

Kia ora/Greetings**Welcome!**

Welcome to the 2020 school year! It has been fantastic to see so many familiar faces and to meet the new learners to our school.

I would like to give a special welcome to new children and parents to Knighton Normal!

This week we welcome some amazing new teachers to our school:

- Mihi Waaka and Waitaarere Sa join the Te Hihiri whanau.
- Sarah King, Josef Holm, Chrissy Cottingham join our middle school.
- James Smith and Heeni Kokiri are working with teachers to provide release.
- We welcome Natasha Searancke back from study leave.
- Megan Bevan will be taking another group of children for Reading Recovery.
- Sadia has returned as a Bi-Lingual Learning Assistant.

Last week our staff met for two teacher only days. During both days we were fortunate to have amazing NZ educators come run to sessions.

On day one, staff spent time with the wonderful Viv Aitken developing our skills and understanding of dramatic inquiry and how to bring this pathway of learning, wondering and thinking into our classrooms.

During our second teacher only day we had the awesome opportunity to work with the amazing Welby Ings. Welby is author of the book 'The Disobedient Teacher' and is an award-winning academic, designer, filmmaker and playwright and Professor of Design at Auckland University of Technology. Welby captured the imagination of our teachers and encouraged us to consider how to create fertile environments that allow for diversity of learning- so that our children can be the 'best version of themselves'.

It was also great to share this experience with the staff of Silverdale Normal School. Attached is a link to Welby's Ted Talk from 2013 if you are interested in learning more.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aumxbgOdkRU>

Meet the Teacher Picnic- 11th February

This evening is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher(s) in an informal, fun setting. It is also a great chance to meet other parents and to form connections!



You are welcome to come down to school from 5:00pm - all school gates will be unlocked. Teachers and some helpers from Project Energise will have a range of activities for you and your children to take part in. Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner to have on the field. There also will be a sausage sizzle operating.

At 6:00 pm teachers will move to their rooms. This will be an opportunity for families to go into classes to meet teachers and become familiar with the class.

The evening will conclude at 6.30 pm. Gates will be open until 6.45pm.

I will be making a brief presentation of 'How we do things at KNS' at 5.15 and 5.45pm in room 23 for any parents that are interested in attending.

Coronavirus

As you would be aware the Corona Virus is a worldwide concern. We are asking that any student who may be at high risk of exposure to the virus because they have recently been to China or have been in close contact with a person from an affected area stay away from school for 14 days. This applies to families that may have been in transit in an airport in affected countries. Please phone the office if this applies to anyone in your family. We will also be contacting families over the next few days to ensure we follow the Ministry of Education guidelines.

Good Hygiene Practice

We will be reminding children about simple things to keep germs to themselves. This will involve discussing:



- Washing hands.
- Covering sneezes.
- Not sharing drinks and food.

Please reinforce these messages at home.

Contact Details

The most important thing you can do as a parent for your child's safety at school is to make sure we have accurate contact details for you and your emergency contacts. Please make sure that you have updated any changes to phone numbers or your home address.

Opportunities

Knighton provides a lot of opportunities for our children to discover their talents, passions and interests. Please speak to your children about taking on new challenges to learn and grow! There will be a range of sporting and cultural opportunities coming up in the next few weeks- so make sure that your child is listening for notices and meetings!

A notice from our Public Health Nurse

More than a third of our children in NZ are now overweight. The most effective time to address children's weight issues is before they reach secondary school age. Bodywise is a group programme for children aged 5 through to 12 years. It involves participation of both the child and parent(s) in a 10 week group programme at Sport Waikato, Hamilton, with additional follow-up visits for a further 6 months. Programme topics include: healthy eating for families, school lunches and snacks, getting active, promoting self-esteem and confidence, tips for dealing with bullying, problem solving and goal setting. Adrianna and Anthonni are happy to receive any enquiries around being part of the Bodywise group programme.

For more information contact either:

Adrianna, Bodywise Dietitian:

P: 021955984

E. adrianna.hepburn@waikatodbh.health.nz

Anthonni Hall, Active Families Co-ordinator

P: 0273669676 E. anthonnih@sportwaikato.org.nz



TERM DATES for 2020

Term One : 3rd February to Thursday 9th April

Term Two : 28th April - 3rd July

Term Three : 20th July - 25th September.

Term Four : 12th October- 15th December

Inline Hockey Registrations Term 1

Registration forms have been sent home today to children who have indicated an interest in playing inline hockey this term.

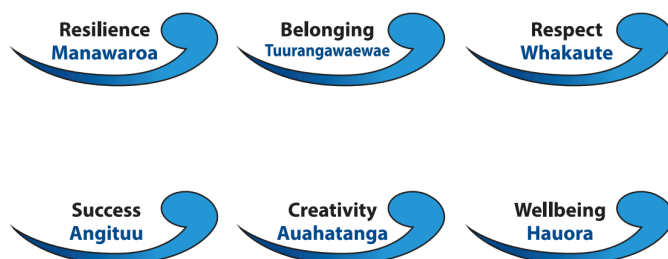
Cricket

Registration forms were sent home yesterday to children who had indicated an interest in playing cricket this term.

Registration and payment for both sports **must** be paid by this **Friday 7th February**. Payments can be made by returning the form to the smiley face at the school office or through the school kindo shop. **No late registrations or payments can be accepted.**

Our School Values

Our school values guide our every action. At assembly this week I spoke to the children about the word RESPECT. At KNS we ask that children show respect for themselves, others and our school environment. This week take a moment to ask your child how they could show respect at Knighton.



Ngā mihi nui

Stuart Armistead
Principal