

# Kowhai Syndicate News

Term 1 2019



## Kia Ora and welcome to Kowhai Syndicate.

*We hope you all had a lovely relaxing break together over the holidays.  
It is nice to be back at school, with a lovely bunch of smiling, eager children.  
We welcome all new children and their families.*

### Our Team

The syndicate is comprised of 5 classes this year:

<b>Room 8</b>	Year 2	Kansas Davis	kansasd@plimmerton.school.nz
<b>Room 9</b>	Year 2	Kate Excell <i>Team Leader</i>	katex@plimmerton.school.com
<b>Room 11</b>	Year 1/2	Jeanelle Ymker	jeanelley@plimmerton.school.nz
<b>Room 12</b>	Year 1	Shannon Ferguson	shannonf@plimmerton.school.nz
<b>Room 13</b>	Year 1	Alice Pritchard	alicep@plimmerton.school.nz

Rosemary Oxnam and Helen Grindey-Siriman are the Reading Recovery teachers. Rosemary will also provide support for students with special needs in the syndicate.

Kirstin Toleman & Lisa Cowley will support the team covering teacher release. Teacher aides will also work within the syndicate.

### **Important Information**

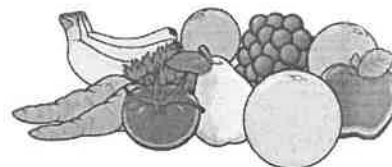
#### **Book Bags**

*Homework and notices will be sent home in their book bags. Please encourage your child to be independent and responsible for their book bag coming back to school each day.*

*It is important we treat our book bags and the items that go in them with care. Please ensure the school books come back in a timely fashion and in good condition.*

#### **Snack time**

*Each class has a snack time around 10am to keep our brains ticking. Your child will need a fruit, nut or vegetable snack each day.*



#### **Seesaw**

*Seesaw is a student-driven digital portfolio that empowers students to independently document and share what they are learning at school. Each class in Kowhai will be using Seesaw to share learning that is happening at school. It's really exciting for students when they receive feedback on what they share so please check in when you can! Your class teacher will get in touch on how to join the journey!*



### Water Bottles

An alert mind makes learning so much easier. Please ensure your child brings a water bottle each day.



### Slip, Slop, Slap

Children are required to wear sunhats and sunsmart tops outside the classroom during terms one and four. The hat needs to cover the ears and back of the neck. Shoulders need to be covered. Please apply sunscreen before school. There is sunscreen available at school for reapplying. There are Plimmerton School hats available for purchase at the office.



### Arrival at School

To promote independence it is encouraged for your child to be dropped at school on time. The first bell rings at 8.55am. Arriving before this bell will give them time to put their belongings in the correct places themselves, and have time to settle in for the day ahead. SCHOOL OPENING TIME FOR STUDENT ARRIVAL - This term, when the weather is fine, students who arrive at school before 8.30am will be asked to play and socialise outside until 8.30am (there will be an 8.30am bell). Many teachers are busy preparing for the day or in meetings at that time and are often not in the classroom. This means we are unable to supervise students as well as we would like to at that time. The ideal time to arrive at school is between 8.30 and 8.50 am, however we appreciate that for some families this is not possible.

### Swimming

Swimming for Kowhai Syndicate will be weeks 2 and 3 and weeks 6 and 7 this term. A timetable will be sent out shortly with times your child's class will be swimming. Parent help is much appreciated. If you are available please get in contact with your child's teacher to let them know.

### Toys & Valuables

We encourage children to bring resources to support studies and programmes but **please discourage your child from bringing toys or valuable equipment to school** as we are unable to accept responsibility in the event of breakage or loss.

### Reading

We will be settling into reading routines in the first few weeks. We encourage you to continue to read to your children as well as listen to them read. As children become fluent readers you may notice that the level of book they are reading will stay the same for longer, this is how the levels have been designed. At this stage reading becomes more about comprehension and extending vocabulary.

