

## **TUI NEWSLETTER: Term One, 2018**

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,

Welcome to Ngaio for 2018. This letter is to provide you with information about our syndicate. We are part of a Year 5 and 6 syndicate made up of two teams; Rata and Harakeke. The teachers in this syndicate are Daniel Edmonds, Harriet Quin and Liz Blackwell (Year 5 team; Rata), and Jon Mackie, Sophia Gowans and Sarah Smart (Year 6 team; Harakeke). We welcome Daniel Edmonds to Tui Syndicate and look forward to working alongside him.

It promises to be an exciting year with many interesting and fun events along the way. During your child's time in the syndicate many new challenges and opportunities become available to students. As seniors, we expect our Year 5 and 6 students to be leaders and role models for the rest of the school.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR TERM ONE:**

Week 2	6 February 8 February 9 February	Waitangi Day Holiday Tui Information Evening and Year 6 Camp Meeting (Information below) 9:00 Whakataua
Week 3		School Photos - Programme to be advised
Week 4	19 February 23 February	Year 5 Beach Education Days 11:30am - 1:30pm Tui Block Official Opening
Week 5	27 February	Year 5 Arctic Challenge
Week 6	4 March 5-6 March	Gala (Sunday) 3-Way Goal-Setting Conferences
Week 9	26-29 March 30 March	Year 6 Camp Easter Friday
Week 10	Easter Monday and Tuesday	
Week 11	Friday 13 April	Term End

## **ABSENCES**

If your child is going to be away from school (or late for school) can you please email [absences@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:absences@ngaio.school.nz) to advise your child's name, room number, period of absence and reason for absence. In cases where your child is going to be late - please also advise approx time you expect your child to be at school.

It would be a good idea to copy the email to your child's classroom teacher for their noting also.

When your child arrives late to school, it is imperative that they are signed in at the office. In cases where a child has to leave school before 3pm, it is necessary for an adult to come to the office to sign them out.

## **PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS:**

These will take place on Thursday the 8th of February. The purpose of this meeting is to outline procedures and processes associated with the Tui team. It is also a chance to meet with other parents in your child's learning team. The evening will conclude by 7:15pm. The format is as follows....

5:30pm - Kakapo syndicate hosts a syndicate information session while Tui syndicate has an open classroom session (informal meet the teacher drop in/students and parents look around the classroom).

5:30pm - shared dinner on the field.

6:15pm - Tui syndicate hosts a syndicate information session

6:45pm - Year 6 Camp meeting commences

The evening will conclude at 7:15pm

## **CLASS BLOGS/SEESAW:**

Each Team will have a blog that has been created to share their learning journey with our friends and families. We will be posting photos, updates, children's work, videos and discussions. This is an engaging and interactive way for children to share their learning experiences and it is a great talking point for those children who 'cannot remember' what they did at school. If you could please make an effort to check our blog on a regular basis and leave comments or ask questions this will inspire our children to continue their great learning. Please note that full names will not be used on the blog and all comments will be moderated by the teacher before being published. Students without 'photo permission' will not feature on class blogs. Please share the link with family and friends! We look forward to hearing from you. Additional to this, your child will also have an online portfolio on Seesaw. The blog and Seesaw should be up and running by the end of Week 2.

### **SWIMMING TIMES:**

Swimming and Gymnastics classes have begun for all students. Students have been divided into groups and will alternate between gymnastics activities and swimming, for 30 minutes each.

Students are responsible for bringing their togs and being organised on the day of swimming lessons. Please note that it is highly important for all Tui students to participate in the swimming lessons so they are prepared for Camp and any other water-based activities over the course of the year.

### **Days of swimming:**

Rata are swimming Wednesdays

Harakeke are swimming on Thursdays

### **WE ARE A SUNSMART SCHOOL:**

Students are required to wear a hat with a brim in the summer terms (Terms One and Four). Ngaio School Sun Hats can be purchased from the office. Teachers will role model this behaviour and we urge parents to do the same when they are on school grounds.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES AND LEADERSHIP:**

Students are encouraged to take on responsibility around the school. They are now the role models for the rest of the school. The demonstration of appropriate behaviours and a higher level of resilience is expected and encouraged. Students in Tui are responsible for Road Patrol, and Year 6 students for ringing the bells and delivering sushi. Please help your child to be at school on time for these duties. We thank the students in advance for their help and contribution to the school. We were impressed with the punctuality and professionalism shown by our Road Patrollers on our first week back. There is a variety of areas where students in Tui can be involved in the school. In Term Two, our school-wide leadership groups will be announced, however, informally students can identify areas that they would like to work in to better the school and bring their ideas to us for discussion.

### **STRIVE Homework:**

Strive Homework Challenge booklets will be discussed at the Tui parent information evening. This evening is **Thursday the 8th of February**. The following Friday each child interested in the STRIVE programme will be able to collect a the STRIVE booklet from their teachers.

