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31 January 2024

Dear Parents and Whānau

[Kia ora koutou katoa nau mai haere mai - a warm welcome to Akomanga 8 for 2024.](#)

Our goal is to help the tamariki develop a sense of tūrangawaewae - belonging with each other, with us and with our classroom space. This will help them settle into the new and exciting challenges that lay ahead.



Takaro, ako me te tipu tahi:

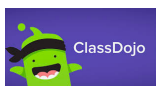
It is a real privilege to share in the learning journeys of the tamariki. You are welcome to visit our class any time to share your child's learning or to have a chat.

Our mahi in the morning will incorporate te reo Māori, pāngarau/mathematics, panui/reading and tuhituhi/writing. This leaves our afternoons free for topics: art, music, social sciences, critical histories of Aotearoa, dramatic inquiry and physical education.

Our main topics this term include migration of Monarch butterflies, Chinese New Year, Dr Seuss Day, the cultural parade and sea week.

To ensure a great start to each day please arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.55am. This allows us to spend time with the tamariki and gives them time to settle in, complete their before school jobs and play with their friends.

Please send a book bag to school each day. To bring a library/school reader book home your child will need a book bag. These can be purchased from the Kindo or the school office if needed.



We would love to have all families registered with Class Dojo - it is the main platform for sharing messages or photos from our day. This is only available to the parents/whānau within our class and we would like to be able to share class stories, photos or messages with you.

Swimming:



Our swimming days are **Monday** and **Wednesday**.

- Please send your child to school **with named togs and a named towel** in a swimming bag.

Library:

Our weekly visits to the Library will be on **Wednesday**, beginning week 3. Please send a book bag to school so that a book can be issued.



Each Friday morning we will attend academy sessions. This allows our students to engage, connect, build confidence and learn the essence and beauty of the Pasifika culture through the art of song, dance and language.

Cultural Festival:

This will be held on Wednesday the 27th March - please keep the day free as it is a fabulous event. Details to follow.

ELL:

A small number of English language learners will attend the ELL hub for their literacy learning (reading and writing) from Monday - Thursday. I will contact the parents of those children concerned. Everyone else will remain in A8 where we have the opportunity to participate in Better Start Literacy. This is a professional development programme run by The University of Canterbury supported by Carol Leishman, Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour. More information will follow.

Administration:

- If your child has any medicine this will need to be handed in to the office.
- If you are returning permission slips or money please place them in our Frog Box which is located at the smiley face office. Please write your child's name and room number on the outside of the envelope.
- Our school newsletter (also found online at www.kns.ac.nz) is available fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon. Our website and school app will also have term dates and upcoming events.
- Absences: please advise the office by text 027 352 2089 if your child is away, or use the phone app.
- Any child arriving at school after the 9am bell must sign in at the office first.
- Knighton School hats can be purchased from the school office for \$10.00. These must be worn in terms 1 and 4.

Kindo:

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.

School stationery packs will be issued after payment is received.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou! Thank you!

Kind Regards

Angie Newman
Akomanga 8 Teacher
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