



ADDRESS | 45 Knighton Road, Hamilton, 3216

PHONE | (07) 856 5399

WEBSITE | [www.kns.ac.nz](http://www.kns.ac.nz)

PRINCIPAL | Andrew Campbell PGDip. Org. Behaviour, B.Ed., Dip.T.

16th February 2022



Kia ora whānau,

A warm welcome to Akomanga Whānau and our new school year! 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 during 2022.

## Our Learning in Term 1

### The Knighton Way

#### Getting Along

There will be a huge focus on collaboration, teamwork and many opportunities to help us learn about one another.

Respectful Relationships- Can we work together to make everyone in our classroom more resilient?

**This is a special beginning of the year topic that will focus on developing interpersonal relationships, as well as cross classroom empathy.**

Identity and Belonging- Who are we & Who am I?

We will be focusing on who we are as Akomanga Whānau learners and our classroom culture. We also will explore our own identity which will lead into our school wide cultural celebrations (yet to be confirmed).

## Special Days For Term 1

- **School Newsletter** – Every second Tuesday
- **Library day** – Wednesday. This will begin next week. In order for children to take a book home they will need a book bag. They can use one from previous years, or new ones can be purchased from the school office.

## Our swimming days are Tuesday 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 Seesaw, or, send a written note to let me know.



## Home learning!

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.

**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 week 3. 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.



## Stationery and Hats



If needed, stationery lists should have arrived home already. Thank you to all the families who have organised stationery payments already.

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](http://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 via Kindo or 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.



### Tissues

To help maintain a healthy classroom we use tissues for runny noses and sneezes. If at any time during the year you can help us out by donating a box of tissues to our class we would be most grateful.

### 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.

## Masks

A reminder that all year 4 students are to wear a mask when inside, and year 3's are encouraged to wear these. I recognise it can get hot and sticky with these on so we try to have frequent outside breaks where children can be mask free.

## Seesaw



In Room 4 we use 'Seesaw' to connect with families and share our learning adventures.

If you are not familiar with 'Seesaw', you will find this is an excellent app you can download to your phone. You can see and comment encouragingly on your child's learning journey. It is great to see lots of you have already seen our recent learning around 'Getting Along'.

Do you need an invite? If so please let me know, or write your email address on a piece of paper and I will send you through a link.

I am really looking forward to a fabulous year of learning in Room 4. If you have any questions, concerns or celebrations please do not hesitate to contact me via Seesaw, my email or your child's home learning book.

Ng ā mihi,

Chrissy Cottingham  
[ccottingham@kns.ac.nz](mailto:ccottingham@kns.ac.nz)  
Class Teacher