



KOWHAI TERM 3 2021 NEWSLETTER

Teacher emails

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Welcome to Term 3 and a special welcome to all our new students and their families

The normal school day

- Classroom doors open at 8:30 a.m. Children settle better if they are early enough to unpack themselves, have a quick goodbye and a little play. **Learning time starts at 8:55 a.m. and school concludes at 2:55 p.m.**

- On arrival to school in the morning, students return book bags, water bottles etc. to the correct place.



- Students are not allowed to play on the playground before school starts. After school, students must be supervised by an adult on the playground.
- Learning time starts at 8:55 a.m. and school concludes at 2:55 p.m. Please wait away from the classroom, by the blue benches, to enable the children to organise their belongings.

This term's highlights

Week 1: 100 days of school celebration (details to follow)

Week 5, 25th August: Class and portrait photos

Week 6, 1 September: Whole school production, evening performance at the Bruce Mason centre

Week 6-10: Friday specialisation programme - te reo Māori, digital technology

New entrants

All students will receive a progress report once they have attended school for 6 weeks. Teachers will then arrange a time to discuss this with you.

What to bring to school

- A named water bottle at school every day. **Please do not include fizzy drinks or fruit juice in the bottle.**
- Our school is **wrapper free** so where possible do not include plastic or packaging.
- **Please do not send nuts or peanut butter sandwiches to school as we have children who are fatally allergic to them.**
- All uniform items, book bags, jumpers, raincoats etc need to be **clearly named**.
- Please place a **spare set of clothing in your child's school bag** for rainy days, in case they get very wet or have a muddy fall during playtime.

Home learning

- **It is vital that your child reads every day.** Please fill in the reading log in home learning books. We welcome your comments.
- All students have online access to Reading Eggs and Math Seeds. Logins and passwords are in Home Learning books. Many students are enjoying using these programmes to consolidate their learning.
- The Kōwhai team visits the library weekly. Please return books on time so your child can borrow new books. Room 3 & 5 visit Friday's. Room 1 & 2 visit Monday's
- Book bags: Please help your child get into the habit of looking after books and returning books in book bags. We are unable to send books home if your child does not have their book bag.

Learning focus

Our term 3 school Whakataukī (Maori proverb) is "*Tukua te wairua kia rere ki ngā taumata*" (*Allow one's spirit to exercise its potential*) which links to our school value **Auahatanga/Creativity**. We want children to be able to express themselves, and their ideas in lots of original and innovative ways. We will be exploring, sharing and talking about creativity during our Waa Hura (discovery time) sessions as well as many other parts of the day.

Science

We will continue to notice, think and wonder about the natural world around us, and continue our inquiry into seasonal changes later this term. Exploring how these changes impact our environment and the creatures that live in our world.

Jukebox Drama - School Production

The Kōwhai students will be performing in the whole school production on the 1st September at the Bruce Mason centre. Over the coming weeks we will be rehearsing during our usual **PMP** time to allow us to polish our performance. Costume details will follow shortly. **PMP** will resume once the production has finished.

Communication

Parents are always welcome to discuss any concerns they may have about their child's well-being or progress. Sometimes things can be discussed or clarified after school, however, if you require a longer interview it is advisable to make an appointment. We aim to provide a happy, secure caring environment with each child actively involved in the learning process.

Parent help

We welcome parent help in a variety of ways, particularly when our Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP) gets underway again. If you have some spare time and would like to help out in your child's classroom, please contact your child's teacher.

Ngā mihi

Kōwhai team class teachers

Room 2 Tarina MacKay, Room 3 Irene Navarro, Room 5 Jitka Bloomfield, Room 1 Susie Stringer

Assessment for learning

Throughout the year, classroom programmes foster an understanding that your child is in charge of their learning. Students have developed their understanding of a learning- focused classroom and have set some learning and personal goals to achieve as the year progresses. In term 3, students will continue to reflect on the learning process and are being asked to 'self-assess' - to check their learning against co-constructed success criteria alongside the teacher.

Oral language/news

At times your child may wish to bring a news item to share. Suggestions for ideas are current events - newspaper clippings; photographs; interesting finds and unusual or special toys.

Toys: Toys or non-school items such as jewellery can be a distraction in class and are very likely to go missing. We would ask that all non-school items are left at home unless it is a very special item for news.