



Kio Kio School THE FLASH

2 February 2017

Newsletter #1

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Kia ora tatou katoa, Padhaaro, Malo e lelei, Kumusta, Greetings to you all ...

Our students and staff have come back to school refreshed and well rested to begin Term 1. Learning programmes are already up and running in all classrooms. The library will open today and the pool was in full use from yesterday.



Our school roll is currently 131. We had expected to start with 130 students. Welcome to:

Korawit Hy, Alana Clark, Christian Boyt, Chanelle young, Reid & Zhana Mitchell, Levi & Sienna O'Reilly, Chelsie Cross, Quintin Stockholmes, Keira & Mikayla McCullough, Da'C & Zyila Kereama.

We hope you have all been made to feel very welcome and we wish you and your families a long and happy association with Kio Kio School.

We also welcome our two new teachers - **Suze Case** and **Andrea Evans**. Suze comes to us from Goodwood School near Cambridge and Andrea comes to us from Wellington.

Thank you to the Kio Kio staff for their commitment and energy in the lead-up to the beginning of the school year. We have 'hit the ground running'!

STATIONERY

Many students have started the year with their stationery. Thank you to parents who have ensured this can happen. We do have some students in most classrooms who have not yet brought stationery to school. This makes the start of year more challenging for both students and teachers. Please contact me if there is an issue in purchasing stationery.

Subscriptions for Reading Eggs/Eggspress and Mathletics are payable to school. Students use these programmes for individualised learning in class and for homework. Mathletics will enhance your child's skill and understanding in maths, reinforce knowledge and build strategies. Reading Eggs builds on early reading skills and reading mileage. Reading Eggspress builds fluency. Access to e-books and follow up skills and strategies activities optimise the benefits of both reading programmes.

It is important that your child has access to Mathletics and Reading Eggs/Eggspress at home. Log-in details will be sent home once subscriptions are paid. If you have no computer access at home please let your child's teacher know. We can provide before school time for those who are not able to access the internet at home. Studyladder, a free web-based programme, will be in use again for some students.

Payment for Dragon Maths/On Track is also through the school office. These books will be used in classrooms and for homework (Years 3-8).

(P.S. Invoices for the online subscriptions, Dragon Maths, Technicraft, Book Satchel {New Entrants} Photocopying Levy etc were sent home with reports last year or with new students on enrolment.)

We are very appreciative of the payments already made by many of you. Please let us know if you wish to make regular payments. We do not want to see anyone miss going to camp because of the cost. Important learning takes place at camp and the learning is built on when the students return back to school. If you are concerned about meeting the camp costs please contact me. I am able to apply for some assistance to help families in need of support.

SCHOOL DONATIONS

The voluntary donation for 2017 has been set at \$100 per child by the BOT. This equates to \$2.50 per week for each student. We are able to offer enrichment opportunities and e-learning opportunities as a result of the generosity of parents in making these donations.

If the donation is paid in full during Term 1 there is a discount to \$90 for the year.

It is helpful to Shona if you ensure that you give as much detail as possible with any payments being made by internet banking, by cheque or in cash.

Banking details are noted at the end of this Flash.

CLASSES / STAFFING

The classrooms have been renamed, with teachers helping to select native tree names. Each class has received a living gift - their classroom tree. These trees will be nurtured by their kaitiaki (guardians) over the next 10-12 weeks. They will be planted on the school site when the weather is cooler.

The class names, year levels and teachers are:

Kowhai	Year 0-1 (Rm 1) Mrs Suze Case
Pohutukawa	Year 2-3 (Rm 2) Miss Andrea Evans
Rimu	Year 3-4 (Rm 3) Mrs Karen Coleman
Totara	Year 5-6 (Rm 4) Mr Adam Cairns
Kahikatea	Year 6-7 (Rm 5) Mr James White
Kauri	Year 7-8 (Rm 6) Mrs Helen Twentyman

Other staff for 2017 are:

Mrs Emma Telfer	Reading Discovery/Part-time teacher for teacher release
Mrs Joan Read	}
Mrs Larna Culpan	}Learning Support
Mrs Wendy Anderson	}
Mrs Linda Blanchett	Library and Learning Support
Mrs Shona Powell	Office Manager
Mrs Rachel Thompson	Office Assistant
Mr Ken Morriss	Caretaker
Mrs Chris Patel	Principal

Tarata (Rm 7) will be refurbished during the year and will be used in the meantime for performing arts, art and team activities, music lessons (parent funded), speech & drama (parent funded), and as a Year 8 common room.

HOUSES

We have also added new names to our four houses. These are our local maunga/mountains.

Puketarata	- Green
Kakepuku	- Red
Mangatautari	- Yellow
Pirongia	-Blue

SCHOOL POOL

The improving summer weather has meant that our school pool has had a very steady stream of visitors. If you have no key but wish you did have, please give Shona a call at the office. We apologise for the unexpected pool closure last weekend. The issue was related to the installation of a new filtration system and separate tank for the pool. We now have a new, fully functioning water treatment plant that provides the school with hospital grade water.



