

Kōwhai Syndicate 2019 - Term 2 Newsletter



Kia ora Whānau,

Welcome back for Term Two. We hope your holidays were relaxing and lots of fun! Nau mai ki te kura o Ngaio to the children and families who are joining us. We look forward to working with you this year.

Our Team

Meet the Kōwhai teaching team. Please feel free to contact your child's class teacher at any point during the year.

Room 1 Charmaine Carlaw - c.carlaw@ngaio.school.nz and Donna Beechey - d.beechey@ngaio.school.nz

Room 2 Gillian Goldring - g.goldring@ngaio.school.nz and Kathy Yamada - k.yamada@ngaio.school.nz

Room 3 Karen Doogan - k.doogan@ngaio.school.nz (Senior Teacher)

Farewell

Sadly, Kōwhai will farewell Charmaine Carlaw from her teaching position in Room One during the term. The process to replace Charmaine is underway and more information around this will follow. We thank Charmaine for her hard work to date and will make the most of her company for the first half of the term.

Important Dates:

The Importance of Reading Books in a Digital Age - Parent Seminar	Tuesday 14th May - 7.15pm Tui Block
School Cross Country	Wednesday 15th May
Postponement Day for School Cross Country	Wednesday 22nd May
Pink Shirt Day	Friday 17th May
Queens Birthday Weekend	School closed - Friday 31st May - Monday 3rd June
Invitational Junior Cross Country at Amesbury School	Tuesday 11th June
Junior School trip to Te Papa	Thursday 13th June (9am - 1.30pm)
Term Two Ends	Friday 5th July

General Information

During our first few weeks back at school, we will be re-establishing class routines as well as continuing to encourage children to 'manage themselves' while at school. To develop this important Key Competency, we will ask that students take responsibility for unpacking their school bags in the morning, bringing reading folders into the classroom and putting their books and other items into the correct baskets.

At the end of the day the students will pack their bags before they go home. This is the beginning of getting the students to become independent in the classroom and take greater responsibility for themselves and their learning.

SCHOOL BELLS:

The children know that the 8.55 am bell is telling them that they need to get themselves organised and onto the mat. Children generally enjoy arriving at school early so that they can greet and meet their friends, have time to play and say their goodbyes without a rush when the bell goes.

Teachers are in their classrooms from 8.30 am in the mornings so the best time to discuss any issues or concerns with them is between **8.30-8.45 am**. Teachers are more than happy to meet with you at other times.

Absences / Late to school



Please email the office for all absences and copy your classroom teacher in as well.

absences@ngaio.school.nz

If you are collecting your child early or arriving late to school, you will also need to sign in at the office. This is necessary for emergencies so we have an accurate record of who is at school.

School Lunch Orders

Students can order lunch from school on Mondays and Wednesdays via Lunches Unlimited.

Sushi is available on a Tuesday and Subway is available on Thursday.

All the information about ordering a school lunch can be found on the Ngaio School website.



Lost Property

There is a lot of lost property waiting to be collected in our junior corridor. Please drop by to see what may belong to you.

Please ensure all items of clothing



are named for easy identification. During the term, the lost property basket is located in the entry corridor to the Kōwhai classrooms.

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 with whanau. If you require support accessing your child's seesaw account please contact your child's teacher.

If you have a query please contact your child's class teacher. They are best equipped to answer your questions directly or refer you to the right person. Karen Doogan is the team leader of Kōwhai.

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!



Sunhats - do not need to be worn at school during Term Two.



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.



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 Cross Country Race



A whole school cross country event will be held on Wednesday 15th May. The postponement date is Wednesday 22nd May. Parents and whānau are invited to join the school for this event. Races start at 9.45am and finish at lunch time. As junior classes race first, we recommend you be in the spectator area in plenty of time. More information regarding race times for Kōwhai classes will follow.

For the next few weeks, Kōwhai classes will be running regularly to develop stamina and technique for the cross country race.

It is important that children are wearing appropriate footwear for running safely. If your child prefers to wear gumboots to school, please send trainers in their school bag for them to change into.



The Importance of Reading Books in a Digital Age - Parent Education Opportunity

The Ngaio School PTA are hosting a talk with our librarian / kaitiaki pukapuka (Bernice Williams) and wonderful local resource, speech and language therapist (Camilla Peet) on Tuesday 14 May, 7.15pm in the Tui Block. For more information about the evening, please see the posters in the Kowhai corridor.

