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25th July, 2023

Kia ora, talofa, nǎ hǎo, malo e lelei,

Whew! I feel like we've hardly had time to take a breath and we're already in Term 3! Where has that first 6 months of the year gone?

PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Our school focus for Term 3 is 'Whaikaha - persistence.' Persistence is about carrying on even when something is difficult or opposed by other people. There will be many ways to practise our whaikaha this term, including cross-country and production.

CLASS DOJO

We continue to use Class Dojo to communicate with parents and showcase our work in class. It's fantastic to see so many of you already connected. If you are not connected to Classdojo yet and would like to be, please email me at dhannah@kns.ac.nz and I will send you a link.

LITERACY

We are using our class read-aloud, *Finding* by David Hill, to drive our learning deeper. *Finding* follows two families over generations through famine, war, personal loss and conflict. We'll use these themes in our literacy programme to expand our vocabulary and build our reading stamina.

MATHS

We continue with our cross-group maths classes. Knighton uses the PR1ME learning books to structure our teaching and learning, drawing on other resources as needed. We also have Maths Week (7 - 11 August), which involves a range of challenges that we can take part in. Sometimes, these challenges don't even look or feel like we're doing maths!

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Our "Every Body Counts" programme continues. This term's focus is on cross-country and our fun run. However, alongside this, we will continue to look at fundamental movement skills with a particular focus on balance and strength.

HOMEWORK:

As long as your child is reading for about 20 minutes each night and working on learning or remembering their mathematics basic facts, I don't set extra homework.

SPARE CLOTHES

Please ensure that your child has a spare pair of named clothing in their bag throughout the year. There are many times that they may become muddy, wet or need a change for some other reason. This is important for terms 1 and 2, and even more so for terms 3 and 4.

GRADUATE TEACHERS

We would like to acknowledge Whaea Keeley and the work she has done with us in the first two terms. She has been a fantastic part of our akomanga and is already missed by the students. This term we have another graduate teacher, Patrick, joining us on Wednesdays.

ALLERGIES

We have a number of students who have a range of allergies in our classroom including allergies to nuts. It is a critical time to remind ourselves to keep our lunch boxes nut-free. If you could support us by sending nut-free lunches (including no Nutella or hazelnut spreads) that would be greatly appreciated.

WHAT'S ON WHEN

Production (4 - 8 September, Week 8)

Monday - Thursday 11.45am Dress Rehearsal and Matinee shows 6.30pm Evening shows

Our big focus this term is production - *A Night-in (Knighton) the Museum*. Your children have chosen one aspect of the production that they want to be involved with. We are already meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. As we get closer to showtime we may meet more regularly. There will be 8 shows in Week 8. More information will come out shortly.

Cross Country/Fun Run (Wednesday 23 August, Week 6)

The cross-country is for those who want to challenge themselves to succeed in this area. It will be approximately 1.5 - 2 kilometres in distance on a flat course. There are opportunities to train in the 6 weeks leading up to race day. For our top year 5 and 6 racers, there is also the opportunity to represent Knighton at the South East Cluster Interschool cross-country at Hamilton Gardens on the 14th of September.

REMINDERS

- **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.
- **LEAVE:** I have been given leave in Week 5 so I will not be in class teaching that week. My hope is that a reliever is found for the whole week.

It has been fantastic meeting so many of you so far. If we haven't met, please feel free to pop in and say hello. I always love visits from family and whānau and seeing what we can work together to achieve for the children.

Kind Regards

David Hannah

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