The pool has been superbly maintained by our caretaker, Ken Morriss, during the holidays. Thanks, Ken!

It has come to our attention that a number of locals have been using the pool without a key. Some of these have been former students. We respectfully ask that non-key holders do not use the pool unless accompanied by a keyholder. We have been contacting the parents of the known young people.

COMMUNITY/WHANAU PICNIC

We are holding a Community/Whanau Picnic Evening from 5.30pm onwards on Friday 10 February. The pool will be open and we'll have games on the courts and lower field. Pack a picnic and bring your family along to enjoy fun, laughter, good company and a swim in the summer sun! Many of the teachers will be available for you to meet. This is in place of our usual 'Meet the Teacher' meetings.

STUDENT LEADER ELECTIONS

Next Tuesday, 7 February, our prospective councillors and house leaders will speak to the school in the lead-up to student leader elections for 2017. Voting takes place on Tuesday and the results will be shared later in the week. All Year 7 & 8 students are expected to 'step up' to leadership roles. They are currently preparing CVs and letters of application in class. This forms part of careers education for Year 7 & 8 students (check out www.nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz) as does PrEP (Primary Enterprise Programme) later in the year.

Year 6 students can apply to be librarians, bus monitors (where there are few older students who travel on their bus) and peer mediators. Training is given for all leadership roles for which there are many wonderful opportunities. Our Year 7 & 8 students take this very seriously.

ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school please contact the school office by phone or email. We need to know the reason for your child's absence, as absences are coded as follows (MOE compliance)

ADMIN PROCEDURES

If you are picking your child up or bringing your child to school during the school day, **please sign** the sign in/out book at the office. For those of you who have children travelling by bus, we also ask you to **fill in the bus book** or contact the office when a child will not be on the afternoon bus. Parents who have a child on the minivan also need to contact us. **It is imperative that we can account for all students on site and on buses.**

SWIMMING

We swim every day as this is part of the school programme, just as are reading and maths! All students are expected to bring their swimming gear every day, unless medically unable to swim. Please email, send a note or chat with your child's teacher if he/she is unable to swim for medical reasons. We require a medical certificate if your child will miss more than 3 days of swimming or other learning activities. We appreciate your support in ensuring that your child makes the most of the swimming season.

CONSENTS

Milk: We have school milk that is provided free by Fonterra. This is a 4 day per week service. Please let us know via the attached permission form if your child is **not to have the milk**.

Trees: Likewise, we have three climbing trees for students who wish to climb trees during breaks. If you **do not want your child to climb** the trees please indicate on the permission form.

ALLERGIES

We also have students who have severe food allergies. Two require a totally gluten-free environment. Even crumbs or gluten residue can make one of these children sick! Another has a severe, and potentially life threatening, allergy to peanuts, peanut products and peanut oil. It is difficult to ensure that we are 'nut free' here at school, but we encourage you to be mindful if using peanuts or peanut products in your child's lunchbox.

We have reminded students about NOT sharing food and would appreciate parents discussing this with their children. We will also run sessions with each class about severe allergic reactions and our need to respond quickly.

SUNHATS/LOST ITEMS

It is hat season. Your child needs to bring a hat (named) to school every day this term.

We also ask that you **name your child's clothing** - it always comes back when it has a name on it. We still have a pile of lost clothing and shoes from the end of 2016, none of it named. We will make one last attempt to get items back to owners before making a charity bin donation.

WHAT LIES AHEAD ...

We have an exciting year planned that is jam-packed with fun learning opportunities.

- Our theme for the year is Catalysts for Change. In Term 1 our inquiry is into 'Precious Earth'. We will look at Change within this context.
- We are a Bronze EnviroSchool and we'll outline more about this as the year progresses. Check out the website www.enviroschools.org.nz.
- There will be enrichment opportunities, starting with art and tennis.
- We have a wide range of sporting events and opportunities and later in the year a variety concert.
- Later in Term 1 there will be Learning Conferences for parents.
- Camps will be a feature of Term 1.
- We will publish a calendar for Term 1 dates next week.

Camp Details are:

Kowhai Rm 1: At school - Term 1 – date to be advised
Pohutukawa/Rimu Rms 2+3: Waitawheta (near Waihi) 7-10 March, \$60 + to bring food
Totara/Kahikata Rms 4+5: Findlay Park, 13-17 Feb, \$200 inclusive food (+ \$20/night for parents)
Room 6 + Yr 7 students in Rm 5: Ohope Beach, 13-17 March, approx. cost \$280, inclusive food and dependent on the cost of entry into activities.

Thank you to parents of Year 5 & 6 students who attended the Camp Meeting last night. There was an impressive turnout and Camp Findlay Park looks to be a fantastic learning opportunity for all. Camps cannot take place without the support of parents and we appreciate the time you take to complete forms, make yourself available to help out, and provide baking/meat for meals.

