



**KNIGHTON  
NORMAL SCHOOL**

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.

## Akomanga 14 Term 1 Newsletter!

### **A little about what to expect in Akomanga 14;**

- Akomanga 14 is taught by Whaea Renee (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday) and Mrs Franklin (Thursdays).
- Kids have plenty of opportunities to learn through play, helping develop a range of important foundational skills. I also love to teach through dramatic inquiry. This means the kids get a lot of opportunities to work as a team, explore ideas in greater depth, be imaginative, have lots of fun and be active while learning.
- To help keep you informed about our learning, Class Dojo will be up and running by week 3 so the kids can share their work with you from time to time. I will send those parents who aren't yet connected an invitation to join.
- This term we will be learning about class routines and school rules, focusing on one aspect of the Knighton Way; mahi tahi (getting along). We will get to know each other and learn about the many cultures represented in our class and school. We'll also learn about safe walking.

### **Cultural celebration;**

This is our chance to celebrate who we all are, and learn about different cultures through art, music, dance and inquiry. Most importantly it's a chance to celebrate as a community. There will be a parade and other celebrations in week 9 of this term (25th - 28th March) so please look out for that information as we'd love to see you there.

### **Swimming;**

Swimming this term will be on Tuesday and Thursday. Please make sure your child's togs and towel are brought to school on these days in a separate bag. It's also really helpful if they wear clothing for easy changing. All students are expected to participate unless they are unwell and bring a note.

### **Library;**

The library will be open from week 3 and Akomanga 14 will be going to the library on Thursdays. Students will be able to take a book home from the library each week and will need to return it every Thursday.

### **Lunches;**

Just a couple of reminders (but REALLY important ones) -

- Absolutely NO NUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS in school lunches. This includes spreads like Nutella. Thank you for supporting us in our efforts to keep all tamariki safe.
- It will be great to include a small, easy to eat healthy snack in their bags / lunch boxes for our morning kai so they can keep going until our first lunch break.
- Please ensure your child has a water bottle at school each day.

We look forward to getting to know you all throughout the year, please don't hesitate to come and see us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Whaea Renee and Mrs Franklin



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## **Some useful information for the start of your child's 2024 school year!**

School Website and App: You can check out all newsletters, term dates and up-coming events and use the KNS app on your phone to report absences.

Class Dojo: We use Class Dojo to keep in contact with parents and caregivers, and regularly update you with pictures of your child's school life. Class Dojo is a free app which can be downloaded from the app store. Please see your teacher for your unique code to access your child's profile.

Absences: If your child is sick or is not coming to school please let the office know – text or phone 027 352 2089 to leave your message, or use the phone app. The school will follow up all unexplained absences. If you are late (after 9.00am) you must check in with the office staff at the smiley face window (entrance at the side of the office).

Medication: If your child requires medication to be taken at school, please take this directly to the office where you will need to fill out a consent form. Teachers do not administer medicines.

SunSAFE: We actively promote the school's SunSAFE Policy. Children will wear their school hat every day in terms 1 and 4. The hats (\$10.00 payable through the Kindo shop - see details below) stay at school all term. If your child goes to KASP after school, can you give them a hat from home that is just for KASP use.

Swimming: We swim in Terms 1 and 4. We expect all children to participate. Please make sure they are wearing suitable clothing for easy dressing / undressing and they bring a waterproof bag for wet togs and a towel. See your class swimming notice for the days your child will swim.

School payments: 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](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. Otherwise, any money needs to be placed in the **Frog Box** at the Smiley Face window by your child.

Stationery list: We will send home a stationery list. We encourage you to pay online, see 'school payments' above for further information.

Library: every class has a weekly library time for the children to choose a book to take home to share with their family. They can return their book the following week.

Team Assembly: Normally held on Fridays.

Home Learning: Books and other activities which help support your child's learning will be sent home in their book bags. Your child's teacher will provide more information about what to expect from their home learning program.

Spare Clothes – are a good idea, kept in your child's school bag, for any accidents that happen and/or for messy play and wet days.

Lunch and Morning tea - we ask you to consider including a fruit snack for your child to eat during the first block and remind you to keep the food your child brings to school **nut free**.

Faculty of Education Placements: As we are a Normal School we will have graduates from Waikato University in our classrooms at different times (usually once a week on Wednesdays), as part of the Graduate Teacher Education course. They will have teaching tasks from the University to complete as well as taking part in our class programme. We will also have them working in our classes for their teaching practicums.

Classroom Release Time (CRT): Teachers are released from classroom teaching for three days every term. This time is used for assessment and working with individual children, resource and planning preparation, as well as professional development. We usually try to have the same reliever to ensure continuity of the class programme.

Drop Off and Pick Up: Please arrive at school between 8.30am and 8.50am – this allows time for unpacking school bags and getting ready for the day. From 8.30 teachers will welcome children and support them coming into class.