

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME?



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

To support your child's learning in the Kōwhai syndicate, focus on making home activities positive and manageable rather than onerous. You can help by fostering a love of reading through shared stories, practising 'maths in real life' like cooking or measuring, and encouraging writing for fun and authentic purposes. Short sessions focusing on 'Core Skills' (reading, basic maths facts, and handwriting) build the 'muscle memory' needed for more complex tasks.

WRITING

Writing in the Kōwhai syndicate focuses on motivation and the 'Writers Cycle'.

- Support the 'Non-Negotiables': Encourage your child to check their home writing for the 'Non-Negotiables' taught in class (such as basic punctuation and capital letters).
- Real-world writing, provide motivation for writing by having them write grocery lists, thank-you notes, travel diaries or emails to family members.
- Celebrate the Process: Use the Seesaw app to look at snippets of their school writing or shared work together. Give positive feedback on their ideas and effort.
- Oral Storytelling: Before they put pen to paper, have them tell you their story or idea out loud.
- Write using comic styles or annotations of drawings, a 'how to' guide of a topic of interest, etc.

READING

The primary goal at this age is to foster a love of reading

- Feed & Read at Home: Emulate the school's 'Feed & Read' routine by letting your child snack while you read a story together or they read independently.
- Discuss Strategies: Ask your child about the reading strategies or comprehension work they are doing in class. Have them explain the plot or predict what happens next. Ask questions that require in-depth answer, such as how, why, would...
- Make connections to the stories and books they are reading. Text to self, text to text, text to the world.
- Visit the Miramar Library, if you haven't already, sign your child up to a library card.
- Help your child learn their week's spelling words, can they find the words in the books they are reading?
- Listen to stories, use Libby app.

