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Friday 3rd February 2023

Room 31

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome back everyone, I hope your child enjoyed the Christmas break and is ready for a busy term 1. I have enjoyed getting to know your child during the first few days and am excited for the year ahead. Senior school tamariki have the opportunity to build their leadership skills. There are a number of ways that your child can contribute this year, please encourage them to step up into one of these roles: mediators, wet day monitors, school councillors, librarians, and road patroller. Parents feel free to send me a Class Dojo message if you have any questions.

The Knighton Way: Getting Along / Mahi Tahī

'Getting Along' is the Knighton value during term one.

*We believe it is essential that children learn to relate to a range of people in a variety of contexts.*



- Socially Responsible
- Playing by the rules
- Thinking first
- Accepting others
- Valuing cultures
- Co-operative

### Literacy:

Writing will continue to be a major focus in Room 31. During the first term, we will mainly be doing memoir and descriptive writing. This will allow the students to write about their own personal experiences and describe a range of objects.

Each student will work on individual writing learning intentions that are identified during the first few weeks. Your child will also be given reading, grammar and spelling activities to help support their learning.

Reading: Your child will bring home a reader, journal or chapter book daily and will be expected to read one story each night. Please help your child by listening to them read and signing their reading log. Journals and readers will start coming home during week 4.

**Maths:**

The senior school will begin having maths in our cross-group classes every afternoon (1.45-2.35pm) in week 3. The children are in class groups that; suit their learning needs, challenge their thinking, extend their understanding of mathematics concepts and encourage them to work both independently and collaboratively to solve number and word problems.

**Topic:**

Room 31 will be learning about a range of games from different cultural backgrounds. This term we will be researching types of games that are played around the world. With the help of whānau, students will then research games from their own cultural backgrounds and will create a slideshow to present the information they have learnt. The unit will finish off with our tamariki playing their game with the class on the day of the cultural festival.

Room 31 will be one of four senior classes participating in the Taku Wairua programme during term one. The vision of Taku Wairua is to make personal development and growth an achievable option for every Kiwi. The 4 pillars that Taku Wairua uses to achieve this goal are belonging (tūrangawaewae), how am I (ko wai au), goal setting (tautuhinga whaingā) and citizenship (mahi a tāngata).

**Swimming:**

Room 31 will be swimming two days a week. Our swimming days are Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure that your child has their togs on these days.

**PE:**

Students will also be learning a range of co-operation games that will help build their communication skills and ability to get along with others.

**Class Dojo:**

Class Dojo is a website/app that allows teachers to upload photos so parents can see what activities their children have been doing at school. Your own personal sign-in has been sent home with this parent letter if you have not already signed up.

**Medical Forms:**

If your child requires any medication to be administered by an adult during school hours, please visit the office to complete a permission slip. Any medication will be stored safely and administered by the office staff.

**Hats:**

A reminder that students are required to wear their **Knighton hat** when outside throughout terms 1 and 4. Hats can be purchased from the office for \$10 or through the online Kindo shop. If your child does not have a hat, they will be expected to play in the shade during our morning tea and lunch breaks.

**Library:**

Our library day will be Friday during term one. It would be greatly appreciated if you could remind your child to bring back their library books on this day. Students will be able to issue or return library books during most lunchtimes.

Kind regards

James Penman