

Te Kura Supervisor Newsletter

Years 1 to 10 and Special Education

2013 Term 3

Issue 9

Editor's letter

Welcome Supervisors

I hope you are rested from your break and enjoying the new term. You will have received and read your student's midyear report and taken notes from the 'How you can help' areas. If there is anything you are unsure of don't hesitate to contact their learning advisor.

My family and I had a thoroughly enjoyable visit to Te Kura while in Wellington at the end of last term. I encourage you to go if you get the opportunity as you will be made to feel most welcome.

I was most impressed with the student art work that was on display in the building and felt very proud indeed that there is such talent among us. It was a pleasure to see that although the building holds no students their work is displayed and highly valued.

Keep up the good work everyone and thanks to those who contribute questions and ideas. Send us photos of any artwork your student does so we can showcase it in future newsletters. Enjoy the term and keep in touch as we love to hear from you.

Dianne

If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself. – Henry Ford

CONTENTS

Te Kura Library	2
Māori Resources	2
Supervisor Queries	2
Information and Tips	3
Arts & Crafts	4
- Collage / Graffiti Collage	
Hello from Adele	5

Clipart for this publication – Microsoft Office Online Clipart & Google images

NEWS FLASH!

I have been fortunate in meeting a supervisor at an event day who is happy to contribute to a regular Māori resources segment in our newsletter. Check out page two to help you become more proficient in te reo Māori.

We want to hear from you so email your contributions or questions to either myself or Adele with the subject title: *Supervisor Newsletter* adele.harris@tekura.school.nz

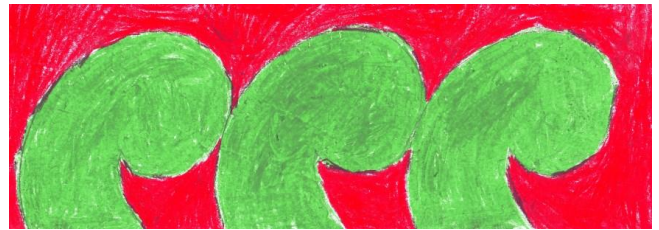
TE KURA LIBRARY



Join Te Kura Library and enjoy a huge selection of material. The friendly helpful librarians are happy to discuss your requirements either over the phone or through email and will post items to you. Your student will receive four items for a period of five weeks and it is generally a mix of fiction and non-fiction and occasionally a DVD so contact them now!

[Login](#) to the library home page or [Using the library](#) for more information and fabulous online resources. Adele also has a vast knowledge of helpful books for supervisors so email her for some titles.

You can contact the library on 0800 65 99 88 ext 8783 or 8502 or email: library@tekura.school.nz



MĀORI RESOURCES

This term we have sourced a link that takes you to [Tōku Reo](#); a language learning show that teaches te reo Māori at a pace that is suitable for your student.

You will be able to easily slot into your timetable daily or weekly lessons to suit your student's needs. Enjoy the role play videos and sentence structuring as well as homework segments to reinforce learning.

Thank you to Taharangi Smith-Gray Age 12 - a Te Kura student who has drawn the koru design for us.

TEACHING SUPPORT MATERIALS (TSM)



For supervisors seeking support with guided reading here is a link to the Ministry of Education website that provides support for students in years 4 to 8.

[Teaching Support Materials – Junior Journal](#)

[Teaching Support Materials – School Journal](#)

These resources will help to provide a greater understanding of the purpose of school journals.

There are also audio MP3 files in New Zealand voices which are great for building student's confidence and fluency and providing support for students reading below their expected levels.

TEACHER AIDE CERTIFICATE

I would like to remind supervisors of full-time students about the **OP4100 Certificate in Teacher Aiding**. I have done this course and found it invaluable with the planning and day-to-day tuition of my own son. You complete the tasks within the course while supervising your student in their daily work, so why not make the most of this opportunity at significantly reduced fees to you. I am happy to help anyone who is willing to give it a go.

