

# Nga Wai Term 1 Newsletter 2019

## Meet The Team

Kia ora whanau. It was wonderful to welcome back familiar faces and to meet the families who are new to Nga Wai and the school this week.

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## Dates to Remember

- **Waitangi day:** Wednesday 6th February - School closed
- **SCHOOL PICNIC @ Scorching Bay:** Friday 8th February
- **Meet the Teachers:** Thursday 14th February
- **Cricket:** Wednesday 27th February: (Parental help required x10, please email Glen)
- **Learning Conferences:** Tuesday 5th March and Thursday 7th March
- **Capital E Arts Festival:** Wednesday 13th March (Parental help required x10, please email Kirsten)
- **EZ Futsal:** Wednesday 20th March (Parental help required x2, please email Paul)

\*If we secure one more trip this term and this will be emailed to you separately.

## Manaakitanga, Whanaungatanga and Ako

Our overarching concept in Nga Wai is Respect - self, others and our learning. 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.

We will begin the year exploring what this means to the 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 sense of self and our relationships. This is to promote strong kinship, supporting students to feel motivated and happy in their learning spaces.

## PE

Over the course of the term we will be looking at building cardiovascular and core fitness as well as the fundamental movement skills involved in catching and throwing. Later in the term Wellington Rugby Club will be holding a couple of taster sessions. Swimming will be 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 Mathletics information evening later in Term One. The aim is to communicate how we use Mathletics in school, and how it can support your child at home. This may be of most interest to new and Year 5 families. Year Six families may find this repetitive if they have attended previously.

## Literacy

**Reading, Writing and Oral Language:** We start the year working as a whole class, using current formative assessment and end of year formal assessments from 2018 to inform teachers of students next steps. By Week 4 we will be running a full

programme that provides cross curricular connections. Student groupings will be flexible throughout the year and may change.

**Oral Language:** Each student will be asked to present once or twice a term. A timetable for the term will be displayed in home classes. The teachers will explain and model what is expected thoroughly. The oral language is linked to our homework programme detailed below.

## Home Learning

The first homework task will be given to students in Week 3. This will link to preparing some information to share back with the class in the form of a pepeha, and later in the term an oral language presentation. Teachers will model each step of the way with their own example. We have allocated a specific note-book from the stationery list.

Class time is dedicated to setting, checking and discussing homework every Monday. 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 8am and 8.45am, and 3.30—5.30pm. 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.

Any last minute information you need to get to the teacher or your child during the day, we ask that you go through the office. A message will be passed to the teacher. Direct emails to the teacher may not be seen on time!

**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:** On Mondays, 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 and items are sent to charity. 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, Paul, Maddi and Glen