Term Four Begins	<i>Monday 14 October</i>

TIWAI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

What a privilege to share with you what life is like in the Tiwai Learning Area at Jireh Christian School. For those of you who are “old school” – and that includes me – Tiwai is the Intermediate or Year 7 & 8 area of our school. While I would like to think it is the most exciting area, the truth is that every age and stage have special moments. However, what makes Tiwai so interesting is our wonderful students. Let me back up the truck a little, though.....

In Tiwai Learning Area we have two classes named Kotukutuku and Nikau. Tiwai is the Maori word for tree, and the classes in this area have chosen two beautiful trees by which to name themselves. I think it is apt that Year 7 & 8 are the “tree” part of our school metaphor. At this stage of life, we want our students to be deeply rooted in God’s Word, understanding it for what it says and knowing how it will guide them to live lives that bring glory to Jesus Christ – in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. There is a fantastic desire in our students to be authentic in their faith. That’s why we want the roots to go deep.....deep into God’s Word. We also are intentional about encouraging them to produce fruit. Many of our students have been brought up in Christian homes and nurtured through Christian Education – so it’s time for the fruit to be evident....and even more than that, for it to be nourishing and blessing others. Life in Tiwai is never dull or slow.

In fact, the pace in these classes could be described as frenetic at times. Ask Mrs Stoffels and Mrs Mackie, and they will both tell you that there are not enough hours in the school day for all the teaching and learning they love to do. The learning that takes place is rich, purposeful and sincerely infused with God’s truth. Of course, Year 7 & 8 students still need to learn Mathematics, Reading and Writing, but there is so much more as well. Some of the highlights of their learning are: 3D Printing with Mrs Stoffels; authentic & hands-on Science in the Science lab with Mrs Mackie; and Hard and Soft Materials Technology and Food Technology.

Physical activity is very important for Year 7 & 8. This is the stage of life when students are very aware of their physicality – growing pains, emotional highs and lows, hormones surging and boundless energy. In light of this, Tiwai always starts the year in the outdoors, exploring God’s amazing creation either snorkelling at Goat Island or paddleboarding at Okahu Bay. Tiwai also ends the year in a similar vein with physical challenges, like kayaking, being high on the agenda at Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp in Thames. For those who are particularly gifted with sporting prowess, there is the Intermediate Sports Camp held at Totara Springs, Matamata. Our team won 9 trophies, including the Sportsmanship Cup, in 2018. We are in the throes of training and preparing for this camp again – let’s pray we



can do well this time, too. Sports' Camp is full of almost every sport you can imagine (and some that you might not even classify as sport), such as football, volleyball, hockey, triathlon, swimming, kayaking, archery, darts, lawn bowls, chess, wallball and shooting – to name a few!

“What about the students who don't enjoy sport?” I hear you ask. Those students will be treated to a WoW week – a Week of Workshops, in which they will make, create, build, design, explore and collaborate. Just as Sports Camp will be fun and engaging for our sporty Year 7 & 8 students, so the WoW week will be captivating for the rest of the Tiwai students. Mrs Mackie and Mrs Stoffels bring all their creativity to the fore – and our students have a fabulous week. The end of Term 3 is always a highlight in Tiwai!!

