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February 2024

Kia ora e te whānau,



A warm welcome to Room 1! We have made a great start to the new school year, the children have settled well and are already working hard. It has been lovely to meet and catch up with you all during these first few weeks.

This term our learning begins with growing our understanding of the Knighton Way and our school values, in particular 'Getting Along' as we get to know each other and become familiar with the routines and expectations of Room 1. Towards

the end of the term we will explore our world and celebrate the wonderful diversity of our Knighton children and community with our cultural festival. Our special parade day is in week 9 on Wednesday the 27th of April from 9am. More information will come home about this closer to the time.

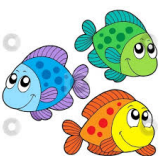


This year I am continuing in my role of Associate Principal, leading the Y4 team. **Mrs Lyndal Roche** will be teaching in Room 1 every Thursday. On Wednesday mornings during the first block I will be working with our student teachers at the University. Lyndal will be teaching in Room 1 during this time too. Lyndal often covers other days I am required to be out of the classroom. Lyndal and I have taught together for over 10 years so this ensures the regular programme continues and expectations are maintained when I am not able to be in Room 1 (on most occasions).

On Monday we will be welcoming our new student teacher **Mr Asher Chen** to Room 1, initially he will be with us for 2 weeks and then he will be joining us every Wednesday until the end of the term. He will also be part of Room 1 on Wednesdays and for a 5 week block practicum during term 2.

## Special Days

- **School Newsletter** – Every second Tuesday (even weeks) via email.
- **Swimming - Monday and Friday in Term 1**
- **Library day** – Thursday (Library opens week 4 - next week)
- Mrs Roche teaching in Room 1 - Wednesdays block 1 and Thursdays
- **Middle School Assembly** – Thursday 12.30 pm in our school hall



## We swim every Monday and Friday!

Please help your child to remember their named 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 children with long hair to have their hair tied back. As our swimming times are 9.05 Monday and 9.25 Friday, children are welcome to come ready with their togs under their clothing. Swimming is an important part of the NZ curriculum, and our focus is confidence and water safety. It would be great to see all the children swimming each session. If your child is unable to swim for any reason please email, message via 'Dojo', send a written note or pop in and let me know. ☺



## Homework!

We keep homework super simple during term 1. As a minimum, I strongly encourage you to spend some time reading with your child everyday. Research into successful readers proves that the more words your child reads the more confidence they will gain in reading. From time to time your children may be asked to research topics or search for some bits and pieces we may need at school for topics or art projects.



A 'Homework for Caregivers' questionnaire should have arrived home with this newsletter. I would love you to fill in as much of it as you can and return it to me over the next few weeks. As I taught some of the children last year I know some of you have already filled in a similar information sheet for me, I do still have those in safe keeping, however you are welcome to fill in a new one.

## Stationery , Costs and Hats



Thank you to the many families who have been able to organise stationery payments already. We have already started in some of our new books this week. This is always an exciting time.

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 call into the office and make any payments using Eftpos. We really do understand that this is an expensive time of year, please come and have a chat with myself or our office staff if the stationery payment is worrying you.

**School hats** must be worn in Terms 1 and 4. We have mostly sorted hats, however some children are still missing them. :) Please have a chat with your child to see if they have found their hat and have a hunt at home. If your child does not have a school hat they will only be able to play in our designated shady areas during our breaks. New hats are available for \$10 through [mykindo](http://mykindo) or our school office, should one be needed.



## Tissues/Medicines



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. ☺

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.

## Middle School Team Building! Week 4 – Wednesday 21st February 9.15 am

Next Wednesday the 24th February, from 10.50am – 10.50am, the Y4 classes will be having a fun morning of team building activities. This is to help children get to know their new classmates and for the Y4 teachers to meet all the children in our team. The activities will take place from 9.15am – 10.50pm and include a swim in the pool. Your child will need their togs, towel and an extra snack in their lunch box.



## Class Dojo!

In Room 1 we use 'Class Dojo' to connect with families and share our learning adventures. Many of you have used it before. If you are not familiar with 'Dojo', you will find this is an excellent app which you can download to your phone. You can see and comment encouragingly on your child's learning journey. Please let me know if you have any difficulties connecting. .

## Wow! What a lot of information!

We really are looking forward to a fun-filled fabulous year of learning in Room 1. If you have any questions or queries at any time please do not hesitate to come in and see me. If this is not possible, you can phone our office and leave a message for me to contact you or you are most welcome to email me at [jsimpson@kns.ac.nz](mailto:jsimpson@kns.ac.nz) or use 'Dojo' to message me (this is often the easiest way).

Kind regards

Jackie Simpson  
Class Teacher, Room 1

