

Kōwhai Syndicate News

Term 1 2021



Kia Ora and welcome to Kowhai Syndicate.

Welcome back to school. We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning.

Our Team

This year we are delighted to have Chelsea Jennings joining us from Taupō Syndicate.

Room 1	Year 2	Natasha Culveski	natashac@plimmerton.school.nz
Room 2	Year 2	Jeanelle Ymker	jeanelley@plimmerton.school.nz
Room 3	Year 2	Chelsea Jennings	chelseaj@plimmerton.school.nz
Room 4	Year 1	Kate Nicholson (Team leader)	katen@plimmerton.school.nz
Room 5	Year 1	Yvette Pierce	yvettep@plimmerton.school.nz
Room 6	Year 1	Shannon Ferguson	shannonf@plimmerton.school.nz

Important Information

Communication

Communication from school will be sent by email, the school app and is on the website.

Staff are generally available before and after school if you have any questions or queries. We do start teaching at 8.55am.

Please ask or email for an appointment if you need one.

Please do talk to us, we would rather sort out any queries or problems before they become bigger. It is also helpful for us to know of any significant events happening at home that may affect your child at school.

Seesaw

Seesaw is a digital portfolio where we share what your child is learning 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!

Please remember up to 10 family members can sign up, there is also an option to translate text in 55 languages.



Arriving at School

It is important that your child is at school on time each day.

The first bell rings at 8.55am. Arriving before this bell gives children 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 - 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.

Homework

Home readers will be sent home in your child's book bags. Please encourage your child to be independent and responsible for their book bag coming back to school each day.

It is important that children understand what they are reading so please talk to them about their book.

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. Celebrate that your child is now reading to learn rather than learning to read.

We encourage you to continue to read to your children as well as listen to them read. Remember - there is no app to replace your lap!

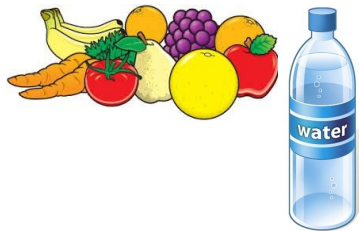
Regularly practising number knowledge is important as this is key to making progress in mathematics.



Snack time

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

It may be worth putting this in a separate container.



Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a named water bottle each day.

Slip, Slop, Slap

Children are required to wear sun hats 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. Plimmerton School hats are available for purchase at the office.



Swimming

Swimming for Kowhai Syndicate will be weeks 4 and 5 and weeks 8 and 9 this term.

Please make sure that your child can change independently and all clothes, togs and towels are named. Parent help is much appreciated. Teachers will send an email closer to the time asking for volunteers.

Toys & Valuables

We encourage children to bring resources to support studies and programmes but **please do not bring toys or valuable equipment to school** as we are unable to accept responsibility in the event of breakage or loss.

How you can help:

- putting books away each week. This is a **really big help!!**
- by helping with the making, maintenance and storage of resources
- by accompanying your child's class on trips
- by supporting the Parent Teacher Association
- by sharing your special skills, talents or interests

Lost Property

Please make sure that all clothes, hats and belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. Lost property is located in front of the school office.



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.

Our Learning

This term we are revisiting our Positive Behaviour 4 Learning (PB4L) values. We are looking at ways to be kind, resilient, aim high and look after our place.

In social science, we are learning about ourselves and our families. We will also be learning and practising our pepeha.

This year we are beginning the iDeal Structured Literacy Programme to teach foundation literacy skills. As the year progresses, there may be changes in the way we teach early literacy but we will keep you informed as we go.

Important dates for your diary

Waitangi Day Observed: Monday 8th February
(School Closed)

Powhiri: Tuesday 16th February

PTA Beerfest: Saturday 27th February

Plimmerton School Triathlon: Sunday 7th March

PTA Pataka Arts Hub: Saturday 13th March

Kowhai Athletics: Week 7 - Friday 19th March
11:30

Good Friday: School Closed 2nd April

Easter Monday: School Closed 5th April

Easter Tuesday: School Closed 6th April

Goal Sharing Interviews: Thursday 8th and
Tuesday the 13th of April.

School Assemblies: 12th Feb, 12th March, 16th
April

Term finishes: 2.55pm Friday 16th April

Term 2 starts: Monday 3rd May

All of these dates can also be found on the website
on the school calendar.

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, Chelsea, Jeanelle,
Shannon, Natasha and
Yvette.**

