

Kauri Team Newsletter
Long Bay Primary
Term One 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

A warm welcome back to school! We hope you have enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing summer holiday. We look forward to getting to know the students in our classes. We warmly welcome new students to the school and trust they will make friends and settle quickly into their new school and classrooms.

COVID-19 has had a large impact on the lives of all people in NZ and on school life. We have processes and procedures in place to meet the guidelines for schools under the traffic light system from the Ministry of Health. Please make sure that children come to school with a clean mask, drink bottle and hat.

This year, the Kauri Team will consist of four Year 5/6 classes. These are Room 13 with Mr Mark Wallace, Room 14 with Ms Miranda Kelly, Room 15 with Mrs Walker-Bell and Room 16 with Ms Paula Ritsma.

Once we are out of the red traffic light system, there will be opportunities for students to join a variety of lunchtime and extracurricular activities like sports teams, music groups, and the enviro/health groups. There are also many opportunities for Year 5 and 6 students to take on leadership roles and contribute to the school community with monitor responsibilities such as office duties, wet day monitors, librarians and sports monitors.

Learning

Initially our focus will be on getting to know the students and getting them used to our classroom routines. We will assess to determine each student's next steps in the core subjects. Our first inquiry topic this term explores the qualities and behaviours of an effective learner, how to use self-assessment to improve our work and the difference between fixed and growth mindsets. We have the Life Education educator here in March. We will also be exploring observation skills through the science of the seasons. In maths, we will work on addition and subtraction strategies, measurement and statistics. Families can support their children with revising the times tables and related division facts. Children will be given access codes for Maths Whizz over the next couple of weeks. In physical education, our focus is on throwing and catching skills, as well as cooperation games. The Waterwise programme will also run for those Year 6 students who pass set criteria. The children participating in Waterwise learn to sail, kayak and snorkel safely in the marine environment.

We truly appreciate the help given by parents to ensure that the Waterwise programme is able to run. If your child is in Year 6, [please sign up your child on the Long Bay Primary Shop \(mykindo\)](#) by **Monday 14 February** as the teacher in charge (Mark Wallace) needs the information early in order to plan effectively for the diverse needs of the group. We begin on Thursday 24 February.

The School Day

The classrooms open at 8:30 am. There is no supervision for children who arrive earlier than this. Kelly Club is available to provide before and after school care for a fee. Lessons begin at 8:55 am. If your child arrives after the 8:55 bell, they must sign in at the office to get a late pass for school. The school day finishes at 2:55 pm. Unless they are attending Kelly Club or are with their parent, students must head straight home at the end of the day.

Home Learning

Students will be given home learning activities each week. This may involve completing 3 progressions, practising their spelling and reading daily. Students will also be expected to practise any unknown multiplication and division facts. Students will occasionally be expected to prepare a presentation at home or other tasks. Please note that home learning will only be marked if it is handed in on the day that it is due. Students will be allocated reward stickers for completing this work on time.

Bikes / Scooters

Students who travel to school by scooter or bike need to have signed permission (forms can be collected from the office). All bike and scooter riders must wear a helmet. Students need to push their bike or scooter into the school grounds and put it into the rack by the office immediately.

Electronic Devices

No electronic devices are to be sent to school, including e-readers and smart watches. If a student brings a cell phone or smart watch to school, it MUST be left at the office during the school day. This is to ensure the item is kept safe and that children aren't accessing the internet while at school without teacher supervision.

Uniform / Equipment

Students should be wearing our school uniform with pride. It is important that the correct uniform is worn however we do understand that there may be times when it is necessary for non-regulation items to be worn. An explanatory note is appreciated.

Please ensure that all clothing and classroom stationery is clearly labelled. You might need to check that labels are still able to be read, especially on clothing items which are washed frequently. Students are expected to take responsibility for looking after their possessions.

Sunhats are compulsory during term 1 and 4. Please also ensure that your child has sunscreen applied before school and that they are able to re-apply it on hot days. The students are quite active, with an hour and a half to two hours outside most days (for breaks and physical education), so sunscreen is needed even on cloudy days.

Please note that the shoes your child wears to school need to be suitable for sports activities. Children MUST wear their shoes to and from school.

Money

Students should not bring money to school unless it is requested by the teacher/school. Any money sent to school needs to be clearly labelled with your child's name, room number and the purpose, in an envelope. Most payments will now be able to be made through the [Long Bay Primary Shop \(mykindo\)](#) which can be found on the school website.

Communication

If you would like to talk to your child's teacher about any matter, please email the teacher concerned. They can then either address the matter through email or arrange a suitable time to meet (via a Google Meet under Red Level), if required. Unless urgent, we will endeavour to reply by the end of the following working day. Teachers seldom check their emails during the day while they are teaching, so any urgent messages for your child need to go through the school office please. Please read the fortnightly newsletter. Families who don't read it miss out on important school information meaning that their children can miss out on opportunities.

Term 1 Events

Tu 15 Feb	Basketball trials during school
Th 24 Feb	Year 6 Waterwise begins
Th 3 Mar	Year 6 Waterwise
Th 10 Mar	Year 6 Waterwise
Th 17 Mar	Year 6 Waterwise
We 23 Mar	Goal Setting Conferences. SCHOOL FINISHES early at 12:30pm - see school newsletter
Th 24 Mar	Year 6 Waterwise
Th 31 Mar	Year 6 Waterwise
Mo 28/2 - We 16/3	Life Education sessions
Th 14 Apr	TEACHER ONLY DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS
Fr 15 Apr - Su 1 May	School holidays

We look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Kind regards,

The Kauri Team Teachers

Ms Miranda Kelly (Team Leader), Mr Mark Wallace, Mrs Walker-Bell and Ms Ritsma

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