

Pihinga Team

Structured Literacy

Kia Ora Parents and Caregivers

The Pihinga teachers are making some changes to the way they teach literacy this year. The teachers attended professional learning workshops on Structured Literacy at the end of last year and will be implementing this approach with the students.



Structured Literacy involves explicitly teaching the critical skills needed to develop early reading and spelling development. This approach differs from our traditional methods. One difference you will find is that the students will not bring a levelled book home instead they will have their own tasks related to their learning needs. They may also bring home a picture book for you to read to your child. This is essential in helping support oral language and comprehension.

The teachers in Pihinga will

- Explicitly teach how words work in both reading and spelling.
- Use specific decodable books that support the teaching focus.
- Continue to use rich language and text to develop vocabulary and understand how books work.

Some key shared literacy activities that you can do with your child

- Read picture books and non-fiction books based on your child's interest. Have fun with the language especially with rhyming books e.g. Dr Seuss.
- To support fine motor skills, engage in drawing, baking, lego and puzzles.
- Play word games, such as I Spy with a beginning sound or a word that rhymes with another word.

We will hold an information evening later this term to hear more about this approach and what you can do at home to support your child's progress in literacy.

Ngā mihi nui

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