

Kōwhai Team Newsletter

Term 1 2024

welcome back
to school!

After a hot and sunny summer, we are back to reality at school for 2024. All the staff have been so impressed with how well the children have settled back into school routines and we look forward to sharing all the great learning programmes and exciting experiences we have up our sleeve.

This term we welcome Miss Stiers back to the Kōwhai teaching team from Rimu, and Mr Hulme who has joined us all the way from South Africa. We look forward to the fun and energy you will bring.

Other familiar faces to look out for working with our team are Miss Wilson, Mrs Coxhead, Mrs McIntosh, Mrs Dolan and Precious. What a team!

Please make sure to connect on Seesaw, where you will receive regular updates of student work as well as school newsletters and announcements. If you are not



yet signed up, or you need a new account, please ask your child's teacher for new log in details.

Ngā mihi nui,
Miss Libby Flashman
(Team leader)

Important Dates to note

- **New Navigators Sailing (Yr 6s)** - 13, 15 & 16 of February
- **Meet the teacher evening** - Thursday 15 February (5 - 6 pm)
- **Swimming Carnival in teams** - Thursday 22 → Friday 23 February
- **Kōwhai Bible in Schools sessions begin** - Friday 1 March
- **Whakataetae Whānau event** - Friday 8 March → (5:30 - 7pm)
- **Tākaro Whānau games** - Friday 15 March (11am-2:30pm)
- **Bike Skills (Yr 5a)** - Friday 22 March & Monday 24 March
- **Easter Holiday** - Friday 29 March → Tuesday 2 April
- **Last day of Term One** - Friday 12 April
- **First day of Term Two** - Monday 29 April



Your 2024 teaching team

Mrs Sharon Riley (Whaea Shaz) - Ngā hau e wha
Miss Rachel Stiers - Room 21
Mrs Prem Bina - Room 17
Miss Zoe Foster - Room 18
Miss Libby Flashman - Team Leader
Mr Wayne Hulme - Room 19

Homework

We know how busy life can get at home, but it is important that the children get into the routine of completing homework every night. We have made this as simple as possible. Each week the children will bring home spelling words and basic facts to practise over the week. In addition to this, we expect all students to read every night. Homework and reading books will be kept in the students' book bags, which need to come to and from school each day.



PERFECT uniforms

This year we are ensuring our students wear the correct uniform, complete with black shoes/sandals and dark blue hats. Feel free to rock your crocs, jewellery and fancy shoes on the weekend.

PB4L

Positive Behaviour For Learning is embedded into everything we do in Kōwhai and throughout our school environment. Every week there is a key focus. A lesson is carried out on Monday of each week which is usually centred around one of our Bailey Road Heart Values (Honesty, Effort, Achievement, Respect, Togetherness). It would be great if you could ask your child each week what this lesson is on, and then think about ways that your child/ren can demonstrate this at home. Glow notes and grow notes are also a key part of Positive Behaviour For Learning in Kōwhai.

proud cloud!

A big shout out goes to Matthias-Naea Epi Mana-Muliaga (Rm 18) who competed in the intermediate category at the Waka Ama National Sprint Championships in January.

Paddling for Tamaki Outrigger Club, Matthias raced in a number of heats, in multiple categories, and finished the event with a silver medal, coming the second top team in NZ with his club.

Ka rawe, Matthias!



CPW Curiosity, Purpose & Wonder

War and Peace

CPW Concept Term One 2024

Our first inquiry concept of the term is 'War and Peace' with the rich question - War, what is it good for? Student will explore the New Zealand Histories Curriculum and understand that Aotearoa's history reflects the challenges, conflicts, and significant changes that have occurred over time. Students will also understand the role individuals, groups and societies play in fostering lasting peace amidst the ever-changing global landscape. The students are certainly curious about this concept already and we look forward to their discoveries.

Health & PE

Our big focus for Health and PE this term is water skills and safety. It is perfect pool weather and the classes that have been to the pool already are loving it! Please remember to pack your togs and towel on your class' pool day!

M - Room 21 **TH** - NHW
T - Room 19 **F** - Room 17
W - Room 18

Literacy

For Writing this term, we begin spotlighting the purpose to 'inform'. Teaching children informative writing cultivates clear communication, critical thinking, and empowers them to confidently share knowledge in a variety of text types. Throughout the term, we will cover multiple text types and ensure tracker checkpoints are met. In Reading, Kowhai are taking an interest based approach. We are honing in on each child's particular strengths and needs and workshoping accordingly. Your child will read with their teacher every week, and their books will come home in their book bags.

Maths

We begin the year focusing on Number Properties in Mathematics. Through workshops and real world problem solving, students will collaborate in their learning and develop skills to explain and justify their thinking. From Week 7, our unit will change to Linear Measurement. As always, we continue to make basic facts a priority.



The Arts

We start the year with a focus on skills and technique in visual art. Our unit 'Monumental Expressions' offers a unique opportunity for both collaborative and independent artwork, enhancing spatial understanding and proportions. Students will refine fine motor skills through hands-on activities, while also honing problem-solving abilities by finding creative solutions during the art making process. Look out for new art pieces that will feature around the school environment!

Something happened?

Now its time to...

OWN IT!

FIX IT!

LEARN FROM IT!

