

Kia ora/Greetings



A warm welcome back- and special greetings to new families that have joined the Knighton Normal School community this year.

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome Renee Downey, Stephen Shirley and Marnie Heng as new teachers to Knighton Normal School. We were able to select them from an extremely strong field last year.

I would also like to share some other news. Late last year I was offered the role as Head of Primary at the International School of Lausanne in Switzerland (starting in August 2021). Whilst it is going to be awfully sad to farewell the Knighton community, my family and I are looking forward to new challenges and experiences.

Our Board of Trustees is selecting a consultant to lead the appointment process for a new principal to begin the role in term three.

### Beginning of the year assembly

It was great (if slightly cramped) to have our first assembly in the hall last week. While speaking to the school I made the following main points:

What we expect from everyone:

- Follow teacher directions the first time
- Be respectful
- Do your best
- Think about what it takes to be in the 'Green' Zone of regulation.
- Show respect for our environment

Our KNS Way focus this term is in 'getting along'

- Manners (PETS- please, excuse me thank you, sorry), greeting parents and teachers, doorway manners
- Think before you speak or act
- Make someone's day better



### Meet the Teacher Picnic - Wednesday 17 Feb

This evening is a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher(s) in an informal, fun setting. It is also a great chance to meet other parents and to form connections!

You are welcome to come down to school from **5:00pm** - all school gates will be unlocked. Teachers will have a range of activities for you and your children to take part in. Bring a blanket and a picnic dinner to have on the field. There will also be a sausage sizzle operating.

At **6:00 pm** teachers will move to their rooms. This will be an opportunity for families to go into classes to meet teachers and become familiar with the class.

The evening will conclude at **6.30 pm**. Gates will be open until **6.45pm**.

I will be making a brief presentation of 'How we do things at KNS' at **5.15pm** and **5.45pm** in room 23 for any parents that are interested.

### Swimming

Swimming sessions have started for our children! We live on an island..... Please support our teachers and your child by making sure they pack their togs and towel on their swimming days!



### music house at Knighton



Limited spaces available for:

- \* keyboard
- \* drums
- \* guitar
- \* ukulele

Cost:

- \* individual - \$33
- \* pairs - \$19
- \* group of 3 - \$14
- lessons are 30 min long -

enrol online at [www.musichouse.co.nz/enrol](http://www.musichouse.co.nz/enrol)

general enquiries email: [admin@musichouse.co.nz](mailto:admin@musichouse.co.nz)

phone: 07 808 0275



## Play @ Knighton

Our first pre-school play time for 2021 will be **Wednesday 24th Feb 1.45pm-2.45pm**. This is for enrolled children (and an accompanying adult) up to 10 weeks before their intended start. -Phone or email the office for more details or contact Anne Hoare ahoare@kns.ac.nz

## Work over the holidays

### New Classes

Builders have been hard at work over the break ensuring that the two new senior classes were ready to move into. We think they are fantastic!

Part of the project was to include toilets which are at the side of this building and easily accessed from the playground.

### Mural refurbished

We are thankful that Jeremy Shirley was able to refurbish his amazing artwork over the holidays- it looks great!



### Shade sail- junior school and B Block measured up

The new shade system has been designed for the junior play area and will be installed in the next few weeks. Classes in our two storey block have been measured up and will be refurbished during the year.

### New and upgraded school cameras

Our school security camera system has been added to and upgraded over the holidays. This upgrade has improved our coverage of the school site even at night time. You would be surprised how many cats visit the school at night!

## Knights Normal School Free App

Please download our free App on an iPhone or Android device by going to: <http://onelink.to/mnfdrg> or search Knighton Normal School at the App Store or Play Store.

App Features:



- Direct dial/email absences.
- Subscribe to and receive timely alerts from different school groups, including sports alerts.
- View and add school events to your phone's calendar.
- Receive advice of school notices to your phone.

### Absences

Please notify the school **office** not your child's teacher if your child is absent from school. Please tell us your child's name, room number and the reason for their absence. If the absence is for more than one day please also advise this in your message. If a child is absent from school without notification, they may be marked as truant.

There are several options for an absentee notification:

- School App: <http://onelink.to/mnfdrg>
- Phone (07) 856 5393 (voicemail)
- Text 027 352 2089

### Lateness

Children arriving at school late (even by a few minutes) must come to the Smiley Window to be signed-in electronically by the office staff. Children will be asked why they are late and their reasons will be entered into this system.

### Leaving School Early

All children are expected to be in class until 3pm unless there is a special reason for leaving early.

*If you are taking your child away from school prior to 3pm, please sign them out at the **office** before going to your child's class.*

**Ngā mihi nui**

**Stuart Armistead**

**Principal**