

Te Motu Term 1 Update 2025

From the Syndicate

Welcome to all our new and returning students and families. We hope you have enjoyed your summer holidays and are ready for all the exciting things we have planned this year. Syndicate room and teacher details are as follows:

Room 7: David Parr - dparr@pbs.school.nz

Room 13: Caty Spencer - cspencer@pbs.school.nz

Room 14: Cath Franks - Syndicate Team Leader
-cfranks@pbs.school.nz

Room 15: Colin Siversen - csiversen@pbs.school.nz

Room 16: Teresa Robertson - trobertson@pbs.school.nz

During the first few weeks we will be establishing class routines and work habits. Each class will decide on class rules and these will be displayed in each classroom. The information for the units being taught for Term 1 can be found further on in this update. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

A reminder that the school has a policy that children need brimmed hats when outside in terms 1 and 4. Caps and stingy-brimmed trilbies do not provide enough shade, and so will not be acceptable. There is a small amount of sunblock available but we recommend that you provide your child with some to use at school. Your help with this is appreciated.

A reminder of our cell phone policy - Phones and electronic devices (other than Chromebooks) will be held by the teacher during the day and returned to students at 3 pm. Chromebooks are not to be used as a means of communication between you and your child. If you need to contact your child during the day, or vice versa, this can be done through the school office. Chromebooks are used as a tool in the classroom. It is very important that your child comes to school prepared with a fully charged device.

Hopefully, by now, you have all signed up for our new Parent App, Hero , through which all communication can be made in one place. The instructions are below for those of you who still need to do this.



With us moving to Hero, parents and caregivers will need to download the Hero App. Hero brings all school communications into a single app to keep parents up to date.

Hero is designed to reduce the number of places that parents need to check for information about school. Parents and caregivers can log in to their Hero account to see all their child's learning and progress and read school notices.

Getting started on Hero

- Either use this QR Code



Hero - QR Code

- Smartphone/device: Download the app



- Computer: Enter go.linc-ed.com on your browser



Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th February - Waitangi Day - School closed

Thursday 13 February - Technology at the Raumati Technology Centre. This will be held every Thursday unless notified otherwise.

Friday 21 February - School Picnic and Fun Run 4 pm -7 pm

Thursday 27th February - Teacher Only Day - School closed for instruction

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th March - Camp 1 to Bridge Valley, Nelson involving Rooms 7,14 and 16.

Monday 10th - Friday 14th March - Camp 2 to Bridge Valley, Nelson involving Rooms 13 and 15.

Friday 21 and 28 March - Netball trials

Wednesday 9 April - Whole School Assembly

Last day of Term:- Fri 11th April

Literacy Programme

All classes will run daily reading, spelling, grammar, creative and expressive writing, and oral language programmes, continuing to develop skills learnt in previous years but with the focus on developing student's independence in literacy. Most students in Year 7 and 8 are no longer learning to read and write, they are reading and writing to learn. By developing independent study skills we are setting a strong foundation for all students to be confident lifelong learners.

All class Literacy programmes will be supported by Education Perfect which is a NZ based online educational provider that Te Motu syndicate use throughout our programme.

Maths

Through mathematical inquiry, students develop the ability to think creatively, critically, strategically and logically. They learn to structure and to organise, to carry out procedures flexibly and accurately, to process and communicate information, and to enjoy the intellectual challenge.

In Te Motu Syndicate, we will be using the Oxford University Resource sent to us by the current government.

This term we will cover - Number Knowledge and Strategies: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, exponents and order of operations. We will also focus on problem solving, numeracy skills, and Financial mathematics.

Physical Education

Team work, sportsmanship and fair play will all be the focus of our PE programmes. We will be using the classic summer sports to practice these while developing our throwing, catching and striking skills. Moving March will be in full flight throughout March, with many activities to get our kids moving.

Fitness programmes will be developed and will continue throughout the year encouraging students to set their own goals and targets.

The Arts and Languages

Te Reo - Turangawaewae Projects and the online Toku Reo and Education Perfect programmes will continue throughout the year with a big focus on using everyday greetings and instructions as much as possible. Many traditional Māori games will be taught throughout the year encouraging team work, mental and physical challenges. This term we will be lucky to have some traditional Māori games taught by manuhiri to our school.

Visual Art - Our major Art focus this term will be inspired by our trips to Nelson, using the flora and fauna and the impressive landscapes as our inspiration.

Dance and Music - In term 1, Te Motu holds our annual Music Challenge. Each year the classes are given a theme to choose a song from which they then have to work together to create their own

“show” to perform to the other classes in the syndicate. The only rule is that everyone must be involved in some way. You will be more than welcome to come along and be wildly entertained by our performances which will be held sometime during the term. This will be decided asap and we will inform you of the date and time of the performances as soon as this has been confirmed.

Growth Mindset

We will be focussing on ourselves as learners and looking at how we learn and think, and how to be an active learner. Te Motu students will be taught about different zones of learning and how they can become active and engaged learners working well above their comfort zone. Students will be encouraged to keep raising the bar.

Homework

The main component of homework in Te Motu will be unfinished classwork. Workloads will vary at different times of the year eg practicing speeches. We encourage independent, responsible learning from all students. Daily reading is encouraged and most students will have weekly spelling words to learn.

Camps at Bridge Valley Adventure Centre - Nelson

We are all looking forward to our camps at Bridge Valley Adventure Centre in Nelson. Our main focus in classes throughout this term will be doing a lot of the work to ensure that we are well-prepared and ready for action. Details about each camp will be sent home next week along with Gear Lists and Medical/Permission forms. Can you please fill these in and return them to school asap as we need this information for activity grouping and cabin groups.

Camps are an amazing experience and team-building opportunity which we are fortunate to be doing at the beginning of the school year so we will be able to establish relationships that we can build on throughout the year.

Prior to camp we will be doing a variety of activities including water safety, sun smart awareness, some geography and history of the Nelson and Abel Tasman National Park areas, team building and problem solving activities and art and drama activities to name a few. At camp, we have 2 days which are spent in Camp doing things like rockwall climbing, abseiling, Luge rides, Laser Tag, Aqua Park games, Water slides and swimming. We spend one day at Kaiteriteri, the gateway to Abel Tasman National Park, where we experience SUP Boarding and sea kayaking, and catch a water taxi out to Split Apple Rock and the idyllic Anchorage. These are only a few of the experiences we will have.

We will send home a Camp Programme as soon as it is finalised so you will be able to follow what we are doing each day. This will also include a final update of times and details you will need to know.

Just as a reminder, the camp dates are as follows :

Camp One: Monday 3rd March to Friday 7th March 2025 - Rms 7, 14 and 16 with Cath Franks, David Parr and Teresa Robertson

Camp Two: Monday 10th March to Friday 14th March 2025 - Rms 13 and 15 with Caty Spencer and Colin Siverson.

We are all looking forward to an exciting year with your tamariki.

Ngā mihi

From the Te Motu Team - Cath, Colin, Teresa, Caty and David