

Room 4 Newsletter

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Welcome to 2021

Welcome to term 1 in Room 4! I hope everyone has had a fun filled holiday break and managed to enjoy some family time. It is a privilege to welcome your children into the classroom, I am very excited about the year ahead and working collaboratively with you and your whānau throughout the coming year.

We have a very busy and exciting year ahead of us. If you have any questions, concerns or celebrations please do not hesitate to contact me via class Dojo, my email, your child's homework book or pop into our classroom before or after school.

Ngā mihi,
Chrissy Cottingham

Our Learning in Term 1

Key topics

The Knighton Way, Getting Along- There will be a huge focus on collaboration, teamwork and opportunities to help us learn about one another.

Young Ocean Explorers- This programme will focus on the importance of enjoying and caring for our moana (ocean), providing tamariki the tools to make informed decisions in the future.

Identity and Belonging- Who am I... This will be the basis of our unit towards the end of the term, as we explore our own identity, in the lead up to our annual cultural parade.

Important Dates

Meet the Teacher Picnic
Evening- Week 3
Wednesday 17th February

Middle School Team
Building- Week 3
Friday 19th February

Cultural Celebration-
Week 8
Wednesday 24th March



Sunhats and Stationery

If needed, stationery lists should have arrived last week. Thank you to all the families who have organised stationery payments already. We are hoping to get started in our books at the beginning of Week 3 (Monday 15th February) at the very latest.

We encourage families to pay any 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. Alternatively, you can use one of the other payment options suggested on the stationery list.

School hats must be worn in Terms 1 and 4. If your child needs a new hat, one can be purchased from the school office for \$10. If your child does not have a school hat, they will only be able to play in our designated shady areas during morning tea and lunch breaks.

Medicine

Should your child need any medication during the school day, please visit our Office where you will be asked to fill in a permission form and the medicine will be kept and administered safely.



Homework

As a minimum, I strongly encourage you to read with your child every day as research into successful readers suggests the more words your child reads the more confidence they will gain in reading.

I will also provide some **homework suggestions** in the form of a weekly Tic Tac Toe sheet. Information about how the homework can work for you will be glued into the front of your child's homework book when it comes home early in week 3.

Please note: Homework (apart from reading each day) is not compulsory and will not be chased.

Reading Books:

In class, your child will work on an instructional reading programme with me and may often bring home a reader/journal to share with you that we have worked on together. These books should start coming home during weeks 3 and 4. For the independent **readers** in the class, self-selection is very important and I will be encouraging children to choose age and topic appropriate reading material that they are interested in. These books may be from your home selection, the public or school library as well as from the choices I will provide.

Our swimming days are Monday and Thursday!

Please help your child to remember their togs and towel in a named plastic bag or swimming bag.

Encourage your child to wear named clothes they find easy to change in and out of. It is a good idea for girls with long hair to have their hair tied back. Swimming is an important part of our Health and P.E. curriculum.

If your child is unable to swim for any reason please email me, message me through Dojo, send a written note or pop in and let me know.



Library

Our library day is Wednesday. Your child must have a durable bag/book bag, if they would like to take these home.

Otherwise they are more than welcome to issue a book for it to stay at school.

