



**KNIGHTON**  
**NORMAL SCHOOL**

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PRINCIPAL | Stuart Armistead M.Ed. (Educational Leadership), B.Ed., Dip.T.

February 2020

Kia ora e te whaanau,

I hope everyone enjoyed their break and you are ready for an exciting 2020. I am looking forward to getting to know the awesome personalities of all of the children in room 20. Please feel free to come and say hello in the mornings if you have time during the first couple of weeks. James Smith will be teaching in Room 20 every Wednesday. James is passionate about teaching and together we are going to have a wonderful year. Your child is required to wear their **Knighton hat** when outside throughout terms 1 and 4. Hats can be purchased from the office for \$5. If your child does not have a hat they will only be able to play in designated shade areas during morning tea and lunch breaks.

#### **Class Dojo:**

Class Dojo is a website/app that allows teachers to upload photos so you can see the activities your child has been doing at school. If you are not already connected, your own personal sign in has been sent home with this letter.

#### **Medical Forms:**

If your child requires any medication to be administered during school hours, please visit the office to complete a permission slip. Any medication will be stored safely and administered by the office staff.

## The Knighton Way: Getting Along / Mahi Tahī

'Getting Along'

This is our big focus for the term, and we will be incorporating this into our classroom across all our learning

*We believe it is essential that children learn to relate to a range of people in a variety of contexts and demonstrate their understanding of 'getting along' by:*



- Being Socially Responsible
- Practicing Co-operation
- Playing by the rules
- Thinking first
- Accepting others
- Valuing cultures

## Learning in Room 20

### Literacy:

Writing will be a major focus in Room 20 this year. During the first term we will be focusing on descriptive writing and recount writing. This will allow your child to write about their own personal experiences and describe a range of objects. Your child will also work on individual writing goals that will be identified during the first few weeks. Your child will be given reading, grammar and spelling activities to help support their learning.

Reading: Your child will bring home a reader, journal or chapter book daily and will be expected to read one story each night. Please help your child by listening to them read and signing their reading log. Journals and readers will start coming home during week 4.

### Maths:

Within our class this term, we will be focusing on statistics and number knowledge.

### Topic:

This term our topics will cover hot air balloons and culture. We will be identifying the science behind hot air balloons, as well as observing videos on hot air balloons and even attempting to create our own. As part of our culture topic we will be using our classes own variety of cultures to create a culture wall.

### P.E. and Swimming:

Your child will be learning a range of cooperation games that will help build their communication skills and ability to get along with others, as well as playing by the rules and thinking first. Our swimming days are Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure that your child has their togs and towel in a named bag on these days and your child wears named clothing. If your child is unable to swim, please let me know, as swimming is an important part of our P.E. curriculum.

### Library:

Our library day will be Tuesday during term one. It would be greatly appreciated if you could remind your child to bring back their library books on this day. Students are also able to issue or return library books during most lunch times.

## Important events for Term 1

### Meet the teacher picnic evening week 2 – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February

We will be holding our 'meet the teacher' picnic today from 5pm to 6:30pm. This is a perfect opportunity to meet Stuart Armistead (our principal) and myself, if we haven't already met. In this time, you will be able to come in to room 20 and see how our class room is moving along!

### Middle school team building day week 2 – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> of February

On Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February, from 10:40am – 12:40pm, the Middle School classes will be working together on a range of activities which are focused on team building. This is to help your children get to know their new classmates, make friends within the Middle School and meet the Middle School teachers. Our the morning includes a swim in the pool! Please ensure your child has their togs, towel, and an extra snack in their lunch box. Feel free to join us on the junior field at the back of the school from 10:40am.

Kind regards  
Josef Holm

