



# Te Waharua Rua

## Newsletter Term 1, 2019



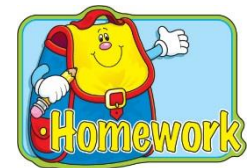
Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa – warm greetings to everyone. We hope you all had an enjoyable summer. A big welcome also, to whanau and children new to Waikanae School and the Te Waharua Rua Syndicate.

### Routines

We believe in developing children's independence, it is REALLY important that they are at school before the bell, which goes at 9.00am. This will give them time to unpack their bag and do their morning jobs. Likewise, they should not be at school before 8.30am as the time before this is an important part of teacher preparation time for the day ahead.

### Homework

For the first weeks our focus will be setting up our classroom routines and assessing where the children are at. As a result homework will begin later in the term.



- **Reading** – We want children to read for at least 15 minutes each night. As the children are becoming more fluent readers, the number of books they bring home from school will decrease. This is because the sessions in class are more focussed on the content of the text and comprehending these at a more complex level. They are also more likely to enjoy reading books of their choosing from home or the library to keep up their reading mileage.
- **Spelling** – Spelling will start after we have completed assessments. The children will practise their spelling words at school but you may also practise these at home. The aim of the programme is both being able to spell the words correctly **and** use these words in their work.
- **Mathletics** – This term we are using Mathletics for homework. Tasks will be set and may be completed at home or at school. These will be connected to our current focus in class. If there are no tasks to complete, children can select tasks to complete or practice their basic facts through playing Mathletics live.
- **KC Homework Challenge** – This year we are introducing an optional home learning programme based on the PRIDE Challenge programme from Windsor school. Children can CHOOSE to participate and CHOOSE what challenges they undertake which are based around the key competencies. More detailed information on this programme will be coming home during the next few weeks.

### Te Waharua (Rua) Organisation for 2019

Teacher	Year Level	Room	EMail
Mandy Shaw	Year 3 / 4	2 (Mon, Tue, Wed)	<a href="mailto:m.shaw@waikanae.school.nz">m.shaw@waikanae.school.nz</a>
Natasha Nilsson	Year 3 / 4	2 (Thur, Fri) 18 & 19 (every 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue)	<a href="mailto:n.nilsson@waikanae.school.nz">n.nilsson@waikanae.school.nz</a>
Kelsey Taylor	Year 3 / 4	3	<a href="mailto:k.taylor@waikanae.school.nz">k.taylor@waikanae.school.nz</a>
Catherine Inkster	Year 3 / 4	4	<a href="mailto:c.inkster@waikanae.school.nz">c.inkster@waikanae.school.nz</a>
Katherine Schimanski (Team Leader)	Year 2 / 3	18 & 19	<a href="mailto:k.schimanski@waikanae.school.nz">k.schimanski@waikanae.school.nz</a>
Ellen Johnson	Year 2 / 3	18 & 19	<a href="mailto:e.johnson@waikanae.school.nz">e.johnson@waikanae.school.nz</a>

## Communication

If you have any questions or queries during the year, please do not hesitate to discuss these with the teacher. We are happy to have a quick chat, or if you think it will take longer than a couple of minutes, feel free to make an appointment. Our meeting days are Mondays and Tuesdays so please respect that on those days we do have other commitments.

## Turangawaewae (a sense of identity and independence)



Our topic this term focuses on the big idea "what makes a great community and how can we make a difference to our communities". We will be taking time to get students settled in to their new learning environments and building our learning communities (classroom, syndicate and school). We will be taking part in the Life Education programme and visit Paula and Harold on the life education bus. Children will have opportunities to explore the qualities that will help them to be a positive team member.

## Interchange Programme

Building on from our Junior School's Discovery Programme the children in Te Waharua Rua will be involved in an interchange programme one afternoon a week starting in Week 5. Each teacher in the team will provide a specialist programme. More information on this programme will be posted on class seesaw pages later in the term.

## Sport

**GYMNASTICS:** Our syndicate will be participating in gymnastics lessons at the Waikanae Memorial Hall on Thursdays. Unfortunately the hall is booked on our first Thursday session so we will be going on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of Feb and then on Thursdays after that. There are 8 sessions. Parent help would be much appreciated during our sessions. This will enable the trained instructors to be roving each station to assist and ensure the children are correctly practising the skills taught. Please let your child's teacher know if you can assist (this doesn't have to be every week).



Our session times are:

9:20 – 10:05	10:05 – 10:50	11:00 – 11:45	11:45 – 12:30	1:00 – 1:45
Room 2	Room 4	Room 18 & 19 (Group 1)	Room 18 & 19 (Group 2)	Room 3

On gymnastic days can all children please be dressed appropriately. We have been advised that all long hair needs to be tied up. Please make sure the children do not have any zips or buttons etc that can injure them and damage the equipment. Trackpants, shorts, and leggings are perfect clothing for our sessions.



**HOCKEY:** We will also be participating in 5 small sticks hockey sessions run by Wellington Hockey starting in week 3.

**Library**

Classes will visit the school library every week and are able to get a book out and keep it for the week. Year 4's are allowed to issue 2 books a week.



Team 18 & 19	Room 4	Room 3	Room 2
Wednesday	Friday	Friday	Monday

**Parent helpers**

We would really appreciate some parent helpers to put our readers away each week. If you are interested in helping out please let your class teacher know.

**Sun Smart**

Our school Sun Smart policy requires all children, when playing outside, to wear a Waikanae School brimmed sun hat during Term One and Four. School hats can be purchased from the office if a new one is required.

**Important Dates and Events this term**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Waitangi Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> Feb - Welcome powhiri
- 1<sup>st</sup> Mar - Yr 1 – 4 School Assembly
- 4<sup>th</sup> Mar - Maths parent information night with Dinah Harvey
- 16<sup>th</sup> Mar - Mighty March Market
- 29<sup>th</sup> Mar - Yr 1- 4 School Assembly
- 5<sup>th</sup> Apr - Teacher Only Day

Finally, we are really looking forward to the year ahead and working alongside you all. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. You can email us directly or phone and leave a message at the office.

Ngā Mihi,  
Katherine, Ellen, Catherine, Kelsey, Mandy and Natasha