

Kōwhai Syndicate News

Term 2 2021



Kia Ora and welcome back.

We hope you have had a lovely holiday and are ready for a great term's learning.

Our Team

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Room 2	Year 2	Jeanelle Ymker	jeanelley@plimmerton.school.nz
Room 3	Year 2	Chelsea Jennings	chelseaj@plimmerton.school.nz
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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 should arrive at school after 8.30am. There is an 8.30am bell. While many teachers are at school before that time, they are busy preparing for the day or in meetings and are often not in the classroom. This means we are not able to supervise students before 8.30am.

Home learning

This will look different as we are on our Structured Literacy journey.

Some weeks we will send home a homework pack which will include practice sheets, games, passages of books and poems (this will vary depending on which concepts the children are learning). The aim is that children will be able to

automatically recognise the sounds when reading and able to **automatically** recall them when writing.

At this stage not all students will be bringing home reading books, as the structured literacy concepts practise different skills to the levelled readers and this would be confusing for the children. Children will now be bringing home 2 library books a week to share with you.

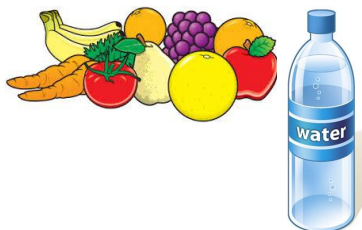
Regularly practising number knowledge is important as this is key to making progress in mathematics. Please see our regular emails for ideas on how to help Maths learning at home.



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.

School Scooters

On Monday your child can bring their scooter to scoot on the school driveway at lunchtime. Children must bring their own helmet and wear closed in shoes.

Please park scooters at the stands by the hall and bikes behind the Taupo block.

Just a reminder that children scooting to school are not to scooter on the railway platform, down School Road, or across the pedestrian crossing.



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.*

Lost Property and Change of clothes

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.



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*

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.

Hats are not compulsory in terms 2 and 3 but please make sure that your child is dressed for the weather. A change of clothes can be left in your child's cubby in case they need to change during the day.

Our Learning

Kiva: *This term we are continuing to work on KiVa - anti bullying intervention. We will be having an interaction day next Friday to support this. We are encouraging everyone to wear pink.*

Maths: *In Maths for the next few weeks we will be learning about measuring weight and capacity. Please practise these skills and reinforce language at home by baking and cooking with your child.*

Literacy: *This term we are moving to a Structured Literacy approach. This is an evidence-based approach that is grounded in the Science of Reading. The research shows that changing the way we teach is more effective for more students. We will be implementing a very explicit approach to the teaching of reading and writing. You will notice a much more systematic sequence to the practising of words.*

Technology: *This term we will learn about computational thinking. We will be following instructions, being unplugged programmers, writing step by step instructions and 'debugging' problems.*

Important dates for your diary

Term 2 starts: Monday 3rd May

Powhiri: 9.15am Tuesday 18th May

Interaction Day: Friday 14th May (please wear pink)

Cross Country: Friday 21st May. Times to be confirmed. Postponement: Monday 24th May

Sausage Sizzle: Friday 21st May, Friday 18th June, Friday 2nd July

School Disco: Friday 28th May. More info to follow

Teacher only day: Friday 4th June (school closed)

Queens Birthday: Monday 7th June (school closed)

Stardome Visiting: Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th June

Matariki Concert: Wednesday 7th July

School Assemblies: 28th May, 18th June, 9th July

Term finishes: 2.55pm Friday 9th July

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 term.

Kind Regards
The Kōwhai Syndicate Team,
Kate, Chelsea, Jeanelle, Shannon, Natasha and Yvette.