



**KNIGHTON
NORMAL SCHOOL**

ADDRESS | 45 Knighton Road, Hamilton, 3216

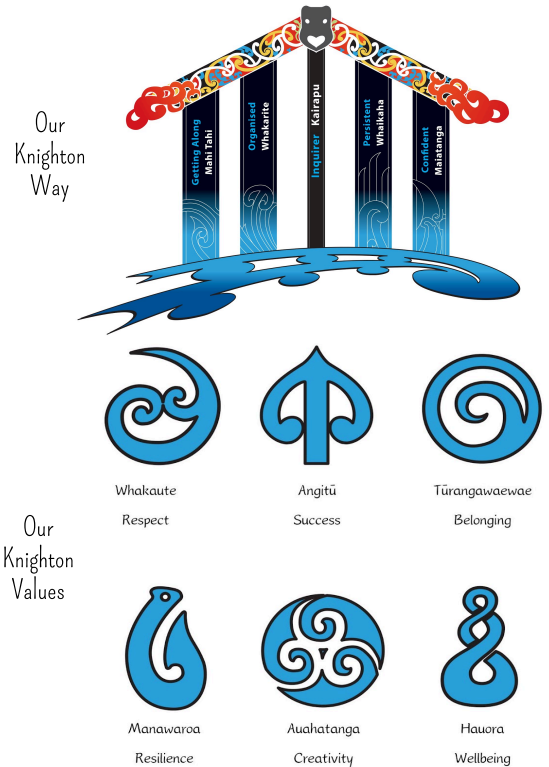
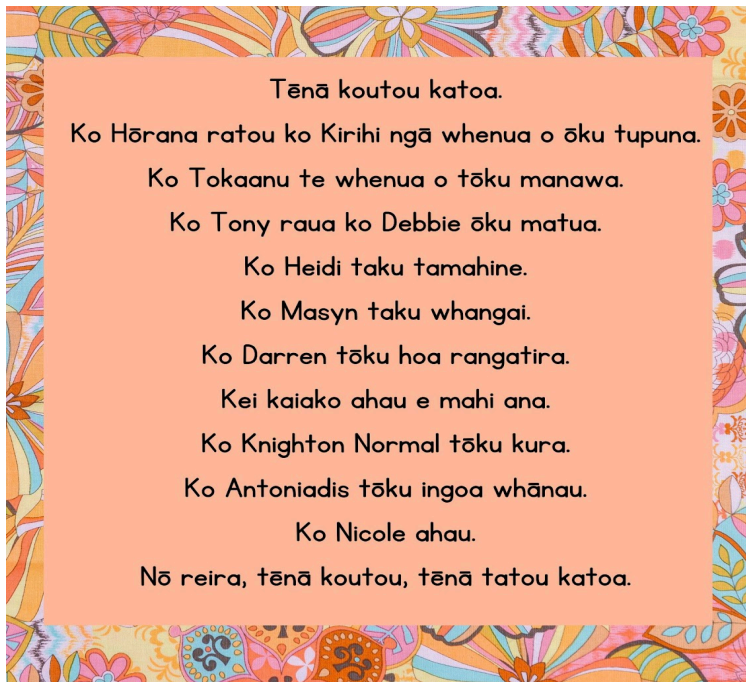
PHONE | (07) 856 5399

WEBSITE | www.kns.ac.nz

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

4 February, 2025,

Tēnā koutou e te whānau, nau mai haere mai ki te Akomanga Rima!



I am so looking forward to this year with your tamariki. We have lots of great learning (ako) and fun planned and I can't wait to see your children grow as learners, leaders and members of our akomanga (classroom).

We will be spending time in term 1 getting to know each other, who we are and where we are from. We will be sharing about our culture in the lead up to the Cultural Festival at the end of Term 1. We will also learn about managing ourselves and our emotions through mindfulness and gratefulness, supported by the Mitey programme.

A key way of teaching and learning for my programme is dramatic inquiry. We will be looking into the History of New Zealand (Aotearoa) and using drama to unpack all the awesome thinking we will be doing. An inquiry focus for this term will be looking at pa. This will culminate in an amazing trip to Rangiriri in term 2 - but more about that as the term progresses.