This is a free talk and open to the wider community. RSVP for catering purposes to pta@ngaio.school.nz

Classroom Help





We appreciate all offers of parental help in and outside of the classroom. At the beginning of the year we are establishing routines and building relationships with the students in our classes, therefore we may not require help within the classroom programme in the first few weeks of the term. Class teachers will be asking for parent volunteers later in the term.



Teacher Release

Classroom release for all Kōwhai teachers occurs on a Wednesday. Teachers are released on rotation for a part of the day for meetings, to observe other teachers in action, complete assessment and for planning purposes. Where possible, the same release teacher is used in each classroom.

Karen is also released on a Thursday for Senior Teacher duties.

<p>Spare Clothes:</p>  <p>Every now and then, children have accidents at school and a spare set of clothes is needed. It would be helpful if children could keep a spare set of clothes in a plastic bag in their school bag.</p>	<p>Collecting Children:</p> <p>At the end of the day children will be dismissed from class. Please wait for your children outside to help minimise congestion in the corridors. It is a good idea to arrange a meeting place to make it easier for your child to find you when it is busy outside.</p> 	<p>Seesaw & Class Blogs:</p>  <p>As well as individual seesaw posts, items of interest are posted to class blogs. These blogs have been created as a way to share the learning journey between home and school. Blogs can be viewed via the school website. Follow the syndicate link and select Kōwhai and your child's class.</p> 
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Term One Programmes

Topic Social Sciences – Pūrākau - Maori Myths & Legends

Using some key Maori myths & legends, classes will discuss the significance of why certain places in New Zealand are important in developing our history. Children will also reflect on how various cultures of people in New Zealand are expressed in our everyday lives.



If you or a family member would like to come into school to share a favourite Pūrākau, story or show an item that is significant to you and your family, please let your classroom teacher know. We would love to hear from you.

Music & Art

To explore rhythm, children will be using a variety of natural objects and percussion instruments to create sounds through music. Children will have the opportunity to use poi in dance and haka moves will be perfected during waiata sessions. Each class will depict a legend through mural art and children will learn a variety of techniques such as collage, crayon & dye work and weaving during the process.





Reading

Reading books will go home most nights from Monday - Thursday. The reading books that your child brings home should be easy for them to read. On Fridays, children will bring home their poetry books to share with you and these need to be returned to school every Monday please.

Classes will visit the school library each week. Children are able to choose 1-2 library books to take home and enjoy. The books are then returned the following week, in time for new books to be issued. Books can be returned to the classroom earlier if you wish. The library is also open during lunchtimes for children to independently issue and return books. Please help your child to remember their library books each week, so they can return them and get new books issued. Classes visit the library on the following days:

Room 1 - Tuesday

Room 2 - Wednesday

Room 3 - Monday

Mathematics

During Term Two we will continue to develop student's number knowledge. Children will be learning to identify certain numbers, order them correctly and count forward and backwards in sequence from any given starting point. We will also be exploring aspects of Geometry & Measurement by -

- = correctly sequencing days of the week,
- = sequencing events within a day
- = being able to show a quarter and half turn (and that two quarter turns = one half turn)
- = making patterns that show a line of symmetry and being able to explain what this means.



Writing

The focus for writing in junior classes will be on recounting personal experiences (such as our holidays, adventures with family or something that is special to us) and writing personal descriptions where we can give detailed information about a time, people or event.



Physical Education

This Term Kōwhai classes will focus on building fundamental movement concepts and large motor skills through the Sportstart programme as well as participating in the school cross country running race in May.

Activities include:

- 1) Moving with control (run, skip, hop, jump)
- 2) Changing direction while moving
- 3) Showing balance when still and while moving
- 4) Co-operating with a partner or team

The School Cross Country will be held on Wednesday 15th May. Juniors normally run first in the morning - but more details will be available nearer the time.



Te Reo

Each week Matua Alwyn supports children across the school to learn and improve their te reo Māori. Children have been learning to introduce themselves, say what their name is and ask how another person is feeling.

Ko wai tō ingoa? = What is your name?	Ko ___ tōku ingoa. = ___ is my name	Kei te pehea koe? = How are you?
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All students will enjoy weekly waiata sessions with the junior syndicate and within our classroom programmes Alwyn will provide insights into Māori history and culture using the legends. He will also continue to develop our understanding of some basic commands. (e.g. Titiro mai = Look here, Whakarongo mai = Listen here,)

The KYwhai Team

Karen Doogan, Charmaine Carlaw, Donna Beechey, Gillian Goldring and Kathy Yamada