



**KNIGHTON
NORMAL SCHOOL**

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4 February, 2020

Welcome all families to Room 3,

I hope you have enjoyed the summer break and are well rested. I am super excited to share with you what is happening in term one. We are a busy classroom and we always have something on the go! For those I do not already know I look forward to meeting you in Week 2 on Tuesday 11 February, 5-8pm, at the schoolwide Meet the Teacher evening.

Tēnā koutou katoa.

*Ko Poariki ratou ko Scotland ngā whenua o ōku
tupuna.*

Ko Donald raua ko Denise ōku matua.

Ko Zack tōku tama

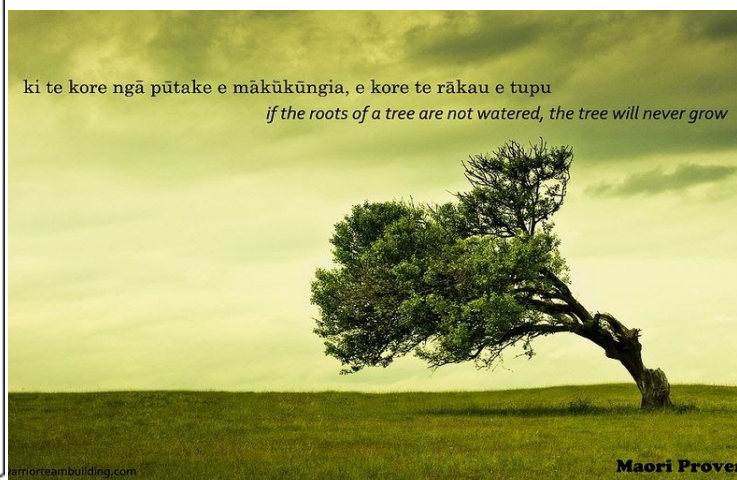
Kei kaiako ahau e mahi ana.

Ko Knighton Normal tōku kura.

Ko McLean tōku ingoa whānau.

Ko Katie ahau.

Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā tatou katoa.



In the first couple of weeks, there will be a lot of team building and challenges to get to know each other as both individuals and a class. This is a great time to create a welcoming and open class atmosphere. We will also be focussing on establishing our class routines and expectations.



Reading and writing will be taught daily, often being incorporated into our other learning. Children will work with me, with each other and on their own to develop their literacy skills.

PR1ME is the maths resource we use at Knighton, Our children are all cross-grouped across the senior team to ensure they are working with children with similar learning needs. We aim to start maths in the senior school by Week 2 and your child will let you know who their teacher will be once we are up and running.

A huge part of my programme will incorporate Mantle of the Expert and Drama for Learning. We will be looking further into the Critical Histories of New Zealand as a continuation of our teaching and learning in 2019 and using drama as a vehicle through which to unpack all the awesome thinking we will be doing.


We use Chromebooks and iPads a lot to support our learning. Each child in the senior school has their own log in to Google within the school network. They can share the things they are doing in the Drive by logging in at home too.

Digital technologies are an excellent way for students to present their learning. I incorporate a range of skills, techniques and applications within the teaching programme. These include stop motion animation, photography, coding, digital field trips, gamified learning and more.

Team building, swimming, fitness, confidence and even bike safety will form part of our Phys Ed programme. We will be outside and developing our skills on a regular basis (but avoiding the strongest heat of the day too!!).

Interwoven throughout our daily learning, are the Knighton Dispositions. These are life-long skills, such as problem-solving and persistence, that go beyond academic learning to help students become the best version of themselves.



I use Class Dojo  to share some of the great things that we are doing in the classroom and share messages. If you are not already linked to the Room 3 Class Dojo, please email me and I will send you a link via email. The site is safe, locked down and private and is only accessible to the people I share it with (our whānau). If you do not want your child's photo or work shared on the site or have questions please come and talk with me or flick me an email, hopefully I can alleviate any concerns people may have.



TUAKANA-TEINA

We will be working with Room 12 and Miss Brydon this year as their tuakana (older leaders), that means they will be our teina. We will be looking to collaborate on different projects with our tamariki and build our competency, confidence and use of te reo Māori as a group.

OPPORTUNITIES

There are so many opportunities that are open to the senior children in their break times and sometimes during the day. These might be things to discuss with your children if they are interested. I will be sharing at different times how and when to participate. These include:

- Drama
- Choir
- Music lessons with MusicHouse tutors
- Librarians
- Lunchtime sports
- Inter-school sports
- After school sports
- ShowQuest

We are very busy, and many more opportunities will surface throughout the year, keep an eye on the school newsletter, class term newsletters and check in with me by email or in class. I will keep the children well informed too. If music lessons are of interest to you please visit www.musichouse.co.nz to find out more and enrol your child. These lessons are organised by a company, Music House, who have amazing tutors they send to school on different days. At present our days are Monday and Friday.

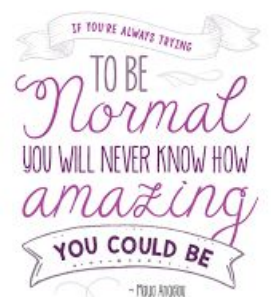
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Waitangi day is THIS Thursday (6th February). There is NO SCHOOL on this day.
- Meet the teacher Family Picnic - Tuesday 11th February (week 2) from 5pm - 8pm.
- Swimming - our days are **TUESDAY** and **THURSDAY** every week. Please ensure your children bring their togs on these days.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- The school term calendar will be sent home soon. If you are wanting to access this online, along with copies of the weekly newsletter sent home each Tuesday, please visit www.kns.ac.nz
- Swimming is *compulsory* as it is a part of our New Zealand Curriculum, and it is important for our 'kiwi kids' to be water wise! Please provide a note or email if your child is unable to swim on any particular day.
- To avoid office queues, and to ensure your payments are accounted for correctly, we encourage all families to pay school costs online through our Kindo shop. If you do not already have a Kindo account, go to www.mykindo.co.nz or via the link on our school website. There are no fees for Kindo payments unless you choose to use a credit card. Using a Kindo account is the most efficient way to pay - and you don't need to send any paper forms back to school, so nothing gets lost in school bags.
- Change of clothes - this is the term for getting outside, playing and perhaps getting wet. Please help ensure your child has a change of clothes in their bag every day, just in case they are needed after messy (but fun) play! This will be especially important in the winter months.
- Medication - A reminder that a consent form must be filled in and left at the school office for any medication administered at school. A consent form can be downloaded from our website or collected from the office. All medication remains in the office for safekeeping during the day.
- Cell phones - we would prefer if your children kept their cell phones at home. However, if they need to bring it to school, please understand that it is your child's responsibility. They are welcome to keep them in their teacher's desk draw, however the teacher is not responsible for them.
- Late or absent - if your child is late please ensure they report straight to the Smiley Face door to get a late slip, even if they arrive just after the bell. If your child is absent please be sure to inform the school. Also remember, from 9:15 am the only unlocked entry into the school is the front gate on Knighton Road.

I actively check my emails throughout the day so please email me with any questions, concerns, or sharing great things your children are doing on kmclean@kns.ac.nz However if it is urgent it is best to contact the office and they will send a message.



Thank you in advance for all your support and help in 2020.

Ngā mihi nui,
Katie McLean (Miss M)