Contact Adele for more information:
Ph 0800 65 99 88 ext 8244
adele.harris@tekura.school.nz

SCIENCE

Here are two links to some fun science activities. I know there are students out there who just love to experiment so I hope you can find something here they enjoy. Whenever a student does activities from this newsletter remember to send the results through to their teacher so they can be recorded in their school files as it is all part of their learning.

[Planet Earth & Beyond/Physical World](#)
[Top 20 Primary Science Activities](#)



DO COMPUTERS MAKE YOU NERVOUS?

Don't let them as they are only a piece of equipment after all. A computer can open up so many doors in today's world and there are many ways to learn how to use one including a [Digital Technology](#) course with our very own Te Kura. So if you want to keep up with the rest of the family be brave and have a go at learning a new skill... you never know what door it might open for you!

TYPING SKILLS

If you need to improve your typing skills then here is a fun way of doing it. Both you and your student can improve with this delightful site from [Dance Mat Typing](#) which takes you through 12 stages so you can be a top typist.



MĀORI LANGUAGE KEYBOARD

If you are learning te reo you will want a [Māori language keyboard](#) to make typing those macrons easy. It also has separate keys for 'Wh' and 'Ng' so have a look at this little beauty.





ARTS & CRAFTS



Collage / Graffiti Collage – [Collage ideas](#) / [Graffiti collage ideas](#)

This activity can vary from the very simple for younger ages to the more complex for older students.



Images sourced from links above

You can get your student to make a **collage** to reflect something they enjoy. It may be their favourite pet, music, book or TV character or holiday spot...the list is endless if they use their imagination.

Older students can take it further with a **graffiti collage** using an idea about something that is happening in the world, a favourite poem or song or just how they are feeling at that moment. Let them turn the words into pictures and use lots of movement and colour.

You Need

- A selection of newspapers and magazines.
- Different sorts of paper including tissue, crepe, shiny etc.
- Miscellaneous objects e.g. wool, string, buttons, cloth, glitter etc.
- Paints and brushes.
- Glue and scissors.
- Marker pens.

Method

- Before your student starts encourage them to think carefully about the subject they would like to work with.
- Draw any outlines with a pencil.
- They can use words too so get them to decide if they will cut them out, write or paint them or use a mixture of all three.
- Create their collage.
- Send a photo of their creation to their learning advisor.

Hello from Adele...

Are you a new supervisor? Do you have any questions that you would like answered?

Starting out as a new supervisor can be both exciting and confusing. It takes time to understand your role and to learn how to manage your new workload. Your student's learning advisor will help guide you and answer any questions you may have.

Other supervisors often have useful advice to share. Recently Dianne, an experienced supervisor, gave this advice to a couple of new supervisors:

A new supervisor recently contacted me as she was feeling overwhelmed with the amount of work being posted to her students.

This is not expected to be done all at once and it is quite normal to have a few weeks worth of work on hand. Often there may also be back orders that come at the same time. Allocate a cupboard for resources and keep the work in there in the order that it comes and do one pack at a time. This sense of being overwhelmed is quite common for new supervisors and if you feel that it is all a bit much at times then don't hesitate to contact your student's learning advisor or Adele Harris for assistance. They are there to guide you and make your role as supervisor a pleasant one.

Another recent query to Dianne was regarding a student's inability to do multiple subjects in a day although they were happy to do one subject all day.

If this is the way your student copes with their schoolwork then let them be. It is better to do one subject at a time thoroughly than to not get any work done at all. As long as they get the week's work completed within that week it doesn't really matter how they do it. That's the beauty of distance learning ... there are no set rules and it can be designed to suit each student and bring out the best in them!

Adele Harris Supervisor Support Advisor Phone 0800 65 99 88 ext 8244.
adele.harris@tekura.school.nz

This newsletter for supervisors was written by supervisors of Te Kura students. The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the supervisors who contributed to it.