

Kākāpō Syndicate

Term Two, 2019



Welcome back and a special welcome to students and families who are new to Kākāpō Syndicate or Ngaio School.

Open Afternoon

It was wonderful to see such a fabulous turn-out of parents and whānau at our recent Eco Warrior open afternoon. The children love being able to share their learning with an audience. A special thank you to those visitors who took time to acknowledge not only their own child's work but the work of other learners too.

Our Place in Space Science Topic

This term we have an *Our Place in Space* science focus. We will be learning about where Earth fits into our solar system, the planets that make up our solar system, day and night, and the sun. If you have a science strength in this area we would love to hear from you.

Syndicate Trip to Carter Observatory

We have worked with the Carter Observatory to combine two of their workshops *World Around Us* and *Explore the Solar System*. The visit will have three parts including time in the planetarium, workshop and exploring the gallery. We will be travelling by bus. If you are able to attend please contact your child's class teacher.

Rooms 5 and 10, Monday 20 May depart 11.45am and return to school 2.40pm

Room 6, Thursday 23 May depart 9.15am and return to school 12.15pm

Rooms 9 and 12, Thursday 23 May depart 11.45am and return to school 2.40pm

Star Gazing Evening

We are fortunate to have the Wellington Astronomical Society coming to support Kākāpō's Star Gazing Evening. The astronomers will be bringing telescopes for us to view the stars and moon. Families are welcome from 5.30pm for a picnic tea. We will be eating inside using shared spaces and classrooms.

A poster for a star gazing evening. The background is a dark teal color with a pattern of small, light yellow stars. The text is in a dark, textured, hand-drawn font. The main title is 'KAKAPO STAR GAZING EVENING'. Below it, it says 'BRING A PICNIC AND JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF STARGAZING' with a small telescope icon. The date is 'DATE: MONDAY 13TH MAY (POSTPONEMENT DATE 20TH MAY)'. The time is 'TIME: PICNIC FROM 5.30PM, STAR GAZING 6-7PM'. At the bottom right, there is a logo for 'PIC•COLLAGE' in a dark banner.

**KAKAPO STAR
GAZING EVENING**

BRING A PICNIC AND JOIN US FOR AN
EVENING OF STARGAZING 

DATE: MONDAY 13TH MAY (POSTPONEMENT DATE 20TH MAY)

TIME: PICNIC FROM 5.30PM, STAR GAZING 6-7PM

PIC•COLLAGE

Key Competencies

The New Zealand National Curriculum is tied together by five Key Competencies designed for living and life-long learning they are:

- [thinking](#)
- [using language, symbols, and texts](#)
- [managing self](#)
- [relating to others](#)
- [participating and contributing](#)

In Kākāpō we have been focusing on the 'managing self' key competency and have worked hard to create authentic situations for children to manage themselves. It is wonderful to see the vast majority of children arriving at school independently and organising themselves for the school day. Thank you to parents for encouraging this in your child.

This term we focus on using language, symbols and texts in particular reading and writing diagrams to help explain aspects of space e.g. the rotation of Earth or what causes day and night.

Cross Country

This year's Cross Country will be held on Wednesday 15th May (postponement date 22 May). The top five Year 4, 5 and 6 place-getters will go through to compete in the Northern Zone competition on 6th June. The top five finishers in Years 0-3 will have the opportunity to take part in the Junior Invitational cross country on Tuesday 11th June. Although subject to change on the day the programme is as follows:

Starting time

Year 0-1 Boys 9.45am

Year 0-1 Girl 9.50am

Year 2 Boys 9.55am

Year 2 Girls 10.00am

Year 3 Boy 10.05am

Year 3 Girls 10.10am

Year 6 Boys 11.00am

Year 6 Girls 11.10am

Year 5 Boys 11.20am

Year 5 Girls 11.30am

Year 4 Boys 11.40am

Year 4 Girls 11.50am

The last race is followed by a sausage sizzle provided by the PTA. Parents are welcome to cheer from the sidelines although there will be limited space due to the field being out of action this year. More details will be coming home soon.

Due to our temperamental weather, it is difficult to hold practices on set days and so we ask children to be prepared with appropriate footwear and clothing over the next few weeks.

Te Reo

Matua Alwyn continues to visit each class for a half hour session once a fortnight. This term lessons will focus on learning the days of the week and months of the year. He will also share myths and legends relating to the earth and sky.

Literacy

We encourage all children to be reading regularly at home either independently or being read to. Word finds, anagrams, writing notes and sending emails are fun ways to support children's literacy. Take time to discuss the meaning of new words your child hears or reads. Building a child's vocabulary lifts their reading and writing. Reading and writing is taught within all curriculum areas e.g. reading to find key facts about the planets or writing a recount about the cross country.

Numeracy

Basic facts continues to be a major focus across the school and in our daily mathematics programmes. You can best help your child by revising basic facts at home. At home ask your child to skip count forwards and backwards as a way of becoming familiar with the numbers in each times table family as a beginning step towards learning times tables.

We will have a particular focus on fractions and measurement this term. Here are a few suggestions to support learning in these areas at home:

- Discuss fractions as food is divided or cut
- Measure ingredients when cooking
- Estimate distance, cost, speed...
- Use a stopwatch or clock to time things
- Tell the time on a digital or analogue clock
- Measure height

STRIVE

Teachers have received some spectacular STRIVE projects already this year. To complete STRIVE and receive a certificate at our special STRIVE assembly children in Year 3 need to complete six activities or seven activities in Year 4. Many children will manage to go beyond this requirement.

<p>Pink Shirt Day Friday 17th May is Pink Shirt Day and children are invited to come to school wearing as much pink as they wish! The aim in Aotearoa, is to spread aroha and kindness, celebrate diversity and put an end to bullying!</p>	<p>Sunhats - do not need to be worn at school during Term Two.</p>	<p>Yummy Stickers Classes are collecting yummy stickers from fruit and cut out bag labels again this term. These stickers help our school earn free sports gear.</p>
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Wrapper Free Wednesday

Wrapper-free Wednesdays will begin in week 2. This means we will be encouraging all students at Ngaio School to reduce the single-use plastic rubbish that comes into school with their school lunches. Check out the link below for ideas and more information from the Sustainability Trust.

[Wrapper Free Lunches](#)

School Communication

The school newsletter is emailed home to families. Paper copies can be requested from the office. Our school website and Facebook page are updated regularly with photographs, children's work and reminders. All students across Ngaio have a Seesaw account as a way of sharing their learning. If you require support accessing your child's seesaw account please contact your child's teacher.

Absences

If children are going to be late or away from school please email absences@ngaio.school.nz and copy in your child's teacher to that email. The email should contain your child's name, room number, reason and period for absence or lateness. Please also remember to sign out your child at the office if they leave the school grounds between 9-3pm and to sign in if they arrive between these times.

Messages

If you need to contact your child with an urgent message please notify the office to ensure the message is received rather than the class teacher.

The Kākāpō Team

Sarah Simpson (team leader), Christina Johnstone, Lucy Unsworth, Tessa Willis, Liz Blackwell, Dan Byrne and Caroline Dinniss (Ms Summers).

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