

Kowhai Syndicate News

Term 3, 2019



We hope you all had a lovely relaxing break together over the holidays. It is great to see everyone back and ready to get into term 3.

What a great Term 2 we had together!

We loved seeing everyone try their best at cross country, we had some super fast runners and excellent supporters. WELL DONE team.

We had Harold in from Life Education teaching us about kindness and inclusion. But... our highlight was sharing our dances from around the world with you!

We have said farewell Alice as she has gone on maternity leave and have welcomed Nadia Abdeljabar into the Kowhai team. We welcome all new children and their families.

Important Information for the term!

Term Three Planning

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

This term our topic will be based around sustainability and we will be creating rich learning experiences for our students to get involved in. To learn about our unique wildlife we will be heading to Te Papa on 29th and 30th August to see Te Taiao Explorer.

We have also invited Sustainable Coastlines in to support our learning.



Gym Fun

During the first three weeks of this term we will be practising balancing, landing and rotating, and performing a sequence. We will have a gym fun open morning, where you are welcome to come and watch us practise our skills (invitation will follow soon). While we are doing gymnastics, the children take their shoes and socks off. Please make sure that they have shoes that are easy for them to manage.



Team Time:

Each Friday Kowhai Syndicate get together for a bit of team time fun. Each week the teachers set up a different activity. This may include gardening, construction, chalk, painting, insect hunts, water play and the list goes on.

We believe it is important for our children to be interacting with each other through activities that encourage collaboration, reflection, critical thinking, creative thinking, negotiation, discussion and hands on learning.

Could you please send your child along with a rain jacket, gumboots and a change of clothes so we can still head out if it's wet. If you would like to help us run an activity please let us know, we are always happy for helpers!



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.

How you can help!

Your participation is valued. We encourage you to help us in any of the following ways if you are able:

- by parent-helping in the classroom (when your child has fully settled)
- by helping with the making, maintenance and storage of resources
- by accompanying your child's class on trips
- by sending resources to school (eg cardboard, paper, boxes, magazines, ice-cream containers etc!)
- 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.

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. These can be found on the school website.

Grandparents/Special Person Morning

Kowhai will be holding a Grandparent (or special person) morning on Friday 20 September from 10.30 -11.00. This is a chance for your child to share the writing they have been doing about their Grandparents (or special person), read stories together, play a game, and look at all of our amazing work. Morning tea will be provided.

If your child's grandparent (or special person) is unable to attend we will buddy them up with other grandparents that are visiting. Please keep an eye out for the invitation.

Important dates for your diary so far!

Parent Interviews: 30 July and 1st August

Powhiri to welcome new students: 6th August

Gym Fun Celebration: 9th August

School Assemblies: 16th August, 13th September, 27th September

Te Papa Trip: 29th and 30th August

Sustainable Coastlines: 13th September

Grandparent/Special Person Morning: 20th September

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to another great term.

Kind Regards,

The Kowhai Syndicate Team,
Kate, Kansas, Jeanelle, Nadia, Shannon & Lisa