I am passionate about te reo and te ao Māori. I have completed a lot of professional learning to fill my kete. We immerse ourselves daily in te reo Māori in various ways.

Pānui (reading) and tuhituhi (writing) will be taught daily, often being incorporated into our other learning. Children will work with me, with each other and on their own to develop their literacy skills. Some children will attend the Literacy Centre and some will also attend the English Language Learners Hub depending on their learning needs. We will be using structured literacy in the classroom too.

We will be cross-grouping for pāngarau (maths) and using the PR1ME maths programme as a base for our learning in pāngarau. In the senior kura, we cross-group for pāngarau each afternoon starting in Week 2. Tamariki are in class groups that challenge their thinking, extend their understanding of maths concepts and encourage them to work both independently and collaboratively to solve number and word problems.

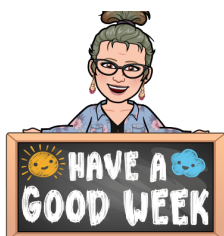
We sometimes use Chromebooks and iPads to support our learning. Each child in the senior school has their own log in to Google within the school network. They can share the things they are doing with you in the Drive by logging in at home too. Tamariki must have completed their Digital Technology Values form before they will be allowed to use a device at kura.

I will be using Seesaw this year to share some of the great things that we are doing in the classroom and share messages or announcements. If you are not already linked to the Akomanga Rima Seesaw, please email me nantoniadis@kns.ac.nz and I will send you a link via email. The site is safe, locked down and private and is only accessible to the people I share it with (our whānau). If you do not want your child's photo or work shared on the site or have questions please come and talk with me or flick me an email, hopefully I can alleviate any concerns people may have. It is very important that you are connected to this, as we try to share information with you in a timely manner, sometimes Seesaw will be the best and quickest way to get the information to you.

This term we will be doing swimming and athletics as a part of our physical education programme. There are many sports opportunities in the senior school, so our senior tamariki are encouraged to listen to the notices so they can get involved at different times.

EXTRA NOTICES

- **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.
- **Swimming:** Our swimming days are Tuesday and Thursday, please ensure your children bring their togs on these days. Swimming is not optional as it is a part of our New Zealand Curriculum, and it is important for our 'kiwi kids' to be water wise when living so close to waterways like rivers, beaches and swimming pools. Please provide a note, Seesaw message or email if your child is unable to swim on any particular day.
- **Change of clothes:** Please help ensure your child has a change of clothes in their bag every day, just in case they are needed after messy (but fun) play! This is especially important in the winter months.
- **Medication:** A reminder that a consent form must be filled in and left at the school office for any medication administered at school. A consent form can be downloaded from our website or collected from the office. All medication remains in the office for safekeeping during the day.
- **Stationery:** Thank you to those who have paid for stationery already. If you would like to organise a payment plan please don't hesitate to contact the office to work something out - they are more than happy to do this as we understand this can be a very expensive time of year.
- **Cell Phones:** We prefer children to leave cell phones at home but understand that some children require a cell phone for safety reasons and to contact family members after school. If children do bring a cellphone to school this needs to be handed into the office or kaiako until the end of the day.
- **Late:** If your child is late please ensure they report straight to the Smiley Face door to get a late slip, even if they arrive just after the bell. If your child is absent please be sure to inform the school. Also remember, from 9:15 am the only unlocked entry into the school is the front gate on Knighton Road.
- **Toys:** we do not allow toys at school. Unfortunately they can cause issues in the playground, so it is best to leave the cool things at home
- **Term Calendar:** The school term calendar will be sent home soon. If you are wanting to access this online, along with copies of the fortnightly newsletter sent home every second week, please visit www.kns.ac.nz



I try to actively check my emails throughout the day so please email me with any questions, concerns, or sharing great things your children are doing: nantoniadis@kns.ac.nz However, **if it is urgent it is best to contact the office** and they will send a message.

Thank you in advance for all your support and help in 2025.
Nga mihi nui, Nicole Antoniadis (Ms A or Whaea Nicole)