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4 February 2021

Ruma Tahī - Room 1

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers, Whānau,

Ngā mihi o te tau hou. Nau mai, haere mai ki tēnei ruma! Happy New Year. Welcome to those of you who are new to our whānau and welcome back to those we already know. We have lots of wonderful occasions to look forward to in 2021 such as swimming sports, our cultural celebration and of course, our production. As usual, we promise a year full of fun, action and learning.

PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Breakfast Club Volunteers

Each day our school provides breakfast for those in need, and this service is run by volunteer parents. We are currently looking for volunteers for 8.30am-8.55am. It is a relatively easy and incredibly important service to our community. If you are able to help one morning please contact Kōkā Materoa or myself for further information.

Class Foci

Whakawhanaungatanga (building relationships), whakapapa (genealogy, ancestry), mahi tahi (getting along) and tuakiri (identity) are the foundation of our learning this term. These foci do not exist separately, they are all interwoven to shape the person we are and become. The goal is for the students to gain a better sense of self, where they have come from and develop sound friendships within the class and wider school community.

Also included within this focus is our **Cultural Celebration day**. If you have not attended before, we would love to have you join us on the day. We begin with our parade of nations, which is a chance for students to walk proudly in their national costume. With over 70 cultures in the school, the parade is a spectacular display of our cultural diversity. After the parade and performances, we return to our classes to enjoy a day sharing about our cultures. To that end, if you are willing to share some information, treasures, stories, dances, games, songs or crafts from your culture, we would love to have you in class! I just thought I'd put that plea in nice and early! Save the date - **Wednesday 24th March** - give it some thought and contact me if you are willing and able.

Literacy

Developing a love of books is our main goal this term. We are learning to select books that hold our interest, read to ourselves without interruption, understand and enjoy the message, ask questions and find books that we love to read, talk about and share. Finding books we love to read will help us find stories we want to tell. Learning to write about our thoughts and experiences, without judgement, and share our ideas on paper is our focus in term one. Please encourage your child to read each night, a book of their choice, for enjoyment. There's nothing like escaping into another world for a change of scenery!

Mathematics

We will cross-group within the entire senior school this year. Your child will be placed in a maths class that will challenge their thinking, extend their understanding of maths concepts and encourage them to work both independently and collaboratively to solve number and word problems. Cross-grouping will begin in week 3.

Keeping in Touch

Many of you are already connected through Class Dojo, which is the main communication tool we will be using this year. If you are not connected, please check your email box for an invitation, or look for an invite letter accompanying this newsletter. Students will be posting their work for you to see in their own portfolios, as well as class news on the main page. You can use the message tool to contact me also, for example, if your child is away, unable to swim etc. Remember to post encouraging feedback on your child's work when you can, they love to see your responses.

Reminder: School Rules

The students are aware of a few standard school rules that parents might not be familiar with. At the beginning of each year we remind the students of the following:

- Knighton school hats are the only hats to be worn at school. No personal hats or caps should be coming to school.
- All toys are to remain at home, this includes collectable card series. The school is not responsible for any personal items that are brought to school and do not come home.
- In the interest of promoting healthy eating, no fizzy drinks, energy drinks or sugary drinks are to be consumed at school. Water is the best for keeping us hydrated.
- All lollies, bubblegum and chewing gum stay at home.
- If your child rides to school, they must walk their wheels into and out of the school ground (eg. bikes, scooters, skateboards etc)

Thank you for helping us to support our school rules and make this kura (school) a safer place to be.

What's on When!

MEET THE TEACHER Evening : Term 1 Week 3: Wednesday 17th February from 5.00 – 6.30pm

This is a great opportunity to come down to school, share some kai (food) with your whānau (family), and meet the teachers in a relaxed environment. There will be games on the field for the children and a brief message from Mr Armistead, our principal, as well as a chance to see your child's classroom, meet other parents in our class and chat with me.

SWIMMING

We swim every **Tuesday** and **Friday**. It is an important part of our programme and lots of fun. Your child will need to bring their togs and a towel each day, inside a waterproof bag. If your child is not swimming, please let me know either by email, class dojo or send a note to school.

LIBRARY

Our library time this year will be Mondays, beginning 15th February, week 3.

SWIMMING SPORTS

Thursday 19th March (week 7). This event is held at Hamilton Boys High School pool (access off Argyle St, Hamilton). There will be competitive and non-competitive events, something for everyone! Parents and whānau are welcome to come and watch, clap, cheer and be proud of your child. More details will follow closer to the date.

My Duty Days:

Wednesday 12.30pm - 1.05pm

Thursday 1.05pm - 1.30pm

Friday 8.25am - 8.55am, 10.40am - 11am and 1.05pm - 1.30pm

Important to note...

- **Medication:** A reminder that a consent form must be filled in and left at the office for any medication administered at school. All medication remains in the office for safekeeping during the day.
- **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. Children must be responsible with their cell phones, using them appropriately and not during the school day.
- **School Payments:** 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 <http://bit.ly/2dr3eZ6> 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.
- **Stationery:** Our stationery notices are attached. We will begin using our new stationery in Week 3.

You are welcome to visit at any time, so please pop in and see us.
It's going to be a great year!

Ngā manaakitanga,
Kind regards,

Deborah Wilson

Contact details: dwilson@kns.ac.nz