



Kuratau School

Kimihia Te Matauranga Kia U Ki Te Pono
Through Seeking Knowledge Comes Truth

SH 41, RD1, TURANGI 3381
PRINCIPAL: Mike Scaddan

School Office Hours are: 8am – 12noon

PHONE: 07 386 5801 FAX: 07 386 5802

EMAIL: ksadmin@kuratau.school.nz

March 6th 2019 - Newsletter 4

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 7 th & Friday 8 th March	Pukawa Marae overnight
Friday 29 th March	Duathlon /Triathlon
Friday 12 th April	Last Day of term 1
Monday 29 th April	First Day Term 2

Our school office is open from 8am – 12noon after this time you can leave a message on our answer phone – this is cleared before 2.30PM every day.

HELPER OF THE WEEK

Zahr McLaughlin-Twiddle



PRINCIPALS CORNER

Hairy Brain Hints

“We need to teach how kids learn” It sounds pretty obvious until we look at children’s learning. When children are born the first senses to develop are olfactory, a sense of smell and gustatory, the lips sensitivity so that food can be ingested.

The olfactory links directly to the brain and is a strong part of our early warning and survival system detecting the likes of smelly food that is rotten and may poison us or moving us away from unpleasant odours.. During the early years, most items such as dirt, end up in the child’s mouth as they analyse it as potential food.

The next sense to develop is called kinaesthetic, large body movements such as sitting up, rolling over, crawling then walking and running. This generally develops earlier in boys giving an advantage in running, throwing lifting and big body movements.

From about the age of 4, girls begin to fine-tune their tactile skills. Small body movements using the hand, wrist and fingers. Girls are up to two years ahead of boys in doing up buttons, zips and beginning to hold crayons and pencils accurately.

From about 5 years of age the visual brain link is developing again firstly in girls, This is vital for reading and writing. Boys are more like 7 years of age before similar development occurs.

Finally, around the age of puberty, the auditory systems develop. Music becomes important and so do involved conversation and loud voices.

So it makes sense that in the early years of primary, from 5-7 years, that we have a lot of movement and a lot of tactile experiences such as threading needles, operating scissors and crayons etc to support our reading, writing and learning practices.

Later this term, Mrs Hunt is attending two days of workshops especially related to how boys learn to read and write so we can adjust our practices accordingly.