

Nga Wai Term 1 Newsletter 2018

MEET THE TEAM

Kia ora whanau. It was wonderful to welcome back familiar faces and to meet the families new to Nga Wai on Thursday morning. A big welcome to Rob from England. We say goodbye to Sean as he joins Ahi.

Nga Roto/Room 1 - Rob

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Te Moana/Room 2 - Glen

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Nga Awa/Room 3 - Kirsten

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Waitomo/Room 11 - Maddi

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Dates to Remember

- **Waitangi day:** Tuesday 6th February - School closed
- **Meet the Team:** Thursday 15th February 5.30 - 6.15pm
- **SCHOOL PICNIC @ Scorching Bay:** Friday 16th February
- **Science in a Van:** Friday 23rd February
- **Cricket:** Wednesday 28th February: (Parental help required x8)
- **Learning Conferences:** Tuesday 13th + Thursday 15th March
- **Hataitai Arts Festival:** Wednesday 21st March (Parental participation greatly received)
- **EZ Football:** Wednesday 28th March (Parental help required x2)
- **Camp Makahika:** Tuesday 23rd October - Friday 26th October Term 4 (More info at "Meet the Team" evening)

*We are hoping to secure one more trip this term and this will be emailed to you separately.

Inquiry

Our overarching school wide concept for the year is **Water**. We would love you to have conversations at home to kick start their thinking and unlocking their prior knowledge. We will talk more about this at our Meet the Team evening.

Whanaungatanga

Definition: (noun) relationship, kinship. sense of family connection - a relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging. It develops as a result of kinship rights and obligations, which also serve to strengthen each member of the kin group.

We will begin the year exploring what whanaungatanga means to Nga Wai students and teachers, and what that means for how we can best learn together in a collaborative environment. As a team we will establish our classroom culture and expectations by exploring our obligations and rights as individuals in a group. This is to promote strong kinship, supporting students to feel motivated and happy in their learning spaces.

PE - Football

We welcome back the coaches and players from Miramar Rangers and Team Wellington in Term 1. They will work with our students on fundamental skills involved in football. Our fitness will focus on cardio and core strength leading into training for cross country and swimming in Term 2.

Mathematics

We will start the year focusing on Measurement and revising Number Knowledge combined with addition and subtraction as we move through the term.

There will be a Mathematics information evening later in Term One. The aim is to communicate how we use Mathematics in school, and how it can support your child at home. This may be of most interest to families new to Mathematics. Year Six families may find this repetitive if they have attended previously.

Literacy

Reading and Writing: We start the year working as a whole class, using current formative assessment and end of year formal assessments from 2017 to inform teachers of students next steps. By Week 4 we will be running a full programme in which student groupings will be flexible throughout the year.

Oral Language: Each student will be asked to present a given topic twice a term. A timetable for the term will be displayed in home classes. The teachers will explain and model what is expected thoroughly, however, the Year Five students may need some support from home the first few times they are preparing to present. When presenting their first topic, students will begin by presenting their Mihi and a little about themselves. Their second presentation will be a news presentation about a current event. Class time will be given for students to plan and prepare for this, however we will be asking students to ask questions at home as well. If they forget, please prompt them with some questions about their oral language presentations.

Home Learning

We have changed to the 'Homework Book' this year in a bid to increase students' enjoyment of homework and add variation to the content. We will start the year by completing the first homework task in class to model expectations. Students will have access to the homework schedule in class and on the Hataitai School website, and are expected to check this independently. Class time is dedicated to marking homework weekly. If students are unable to complete homework for that day they must speak to their home class teacher prior to the marking session. We really appreciate your support.

Home - School Communication

Meeting with Teachers: We love to build relationships with family members. However, before school teachers are busy preparing for the day ahead, so if you need more than a few minutes of our time, please make an appointment. Due to staff meetings, teachers cannot meet on Mondays from 3.15pm - 4.30, Thursday from 3.15 - 5pm and Fridays 8.15am - 8.30am. If at any time you have any concerns, questions, information and/or positive feedback to share, please contact your home class teacher as your first port of call. Emails are generally checked between 3.30-6.00pm. Due to the nature of our profession we are often unable to respond to emails within the same day. We endeavor to respond as soon as possible. Please ensure that your child knows their after school care arrangements before they arrive at school as teachers are not able to check emails regarding updates during the day. Any last minute changes must go through the office.

Illness: If your child is sick please ensure you call or email the office. We also appreciate being looped into that email.


Upcoming Team Trips and Events: We endeavor to give as much notice as possible for these events. We appreciate your support greatly.

Weekly notice board: We are moving digital! The weekly notices will be displayed in each classroom with important news, reminders and small challenges for the students. It is important students check this board to stay informed and develop their independence and organisation skills.

Team Newsletter: This newsletter is emailed once to families at the beginning of each term. Read through it carefully as it contains useful information and FAQs which are specific to our Learning Team.

General Reminders

Sunhats: This term please remember to apply sunscreen before school, and provide a sunhat each day. Students without a sunhat must sit under a shade cloth during breaks.



Lost property: The amount of lost property that accumulates in Nga Wai is amazing. Please label all clothing. Unclaimed items are sent to charity at the end of each term. We encourage students to take responsibility for their belongings.

Art Supplies: Any spare ice cream tubs will be gratefully received. Please ensure your child has an oversized painting shirt, as we hope to indulge in many fun art activities but we know this can be messy!

We look forward to seeing many of you at our 'Meet the Team' evening in Week 3. This is an important evening where we the teachers can share our team culture, aims for the year and new additions to our programme.

Kind Regards

Kirsten and the Nga Wai teachers