

# Newsletter 1

11 February 2025

Welcome back everyone!! A warm welcome to new families to our school. We hope your child/ren have settled in well. It's been really nice walking around the school reconnecting with everyone. We're looking forward to a great year.

Sadly, Kōkā Tiawhe, who worked as kaiāwhina in Te Hihiri for 23 years, passed away over the weekend. She had been unwell for sometime. Kōkā Tiawhe played a significant role in the pastoral care and education of our tamariki in Te Hihiri and retired at the end of the 2023 academic year to spend more time with whānau. She was a much loved and respected member of our kura and community and we will miss her a lot.

Over the summer break we farewelled Nenehu Hughes who was a kaiāwhina in Te Hihiri. We also welcomed three new support staff, Matua Vahnz, Lauren Bain and Rui Paki.

A reminder that our annual Whānau Picnic will be held on Tuesday 25th February 5.00 - 6.30pm. We would love to see you there. More information will come out over the next couple of weeks.

## 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. If children do bring a cellphone to school this needs to be handed into the office or to the kaiako/teacher until the end of the day.



## MyKindo - Pay It Forward

There is a new payment option on myKindo called Pay It Forward. You may like to use this facility to support a child in need by gifting a stationery pack or hat - <https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/index.html>  
Thank you to those whānau who have already donated stationery and hats through the Pay-it-forward option.



## Bikes and Scooters

- If your child brings a skateboard, bike, scooter or roller blades to school please ensure they are clearly labelled with your child's name so they can be easily identified.
- **Bikes** should be locked to the bike stand opposite the Literacy Centre/swimming pool.
- **Scooters** should be put in the racks at the back of room 9, opposite the junior book room.
- Skateboards, scooters, bikes and roller blades are **not** to be ridden in the grounds or on pathways at any time.
- **Scooters and bikes etc are brought to school at the owner's risk.**

## Reminders

- **Change of clothes:** Please make sure your child has a change of clothes in their school bag, they may get wet and muddy playing on the field in the break times, or have a toileting accident.
- **Medication:** A reminder that a consent form must be filled in and left at the school office for any medication administered at school. A consent form can be downloaded from our website [www.kns.ac.nz](http://www.kns.ac.nz) or collected from the office. All medication remains in the office for safekeeping during the day.
- Our school has a **No Sweets** and **No Nuts** policy. Please refrain from including these items in your child's lunches.
- We are a **Water Only** school. Please encourage your child to bring a drink bottle filled with water and to drink regularly during the day.
- At 10am daily the children have a **Brain Break** in the classroom. Appropriate low sugar, healthy snack foods could be, a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks, yoghurt, or a small sandwich.

## Around the School Grounds

We are fortunate to have large, beautiful grounds and lots of places to play at our kura. Mr Steve, our caretaker, does an amazing job looking after the place. You will see him most mornings with the leaf blower keeping the walkways clear.

Mrs Gardner Ward and her room 2 students are responsible for the beautiful flower barrels outside the office and the year 4 classrooms.

Students in year 4 can be involved with Envirokids led by Miss Brydon. They take care of the māra kai growing fruit and vegetables. Some of this goes to the Hauora Hub for students who need help with kai. This supports the generous regular donation of food for children's lunches by Sam Waddell, the owner of Four Square, Clyde Street. If you have fruit trees at home and have spare fruit the Hauora Hub are always grateful for donations.



Flower barrels outside year 4 classes. Apple tree at the Hauora Hub.



Some of the produce grown at the māra kai by the Envirokids students.



## **Playtime Visits**

Enrolled preschoolers can attend Playtime sessions with their parents/caregivers before they turn 5 years old. These sessions are held each Wednesday from 1:50 pm to 2:45 pm for up to 4 weeks prior to starting school. These sessions will begin on Wednesday, 12 February 2025.



## **Lost Property**

Please come and look through the lost property outside Mrs Cowie's office regularly. Named items can be returned to children but unfortunately most of the clothing and shoes that are lost by children are unnamed. All unnamed belongings that are not claimed are donated.

PLEASE name ALL your children's clothes and footwear.

## **Scholastic Book Club**



This year we will be having the Scholastic Book Club open to whānau to purchase books. Scholastic is an international children's book publisher. They have been in Aotearoa for over 50 years! There are great value books from as low as \$3.50!

The Book Club brochure comes out twice a term.

For every purchase Knighton receives a commission which will go towards purchasing books for the Whare Pukapuka (library).

## **Ordering and Delivery**

- Online orders only will be accepted, use the Parents Page linked below. ***NO orders can be made through the school office***
- You will be charged a delivery fee of \$10 per order
- Items will be delivered to your home address, not school

Parents Page (this includes – how to order)

<https://www.scholastic.co.nz/parents/book-club-parents/>

You Tube Video on how to order via Computer  
<https://youtu.be/gf4SbLBsxYQ?si=4BR1WYYBcjJannj0>

Book Club Catalogue

<https://www.scholastic.co.nz/parents/book-club-latest-issue/>

## **Note your calendar**

12 Feb - New Entrant visits begin - 1:50 - 2.45pm

17 Feb - Board of Trustees hui - 6:00 - 8:00pm

25 Feb - Whānau picnic - 5:00 - 6:30pm

31 March - 4 April - Culture week

2 April - Cultural Parade

11 April - Term 1 ends

**Ngā mihi nui**

**Andrew Campbell**  
**Principal**