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28 Paengawhāwhā 2025

Akomanga 30

Kia ora e te whānau,

I want to thank you all for your aroha (love) and tautoko (support) last term. Dad's passing left an enormous hole in the lives of our whānau that at times feels overwhelming but grief itself is a journey of emotions; some raw, some warm and some peaceful. I am grateful that Dad is at rest. I am grateful for the privilege of loving and caring for Dad. I am grateful for your kindness. I am grateful for the journey 💙

Grief, I say, come in. Sit down.  
I have tea. There is honey. This  
will take as long as it takes.

*this hallowed wilderness*

## PROGRAMME INFORMATION

### The Knighton Way

Our Knighton Way focus this term is 'Whakarite / Organisation'.

Being organised means...

- I am ready to learn.
- I am determined.
- I know success looks different for everyone.
- I always try my best.
- I take a deep breath and get started.
- I accept responsibility for my learning.



### Trip to Rangiriri - Thursday 8 May

We offer our gratitude and thanks to Whaea Stella, Whaea Wen hua, Matua Hugh, and Whaea Maro who are supporting our tamariki on the day.

We are incredibly excited to experience the world's first Maaori replica earthwork trenches and learn from mana whenua, about the origins of the King Movement and their endeavours to protect the land, unite the people and stop warfare. The chance to hear about local history and ancestral intelligence from the source is a gift.

Our trip includes a guided tour of the remnants of the old Rangiriri Paa battle site earthworks, hearing about the local narratives (stories) carved into 14 five metre tall posts by Kiingitanga Master Carvers and participating in playing the newly developed game - Ika Ngohi (MoE approved), a game that teaches tamariki about combat in the trenches.

Our comprehensive learning about the history of Rangiriri Paa will form the basis of our Dramatic Inquiry, Aotearoa NZ history, Te Reo Māori me ngā tikanga (Māori language and customs) and literacy programmes in Term 2.

## Class read aloud

Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief by Katrina Nannestad

This story is told from the perspective of a young Russian boy called Sasha and is set against the backdrop of World War Two in Germany, Ukraine and Russia. This setting and context helps us explore the universality of the human experience, human qualities, the impact of war on people and notions of enemies and allies. This beautiful book allows us to make comparisons between Sasha's experiences of war and our learning about Rangiriri Paa and the people of Waikato.



**Mitey** [www.mitey.org.nz](http://www.mitey.org.nz)

This is a school-wide approach to mental health education. Unit 1 focused on identity, our special qualities and fostering healthy relationships. Unit 2 is based on understanding our feelings and learning problem solving strategies to help us when we experience difficult feelings.

## Pāngarau / Mathematics

Cross-grouping for maths continues. 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. You can help at home by encouraging your child to learn their times tables and basic facts off by heart. 10-15 minutes a day is all it takes to see results. For example:

- Fact families -  $3+7=10$ ,  $7+3=10$ ,  $10-3=7$ ,  $10-7=3$  -  $30+70=100$ ,  $70+30=100$ ,  $100-30=70$ ,  $100-70=30$
- 1 - 10x tables and matching division facts e.g.  $3 \times 4=12$ ,  $4 \times 3=12$ ,  $12 \div 3=4$ ,  $12 \div 4=3$

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If you'd like to contact myself or Briar, you can message us using the seesaw app or via email at the following addresses: Whakarongo - [wtauranga@kns.ac.nz](mailto:wtauranga@kns.ac.nz) Briar - [blynch@kns.ac.nz](mailto:blynch@kns.ac.nz)

Whānau are always welcome in class as tamariki love to share their learning with you. Both Briar and I look forward to continuing to build strong relationships with you all.

Ngā mihi nui

**Whakarongo** and **Briar**