



KNIGHTON NORMAL SCHOOL

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8 February, 2024

Akomanga 2

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a great start to the year! What an amazing group of kids! I have really enjoyed getting to know your child. 2024 is packed full of quality learning opportunities both within the classroom and around the school, so let's get ready for a truly awesome year!!

Stationery

A very big thanks to all the families who have already paid for their stationery. School costs can be paid online through our Kindo shop. You can go to www.mykindo.co.nz and set up an account. There are no fees for Kindo payments unless you choose to use a credit card. Alternatively, you can pop forms and money into the frog box in the office.

Please can purchasing stationery be done by the end of this week, as on **Monday the 12 February (next week) we will start working in our new books.** This is always an exciting time of the year!

Library

We are lucky to have a school library we can visit weekly that is so well stocked with a huge range of books. **Our library day will be Wednesday.** Children can issue two books each week. Books can be kept in tote trays or taken home.

Sunhats

It is important for children to be wearing the school sunhat to protect their faces and heads from our hot sun and UV rays. If you don't already have a hat then you can buy one from the school office for \$10 via the Kindo shop. Hats are compulsory when playing outside.

Swimming

Our swimming days are every Tuesday and Wednesday

We are so lucky at Knighton to have a swimming pool where the water is warmed slightly which means the swimming season lasts all of Term 1 and Term 4. Swimming is a very important part of our learning programme. We are fortunate that our swimming time is in the first block this year as this is when the pool is cleanest and also warmest as the pool warms up overnight with the cover over it.

Term One Topics

Reading, writing and maths programmes are very important. You can be assured I want your child to not only enjoy these subjects but to really succeed in these areas as well.

Our science unit this term will be **The Amazing World of Plants**. In health we will be learning about friendship and getting along with others. In social science we will be learning about the **Treaty of Waitangi** through a dramatic inquiry unit called **'The Little Kiwi and the Treaty'**. Leading up to our school wide **cultural festival and parade** which will be held on **Wednesday 27 March**, (Week 9) we will focus on family cultural treasures as a way to talk and learn about the many cultures within our class. In **Te Reo Māori** we will begin learning words for classroom objects, weather, seasons, months and days. We will be learning how to use these words in basic sentences. In PE our focus will be **swimming**.

Parent Teacher Meet and Greet

Tuesday 13 February from 5 - 6.30pm (next week) we will be having a school picnic. This is a chance for us to meet and also for you to get to know other families in our school community.

Class Pets: Winky

We have a class pet. Winky is a golden bell frog who enjoys eating flies and small live insects. If you are able to catch any live insects and bring them to school for him that would be fantastic! Winky has proved very popular, showing off his acrobatic skills.

Year 4 Team Building Morning

Our team of Year 4 classes will be joining together on **Wednesday 21st February (Week 4)** for a block of fun activities. The purpose is to build the skills for teamwork and to get to know each other. Swimming gear will be needed on this day!

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available daily from 8.30am for any child. It has been moved to the Hauora hub, which is based in the building that used to house the Whaihangā.

Nuts

We do have children in our classroom and school who are allergic to nuts.. Please do not send nuts or food with nuts in it to school.

Sweets + Drinks

Knights promotes healthy eating and drinking, children are asked not to bring any sweets to school including marshmallows. Any drink bottles should contain only water.. Thanks so much for your understanding on this!

Class Dojo

This is a way for me to share photos, news, learning at school and class events with you. If you are unable to access Class Dojo please let me know and I can send a link for you to join.

It has been great to meet so many of you during our first couple of weeks. My email is pgardener@kns.ac.nz should you want to discuss any issues. I am also available through 'Class Dojo' or pop in before or after school. I am super excited about our year together and all of the things already planned and yet to be imagined that will make it a truly memorable year!

Hei konā mai rā,

nā Pauline Gardener Ward