

Te Kura Supervisor Newsletter

Years 1 to 10 and Special Education

2013 Term 1

Issue 7

Editor's letter

Greetings to you all.

I hope you are all refreshed and ready for another year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new supervisors and introduce you to this issue of our newsletter.

For those of you who don't know me I am a supervisor from Taranaki and my son is a Year 5 student. Due to isolation he began his education with Te Kura's Early Childhood programme and so we are now very familiar with Te Kura.

This newsletter was established in 2011 as a forum for supervisors to contribute tips and ideas that may be of use to other supervisors and so we welcome and value anything you have to offer. It is also intended to reach out to those of you who have little or no contact with other supervisors and have in the past felt isolated.

It has been my pleasure to meet some wonderful families through Te Kura and in doing so gain valuable friendships. I hope to meet more of you in the coming year.

With the help of Adele Harris your supervisor support advisor, fellow artistic supervisor Ali, and your contributions we can look forward to further informative issues. I would love to hear from you, so please email your thoughts and contributions to [Adele](#), who will pass them onto me.

Cheers

Dianne

*He, who opens a school door, closes a prison.
~Victor Hugo*

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*Clipart for this publication – Microsoft Office
Online Clipart*

Change of address!

Don't forget to notify Te Kura if you have changed your address to ensure your student's school work is delivered promptly.



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.

Adele also has a vast knowledge of helpful books for supervisors so email her for some titles.

Go to Te Kura's website and click on [Login](#) to access the Library catalogue, or [Using the library](#) for more information and some fabulous online resources.

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

Useful mathematics websites

- www.nzmaths.co.nz/families
- www.mad4maths.com
- www.coolmath4kids.com/times-tables/Timernator-multiplication.html



Anger Strategy

Get your students to roll angry thoughts into a ball and kick it high into the sky!

Why not further your education!

Fortunately I have been able to complete the teacher aide certificate and level 2 computing course through Te Kura. For those of you who are keen to further your education there are some great courses you can pursue as an adult student. Learning alongside your child can be fulfilling as well as being a great role model. Adele will be happy to guide you in the right direction.

Schedule some fun time

Make a regular time in your weekly calendar to spend time with your child/children without your supervisor hat on. Have a family meeting to brainstorm ideas for things to do together. Have fun working your way through the list.

Email tip

When sending an email, put a relevant title in the subject line. This allows the recipient to see at a glance what the message is about and is useful to refer to at a later date. Avoid changing the subject with replies, instead create new mail.

Timetable and sport

Take the time to work out a weekly timetable with your student that suits you both while remembering to include breaks. Adele has lots of ideas if you need guidance. If you do not have any of Te Kura's Health and Physical Education booklets on hand then you can get some ideas from Sport and Recreation New Zealand.

<http://www.sportnz.org.nz/en-nz/young-people/>

Share your favourite tips

If you know of a website or any information that you think will be beneficial to students or supervisors then let us know and we will include it in the next issue. Don't be shy as this is what the newsletter is all about!

Te Kura waiata

Listen to the beautifully sung waiata when you go to <http://www.tekura.school.nz/about-us/te-kura> and scroll to the bottom of the page. The lyrics are available in English and Te reo Māori so your student can learn it and sing along.



Ali's Art Corner



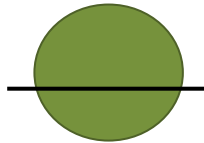
Ali is a supervisor from Taranaki

Make a FROG for your desk.

Idea taken from Art Attack DK pub with Neil Buchanan

Use Das or any air dry clay. You need a lump of clay the size of a tennis ball (about ½ a pack of das). Divide your clay into half. Then take one half and divide that into 3 even sized pieces.

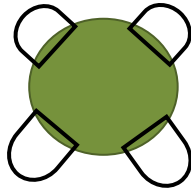
1. Take the large piece and make a ball. Then flatten the bottom so it is stable and will sit on a flat surface. Now you need to make the mouth (which will hold a pencil or pen). Take a pencil or paintbrush and press it down about 2/3rds of the way down on the ball.



2. Take one of the smaller pieces and make a smaller ball. Flatten it out...you can just squash with the palm of your hand. Cut the clay in half vertically and then make a horizontal cut about 2/3 of the way up.

Make small indentations (2 or 3) with the end of your brush around the edges...these will be the feet.

3. Put some water on the flat side of your bigger ball and the top side of the feet. Now attach the feet. (Feet - upside down view)



4. Take another of the smaller pieces of clay and cut in ½. These will make the legs for the back feet. Roll into a cigar shape and then fold over so that it makes a squashed loop and then join open ends together. Repeat. Wet the pinched ends of the clay loops and place them between the back feet and the body. Use a paintbrush to help you press them into place.

5. With the last small piece of clay, make two balls (eyes). Slightly flatten one side so they will sit on the head of the frog. Wet the flatter side with water and the top of the frog so the eyes will stick down.

Leave the whole frog to dry until it's rock solid. Then paint...you don't have to stick to green it could be a poisonous dart frog.

If you want you can use the end of a felt to create eye balls by pressing the pattern onto the eye. You could put pencil dots on the wet clay too if you wanted texture or pattern.

See the pictures for paint ideas.



Hello from Adele...

My name is Adele Harris and I am the **Supervisor Support Advisor** at Te Kura. I hope that you have all had a positive start to the term and that your student is working well with their teacher.

Many **experienced supervisors** are already familiar with how **Te Kura** operates. You have established daily routines and you and your student are in regular contact with their **Learning Advisor**. You may also regularly meet or are in contact with, at least one other supervisor. If you fit in to this category you will be a good role model and mentor for any new supervisors. You could also contribute to this newsletter so that others may learn.

If you are a **new supervisor** and have been with us for less than a year, you may be going through a steep learning curve. This is normal. As a supervisor you are as individual as your student. It is very important that you feel confident and recognised in your role. In time you will develop your own supervision, communication and time management skills.

As a new supervisor you will be noticing some changes in the household:

- Less time to do the chores.
- More “clutter” in the house.
- More noise in the house.
- Food preparation takes longer.
- Other members of the household need attention.
- You feel more tired.

You may also notice:

- The household is more energized.
- Your student is learning.
- You are more organized.
- You are learning.

I would like to encourage any experienced supervisors to consider studying for **OP4100 Certificate in Teacher Aiding**. Te Kura has a partnership with the Open Polytechnic which means that; **Supervisors of full-time students at Te Kura** can study towards this certificate for a significantly reduced fee. Please contact me for more information.

Adele 0800659988 Ext 8244

adele.harris@tekura.school.nz

As a general rule, **younger students require more guidance**. They need:

- regular timetables- young children like to know what is happening each day
- small breaks - a drink of water and some fresh air can help to refocus the young learner
- lots of encouragement and appropriate praise- tell your student when and what they are doing well
- spare games or books - these can be used when you are on the phone or attending to another person or chore.

Older students need to be accountable and responsible for how they manage their study.

- Some teenagers sleep late and will need to catch up in their own time.
- They can set reminders on their phone or computers for sending in their school work.
- Social media is very important to teenagers. Learn as much as you can about it.
- Encouragement and appropriate praise is just as important to teenagers as younger students.

I am available by phone or email during term time to discuss or suggest any ideas that may help you in your role as a supervisor. adele.harris@tekura.school.nz Ph 0800 659988 Ext 8244.

~Whāngaia ka tupu, ka puāwai ~
That which is nurtured, blossoms and grows

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.