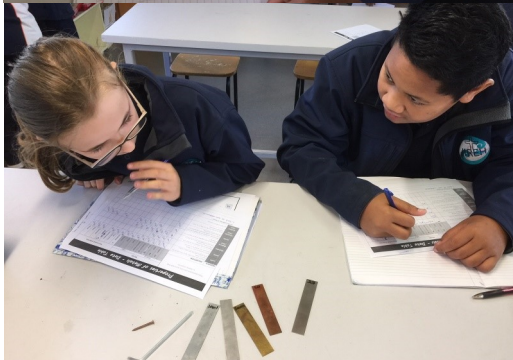
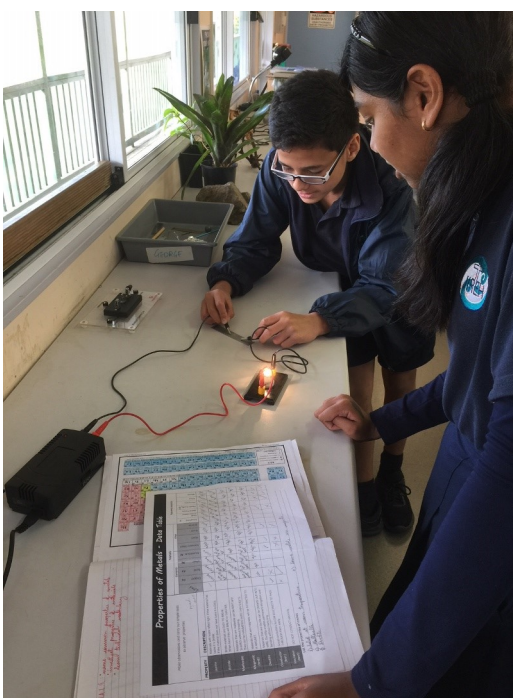
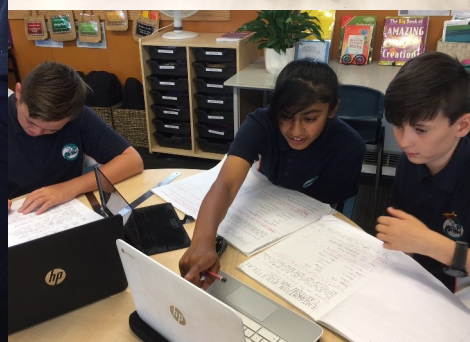
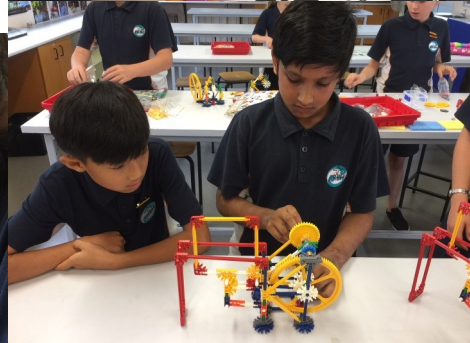
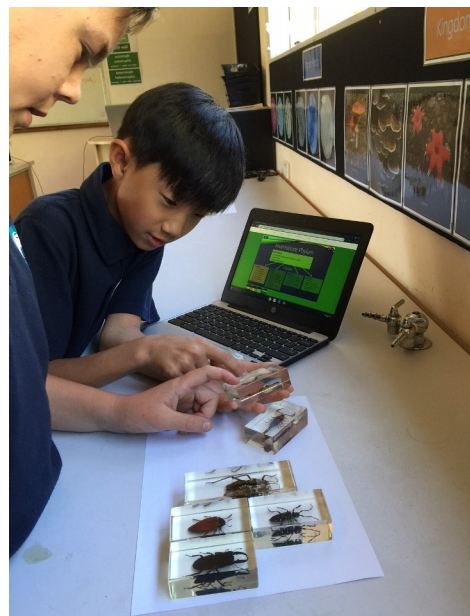
Just in case you wonder when the “learning” happens in Tiwai, it is going on all the time! Currently, our students are very engaged in learning about how the NZ Parliament works. With the hugely contentious bills before Parliament, you can only imagine the passionate conversations and debates that are taking place in Kotukutuku and Nikau. Politicians have been in to speak with the classes....and we are very busy getting ready for our end of year trip to Wellington to visit Parliament. Tiwai is buzzing in anticipation of spending 3 days in the capital city – and just quietly, so are the teachers!!

Getting older is mandatory but growing up is optional – as the saying goes. However, in Tiwai we believe that growing up is vital for service in God's kingdom. To this end, we deliberately provide opportunities for Year 7 & 8 students to develop servant leadership skills. At Jireh Christian School we have divided our school community into four “houses.” These are cohorts of children from N.E. to Year 8, led by 1 Year 7 and 1 Year 8 student, designated as house leaders. One of the roles of a house leader is to be a role model – a student who lives our school values and one in whom the Jireh

student outcomes are obvious. Are they perfect? No, but we are all a work in progress. The house leaders also have opportunities to organise events, such as the school picnic, house sports' competitions and assemblies. Growing up ensures access to greater rights, but as the Tiwai students are often reminded, it also means great responsibility. All students in Tiwai are role models for the rest of the school whether they carry the title of “house leader” or not. Other leadership opportunities include being bus monitors and wet-day monitors in the junior classes.

If you are a parent of a Year 6 student, you could not do better than keeping your son/daughter at Jireh Christian School for their Intermediate years. Tiwai is THE place to be!! The opportunities for learning, leadership and discipleship abound – there is truly something for EVERYONE!

Serving you in Christ,
Vicki Morris,
Tiwai Leader of Learning





Story Book Characters & Grandparents Day

PR1ME Maths Books

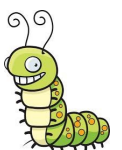
There is only ONE book for each child. This is for class use only as part of the school maths programme. Sorry, no extra copies are available for home use. Thank you!



From God, For God I Atua, Hoki Atua

Worm "Wee"

2 litres worm "wee" for sale at \$5 a bottle. Made especially for you by our very own Jireh Christian School friendly worms. **Fantastic for your garden!**



+64 00 9 836 6913

+64 2108538662

administration@jireh.school.nz

www.jireh.school.nz

63 St Georges Road,

Avondale,

Auckland 0600