### Homework

For children in Kowhai Syndicate homework will mainly involve reading their reading book and the learning of number knowledge. They may not have a new book everyday and sometimes they will bring home other reading material to share with you. Number knowledge activities will be put in your child's notebook. We encourage you to practise these activities daily, as number knowledge is key to making progress in mathematics.

### Home Learning Challenges:

For those that would like more homework The Home Learning Programme is for you. It consists of a set of optional significant home learning challenges for students at each level of the school. More information about this will be sent home soon.



### School Library

Our school library is available for the children to use on a daily basis. Each class has a weekly library time during which they are able to issue a book to bring home to read. Please make sure the book is returned the following week.

Monday - Room 9

Wednesday - Room 8, 11, 13

Thursday - Room 12

### Term One Planning

Planning for the syndicate is undertaken jointly and we have planned an exciting programme for this term.

**PLAY IS THE WAY** will be our integrated unit this term – the children will be learning to be considerate of themselves, others and the world in which they live. We will be learning these key concepts through guided play:

- Treat others as you would like them to treat you
- Be brave, participate to progress
- Pursue your personal best no matter who you work with
- Have reasons for the things you say and do
- It takes great strength to be sensible.



### How you can help!

Your participation is valued. We encourage you to support your children in any of the following ways if you are able:

- by parent-helping in the classroom (when your child is fully settled)
- by helping with the making, maintenance and storage of resources
- by accompanying your child's class on trips and providing transport and supervision
- by sending resources to school (eg cardboard, paper, boxes, magazines, ice-cream containers, painting shirts or anything else you think could be useful)
- by supporting the Parent Teacher Association
- assisting in the Kowhai Garden
- by sharing your special skills, talents or interests

Please discuss with your child's teacher the most appropriate times for parent help. Parents are reminded that information acquired whilst assisting a class is confidential.

### Important dates for your diary!

**Meet the Teacher Evening:** Tuesday 7th February

**Powhiri** - 12th February

**Kowhai Athletics:** Week 9 - Friday 5 April 11:20

**Capital E Trip:** Wednesday 20th March

**Data Sharing Interviews:** 4th and 9th April

Thank you for your support and we look forward to a fun and successful year at Plimmerton School.

Kind Regards

The Kowhai Syndicate Team,  
*Kate, Kansas, Jeanelle, Alice, and Shannon.*

# Plimmerton School

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## KOWHAI and MANA – Swimming Timetable, Term 1

7 February 2019

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Kowhai and Mana Syndicates will be swimming in weeks 2 & 3 and 6 & 7 of this term.

Your child will need to bring their togs and a towel in a bag to school each swimming day.

It is a great help if your child wears clothes that are easy for them to take off and put on and if all clothing is named. Goggles would be of great benefit. If your child has a pair could you please ensure they bring them.

### Swimming timetable 2019 Mana and Kowhai

	<b>Monday</b> 11 & 18 Feb 11 & 18 Mar	<b>Tuesday</b> 12 & 19 Feb 12 & 19 Mar	<b>Wednesday</b> 13 & 20 Feb 13 & 20 Mar	<b>Thursday</b> 14 & 21 Feb 14 & 21 Mar	<b>Friday</b> 15 & 22 Feb 15 & 22 Mar
<b>9.00-9.30</b>	Room 12	Room 6	Room 6	Room 6	Room 6
<b>9.30-10.00</b>	Room 11	Room 13		Room 3	Room 12
<b>10.00-10.30</b>	Room 3	Room 8	Room 2	Room 1	Room 13
<b>10.30-11.00</b>	Room 5	Room 1	Room 13	Room 5	Room 11
<b>Interval</b>					
<b>11.20-11.50</b>	Room 9	Room 9	Room 9	Room 9	Room 2
<b>11.50-12.20</b>	Room 8	Room 11	Room 1		Room 3
<b>12.20-12.50</b>	Room 13	Room 12	Room 3	Room 2	Room 1
<b>Lunchtime</b>					
<b>1:50-2.20</b>		Room 2	Room 11	Room 8	Room 8
<b>2:20-2.50</b>		Room 5	Room 12		Room 5

Kowhai and Mana Syndicate Teachers