

# NAU MAI HAERE MAI KI AHI-2019!

## ahi

*(noun) fire - according to most creation narratives, Māui obtained fire from Mahuika. The power of fire was recognised and sacred fires were associated with the tohunga and the tapu of the tūāhu and with rituals.*



Kia ora koutou and a very warm Ahi welcome to our new and returning students and families. What a stunning start to 2019 with warm weather and enthusiastic children! This year our teaching team comprises of Jennifer Kim, Sean Mead, Judith Douglas, and a new teacher to Ahi, Kris Beattie. Cilla Scott is the team leader and will regularly be in Ahi covering release and enjoying working with the students across various curriculum areas. We are a collaborative team and students work with different teachers at different times. Each student has a designated home class teacher who is the main point of contact for parents.

## IMPORTANT DATES

<b>Week One</b>	Thursday 31 Jan	First day of school	<b>OTHER REMINDERS</b>   Don't forget the essentials for summer well-being!  <b>Technicraft</b> begins Thursday 14 Feb. Please wear covered shoes. This year, every student will remain at school for a Design workshop. This is rotated throughout the year.  <b>Initial PB4L Goals for Ahi</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Being on time</li> <li>- Being prepared</li> <li>- Moving around the school purposefully</li> </ul>
<b>Week Two</b>	Wednesday 6 Feb Friday 8 Feb	Waitangi Day (no school) School Picnic Scorching Bay	
<b>Week Three</b>	Tues 12 Feb	Swimming starts - 10 - 12 pm. Every Tuesday for the next 8 weeks. Meet the Team meeting 6:00 - 6:45 pm in Whero	
<b>Week Four</b>			
<b>Week Five</b>			
<b>Week Six</b>	Tue 5/Thurs 7 March Wed 6 March	Learning Conferences EZ Cricket tournament	
<b>Week Seven</b>	Fri 15 March	Ahi to Capital E Arts Festival	
<b>Week Eight</b>	Wed 20 March	EZ Futsal tournament	
<b>Week Nine</b>			
<b>Week Ten</b>			
<b>Week Eleven</b>	Monday 8 April Friday 12 April	Arts Day (Whole School) Final day of Term One	

## CURRICULUM STUDIES

### Homework

We will not be using a formal homework book this year however there will be a variety of tasks that will require an investment of time including Seesaw, Banqer, Inquiry research and so on. Students are expected to be reading daily and we will be providing various incentives to encourage this throughout the year.

### Seesaw

Ahi will be using Seesaw as a platform for showcasing student work, setting assignments and encouraging an effective online forum for constructive feedback between teachers and students. Your child will soon bring home a code to enable you to sign in and see their posts. We encourage you to interact and discuss your child's learning via this great platform..

### Mathletics

All students will have specific tasks set that relate to the skills they need to develop, revise or maintain. They may also look at other areas when their set tasks are completed. This term the focus is largely around Statistics, Number revision and Algebra.

### Cellphones

This year students will be able to keep their cellphone in their own bag, providing it is not used at all during the school day and is only checked after school. When we are out of school cellphones can accompany the children. We encourage responsible digital citizenship and this is one way students can practice this.

### Getting in contact with us

We are always open to sitting down and meeting with you, but keep in mind that before class begins teachers are busy preparing learning spaces and lesson materials for the day ahead. If you need more than a few minutes of our time, it is better to make an appointment for after school.

If your child is sick please ensure you call or email the office as well as your child's Home Class Teacher to let them know.

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If at any time you have any concerns, questions, information and/or feedback to share, please contact us directly. Emails are generally checked between 3.30 - 5.00pm. Due to the nature of our profession, we are often unable to respond to emails within the same day. We endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

**Inquiry Focus:** This year we are redesigning our behaviour and school values system using the Positive Behaviour for Learning programme school-wide. This term we will be delving into the concepts of Whanaungatanga, Manaakitanga and Ako and how respect is represented through these. We will be weaving the Inquiry model through other aspects of our learning including Maths and Literacy.

**Mathematics:** We begin with a Maths Inquiry and maths skills unit to engage our brains back into maths mode. Initial assessments in Week 4 will help us gauge where students are at. They may work with different teachers at different times depending on which areas of maths need development.

**Literacy/Leadership:** This term's reading and writing will include letters of application for leadership roles, Ahi organisational tasks, All About Me collaborative activities, oral language discussions; narrative text and follow-up to Arts Festival visits. Students will all write a film script accompanied by a storyboard in preparation for the Roxy 5 film competition.

**Physical Education:** This term the Ahi students will have swimming lessons at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre in Kilbirnie every Tuesday from week 3 (12th February). Our skill focuses are throwing and catching, striking with the hand, striking with the feet and striking with an implement. Eastern Zone events in cricket and futsal will also occur this term.

**The Arts:** We begin this year with a visual arts focus using 4 different styles and medium, and a digital arts focus; making short films in participation with the Roxy 5 Film Competition. This is an opportunity for the teachers to observe your child interacting with others and sharing their creativity across several curriculum areas.

### Languages:

We will be offering Spanish, Korean, French, Te Reo Maori and sign language. We are most grateful to Claire Mortelier for supporting us with her French expertise.



*We look forward to supporting and challenging your child in their journey of learning this year!*

