

# Harakeke, Year 6 Tūi Syndicate Term 1 Newsletter - 2020



Kia ora Whanau,

## Welcome

Welcome back and a special welcome to students and families who are new to Tūi or Ngaio School. Our year has begun smoothly and classes have settled into their learning programmes quickly. Thank you for having your children ready with stationery on the first day back.

## Our Team

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

Rūma rua tekau mā toru (23)	James McMullan <a href="mailto:j.mcmullan@ngaio.school.nz">j.mcmullan@ngaio.school.nz</a> Rebecca Haswell (Thursday) <a href="mailto:r.haswell@ngaio.school.nz">r.haswell@ngaio.school.nz</a>
Rūma rua tekau mā whā (24)	Chantal McKee <a href="mailto:c.mckee@ngaio.school.nz">c.mckee@ngaio.school.nz</a> Rebecca Haswell (Friday) <a href="mailto:r.haswell@ngaio.school.nz">r.haswell@ngaio.school.nz</a>
Rūma rua tekau mā rima (25)	Sam Jenkins <a href="mailto:s.jenkins@ngaio.school.nz">s.jenkins@ngaio.school.nz</a>

## Important Dates

Friday 21st February	Whakatau - Welcome to new families - 9:00am under Te Kapua
Thursday 25th February	Camp information meeting 6pm - Harakeke
Friday 28th February	New Families' Breakfast - 8:00am in Room 4
Monday 16th to Thursday 19th March	ASB Moneywise sessions in classes
Wednesday 1st April	African Drumming Performance
Week 10 6-9	Forest Lakes Year 6 Camp
Thursday 9th April	End of Term 1 - 3:00pm

## Swimming

Easyswim are running swimming lessons on Thursdays in our school pool. Students will also have gymnastics sessions on Thursdays led by teachers. Please ensure your child is dressed in appropriate clothing with covered shoes for the gymnastics sessions.

## Library

All Harakeke Whanau groups will be visiting the library on Monday mornings. Students are able to choose 1-2 library books to take home and enjoy. 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.

## Tūi Assembly

All syndicates will be using the Ngaio Town Hall to host assemblies. As the hire of the hall is an additional cost for our school we would kindly welcome a koha placed into a donation box at the door. Dates and times will be confirmed in our school newsletter.

## Strive

Strive is currently being reviewed to align with our new school values *ROCKET: Resilient, Open-Minded, Curious, Kind, Empathetic, Trustworthy*. More information about Strive will come out in the next few weeks. In the meantime the 2019 version will continue to be used.

## Health - Ko au tēnei - All About Me

As we start the new year we are focused on building positive relationships with other people and exploring what it is that makes them special "I am a Ngaio Learner..."

## Science - Electricity

We are starting the year with a science focus on *Electricity*. Students will work across Harakeke to investigate electricity. What happens when an appliance is plugged in? Are there different forms of electricity? What is an electrical current? Are electrical storms real? How do magnets work? So much of our lives are powered by electricity - what is it, and how does it work? If you have electrical knowledge, equipment or skills that may be able to support our learning please contact your child's whanau teacher.

## Literacy

Please encourage your child to read at home on a regular basis. Children of this age still enjoy being read to and with. Like adults children will often have favourite books and re-reading these helps to develop a love of reading. Teachers and librarians can help if students are looking for book recommendations. Reading can also include magazines, articles, comics and audio books. 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

Addition and subtraction along with problem solving will kickstart numeracy programmes. Classes will also be learning measurement:

- metric units for length, area, volume, capacity, weight
- area and volume
- classification of shapes
- drawings and models
- using co-ordinates and the language of direction
- describe transformations: reflection, rotation, translation, enlargement

You can support your child's numeracy without them even knowing by playing board games, comparing prices in the supermarket, measuring ingredients, estimating lengths of time or counting backwards from bigger numbers.

## Te Reo

Over term one we will be revising classroom commands in te reo Maori. We'll also be using basic conversational language e.g. *Kei te pehea koe? How are you? Kei te pai au. I am good.* Nga kupu for everyday words e.g. days of the week, months, colours, numbers will be embedded into our programmes.

## Digital Agreement

Students will continue to use devices to support their learning. As part of the Digital Agreement we have added specific instructions to improve posture when using devices. Students have been asked to use devices sitting at a desk or z-frame. The *Student Digital Device and Internet Usage Guidelines & Agreement* needs to be discussed and signed at home. Thank you.

