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5 February, 2021
Room 26

Dear Parents and Caregivers



Nau mai haere mai ki rūma rua tekau ma ono!

I hope you all had a restful holiday. I am looking forward to getting to know your child and working with you over the next year to support your child's education, so be ready for a fun and inspiring year!

Stationery

Starting in new books is always an exciting time of the year!

Attached is our stationery list. At Knighton we issue stationery packs. We encourage our 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. Alternatively, you can use one of the options suggested on the stationery list.

Library

Our library day will be on **Tuesday** each week. The school library will open at the beginning of Week 3, so our first library day will be Tuesday the 16th of February. Children can issue two books each week. There will be a yellow box in our room to return books when your child has finished reading them. Books can be returned to this box at any stage of the week.

Sunhats

It is important for children to be wearing the school sunhat to protect their faces and heads from the sun. You can buy a hat the school office for \$10. All children need to be wearing a hat when playing outside.

Swimming

We swim every Monday and Wednesday!

Please make sure your child brings their togs and towel in a named bag every Monday and Wednesday. Wearing named clothing that is easy to take off and put on is best on those days. We are so lucky at Knighton to have a slightly heated swimming pool. Swimming is a very important part of our learning programme.

Team Building Day

In Week 3 on Friday 19 February the Middle School will be holding a team building morning starting at 10.40 am and finishing at 12.30 pm. All children will be involved in a range of fun activities. It's an opportunity your child to meet the other teachers in the middle school team and

get to know each other. Whānau are welcome to come along and join in, so please join us if you are free! Some of these activities involve water, so please ensure togs are sent to school that day.

Term One Topics

Our reading, writing and maths programmes are very important.

I love reading and look forward to helping and encouraging your child to love books and enjoy reading too. I will be working on strategies to help children figure out unknown words and deepen their understanding of the story. In writing we will be focusing on the art of describing people, places and things. In maths we will begin with basic number work and statistics before moving to the Pr1me math programme for the year.

Our science unit this term will be 'Ocean Explorers'. We are joining a NZ wide 3 week challenge to learn more about our oceans and the creatures that live in it. If you go to the website youngoceanexplorers.com you will be able to click on an introductory video which will give you an idea of just how exciting this will be for our children. In health we will be learning about ourselves, friendships and how to create a growth mindset through the Zones of Regulation programme. A growth mindset helps us to understand what to do when things get tough and how to grow our brains in healthy positive ways. In social sciences we will be learning about all the colourful cultures that make up Team 26. As part of this unit your child will participate in our school wide cultural festival and parade which will be held in Week 8 on Thursday 24 March. Te reo Maaori will be a daily aspect of our programme and I am looking forward to nurturing our growing confidence in speaking Maaori in class. Our PE focus will be swimming.



Parent Teacher Meet and Greet

In Week 3 on Wednesday 17 February from 5 - 6.30pm we will have a school picnic. This is a chance for us all to meet, have some fun together and to get to know other families in our school community.

Class Pets: Winky

We have a class pet. Winky is a golden bell frog who enjoys eating flies and cockroaches. He is called Winky because he was born with only one eye so he looks like he is always winking. If you are able to catch any live insects and bring them to school for him that would be fantastic!

Class Dojo

I'm using ClassDojo to connect with families, share classroom moments, and much more. Please join to stay connected! I have attached your invitation. Just download the app and use the invitation code to get verified, connect to our classroom, and set up your child's account!

Your Child

Your child is important to me. Please feel free to email or phone me if you wish to discuss your child. My email is pgardener@kns.ac.nz or I am available before or after school also. I am really looking forward to getting to know your child and I think we are in for an amazing year!!!

Pauline Gardener Ward