Students will be able to get their Strive Challenge booklets signed off after morning tea (10:50 am) on Fridays. Students need to show 'evidence' in the form of a journal or reflection – please refer to the information on the back of the Strive Challenge Booklet. Last year's uptake of STRIVE was brilliant and culminated in a successful celebration assembly. We hope to build on that success again this year.

### **THREE WAY GOAL SETTING CONFERENCES: Week 6**

Teachers look forward to meeting with parents and students to set goals in reading, writing and maths and to discuss any other matters regarding your child's learning. Bookings will soon be open for your child's goal setting conference.

### **YEAR 6 CAMP:**

Students will receive all information pertaining to camp in class sessions. We will be holding a parent information meeting on **Thursday February 8th** from 6:45-7:15pm This is being held directly after our Tui Information Evening. This is a meeting for parents only at this time. At the meeting we will discuss such things as camp aims and objectives, activities, parent help (including activity group leaders), accommodation, student groups, food, and general health and safety. If you are interested in putting your name forward as a parent helper at camp this year, please fill out the google form that was sent out prior to school starting. The end date for registration of interest is the 12th of February.

For your calendars: we will travel up to camp on **Monday the 26th of March** by bus, and return to Ngaio School on the afternoon of **Thursday 29th of March**. Further information to follow.

### **YEAR 5 EOTC: (Education Outside the Classroom)**

Year 5 students will be participating in a variety of activities this term that are focused on learning in our environment. It will also prove to be advantageous in helping to prepare the students for next year's camp. These activities will happen over the course of the term and information will be communicated throughout the term. On some of these trips we could be asking for parent volunteers, it would be great to see you enjoying these activities with the students. The activities are designed to test the students and to give them a chance to break out of their comfort zones.

### **SYNDICATE ASSEMBLIES and WAIATA:**

Syndicate Assemblies are to be held on Fridays at 11:45pm, these start in Week 2. At 2.15pm Waiata will be with our Te Reo teacher Alwyn Rees. Student-led assemblies will begin later in the term. Parents and families are welcome to attend both Syndicate Assemblies and Waiata. These take place under Te Kapua (the new shade area outside the Tui block) during fine weather and in shared classrooms when the weather is doubtful.

### **LEARNING PROGRAMMES:**

#### **Writing:**

Students will look at writing for a variety of audiences and purposes, across the curriculum. This term's focus will be on reinforcing aspects of the writing process, and in particular, brainstorming, re-working and developing vocabulary skills. Students will also be encouraged to draw on their knowledge of reading when constructing a piece of writing. Discussing writing from a reader's perspective and recognising what it is that helps it meet its purpose (e.g. to inform, entertain etc), is something you could do at home to help your child. We will be specifically focusing on recounts and the ability to describe using "show not tell" techniques, focusing on good use of language features to develop a sense of being there for the reader.

#### **Reading:**

Please encourage your child to read at home on a regular basis. Children of this age still enjoy being read to, so continue to do this as well. Students in Years 5 and 6 should be reading a broad range of books and other reading material (e.g. magazine and newspaper articles). Come and see your child's teacher if you are stuck for new titles or authors. This term's reading focus will be on reading comprehension skills with a particular focus on inferring, making connections to prior knowledge and building vocabulary knowledge.

**Numeracy:**

Students will continue to build their Numeracy Knowledge and Strategies. A focus on Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division and Ratios and Proportions will run throughout the year. In strand maths students will look at Measurement and Statistics. Each student will have an online IXL account to support the class maths programme. This is accessible at home and at school. For further information, please refer to the IXL information sheet that was emailed out to you last year or speak to one of your child's teachers.

**Contact Details:**

This year we have year group email addresses for contacting teachers. Please use this as your first form of contact. If you have a specific person you would like to speak to please address your email to that person.

This has been done so that all teachers that have a role to play in your child's education are informed of any correspondence you feel appropriate to share.

You may also contact us before school and after school, please advise us prior if you would like a meeting and who you would like to meet with and we will arrange a time that is mutually appropriate.

**Class Emails- team emails are the best form of communication as these are reviewed with more regularity.**

Click here to communicate with [Year 5 Team Rata](#)

Click here to communicate with [Year 6 Team Harakeke](#)

- Jon Mackie [j.mackie@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:j.mackie@ngaio.school.nz)
- Sarah Smart [s.smart@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:s.smart@ngaio.school.nz)
- Sophia Gowans [s.gowans@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:s.gowans@ngaio.school.nz)
  
- Liz Blackwell [l.blackwell@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:l.blackwell@ngaio.school.nz)
- Dan Edmonds [d.edmonds@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:d.edmonds@ngaio.school.nz)
- Harriet Quin [h.quin@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:h.quin@ngaio.school.nz)

We look forward to working alongside our students, their families and whanau this term.

Kind regards,

The Tui Team - Jon, Sarah, Liz, Sophia, Harriet and Daniel.