SCHOOL VALUES

We have been reviewing our school values. Classes will be discussing what these look, sound and feel like at Kio Kio School. It would be great if you would talk to your child about your family values, as values are lifelong dispositions and conversations of this nature are good for us all. I am sure your expectations at home are similar to those we have at school, so this is an opportunity for powerful teamwork between home and school.

*We want to find a creative way to develop a mnemonic or catch phrase, and artwork that links our school values. To do this we are grouping/consolidating our current set of 12 values. As a staff we have thought of **FERN - Friendship, Excellence, Respect and Nurture**. We feel that the rest of our school values fit under each of these words, with the addition of **resilience**. The **FERN** also reflects our school logo and links to the koru – growth and learning for life.*

We welcome other ideas and will also be encouraging our students to come up with ideas. The values we particularly focus on are:

respect, responsibility, risk-taking, leadership, excellence, empathy, creativity, curiosity, citizenship, innovation, independence, and honesty.

I am aware that our new families (and possibly some of our 'old' families) may have questions about our use of Restorative Practices here at Kio Kio School. This has been a long standing approach used at our school. The rationale for Restorative Practices is based on the premise that "we aim to provide a learning environment that is safe and competitive for all our learners; a place where children strive to be their best; where children are challenged; and a culture where the children help to determine the consequences. We utilise a restorative philosophy to achieve these goals."

Restorative Practices focus on the importance of healthy relationships that are based on trust, tolerance and respect. These relationships are actively promoted. The guidelines are:

- Every year the classroom teachers, along with the students, discuss the types of behaviours that are acceptable and non-acceptable at Kio Kio School. The reasons these behaviours are desirable are highlighted and the characteristics of the Kio Kio student promoted.
- Class Treaties highlighting expectations are formulated.
- The 'Kio Kio School Restorative Intervention Flowchart' is applied to classroom management structures. You will see this flowchart displayed around the school. The use of 'Mini Chats' and '5 phase conversations' will be applied, as needed, at an individual or class level.
- Teachers model and promote restorative practice at all times to students in the way issues are dealt with and their everyday approach in the classroom and playground.
- Teachers communicate, as a team, issues that impact on students within the school to ensure a consistent approach is applied and to allow for an atmosphere of pastoral care to develop.
- The values and attributes of Restorative Practice will be communicated to parents, caregivers and the wider community to involve them in its embedding within the culture of Kio Kio School.
- It is important that appropriate consequences follow issues, i.e. time out, restorative conversations, consultation with home, stand-downs, etc. However, the most important consequences must be developed around the reparation/restoring of the relationships affected.
- At Kio Kio most issues do not need to get beyond the 'mini chat' or '5 phase conversation' stage. Our students manage themselves and their relationships effectively and the restorative practice model is well embedded in our school culture. Students themselves use the model naturally to help each other sort out issues. Our senior students are adept at helping younger students resolve difficulties without the need for adult intervention.
- From time to time issues arise that do require parental involvement and the model has clear guidelines on how and when that should happen.

If you have any questions about Restorative Practices please let us know.

We hope to see you all at the Whanau/Community Picnic on Friday 10 February. We'll put out the barbeque for anyone who wants to barbeque meat for their picnic dinner. Put the date in your diary now.

TERM DATES

Term 1: Wed 1 Feb – Thurs 13 Apr
Term 2: Mon 1 May – Fri 7 July
Term 3: Mon 24 July – Fri 29 Sept
Term 4: Mon 16 Oct – Fri 15 Dec

FORMS ...

Please find attached our **Cybersafety Agreement** for you to discuss with your child and a permission form that needs **to be completed and returned to school by Wednesday 8 February.**

Also attached for completion & return:

- **Health, Emergency & Address Updates**
If you do not have any changes, please note this on the form and still return the form.
- **Parent Help**
Please note your name in the area in which you are able to help.

*Nga mihi nui
Chris Patel*

SUBWAY COLLECTION

TOMORROW – Helen Hunt
Friday 10/2 – Sam Usher

Do you have any furniture that you no longer require, such as ... couch, chairs, microwave, etc.? We would love these for our new Year 8 Common Room! Please contact Emma Telfer (027 6440434) or the school office.

Piano Lessons:

Carolyn Hill will commence lessons on Tuesday, 14 February at school. Could existing pupils please bring their music that day and anyone wishing to have piano tuition, please contact Carolyn on 021 169 5970.



Kio Kio School - Where to from here?

The Board of Trustees has been revising Kio Kio School's Strategic Goals. We invite you to assist us with setting the direction of our school through these strategic goals. Community consultation is a vital part of the health of our school and we need your continued input! Please come along to our next planning session on the 8 February at 6.30-8.00pm in the school library. Help us define the future of our school and key strategic goals over nibbles and 'refreshments'!

School Phones: 873 1816 or 027 398 1725
School Bank Account: 03 1562 0027568 00