



Kia ora Whānau,

Warm welcome to you all!

We hope everyone had a relaxing holiday and look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Each term a newsletter will be sent with information regarding the term ahead.

Our Team



Meet the Pōhutukawa teaching team. Please feel free to contact your child’s Whānau teacher at any point during the year.

Rūma tekau mā rima (15) Morag Roberts - m.roberts@ngaio.school.nz and Pearl Moon - p.moon@ngaio.school.nz (Friday release).

Rūma tekau mā ono (16) Bronwyn O’Halloran - b.ohalloran@ngaio.school.nz and Kathy Yamada - k.yamada@ngaio.school.nz (Thursdays to release Bronwyn for Team Leader Duties))

Rūma tekau mā whitu (17) Tessa Gatenby - t.gatenby@ngaio.school.nz and Kathy Yamada - k.yamada@ngaio.school.nz in class support on Tuesdays.

Important Dates:

Monday 10th February	Swimming & Gymnastics begins (Room 15 Monday, Room 16 Tuesday, Rm 17 Thursday 1:30-2:30pm) Any parent support for supporting students with getting changed would be most appreciated - please contact your child’s teacher.	
Tuesday 11th February (Picnic 5-5:40pm) and Wednesday 12th February.	“Knowing Me Knowing You” Meetings -Student/Parent/Teacher Relationship Meetings - Please bring along your completed “Knowing Me’ sheet to share at the meeting.	
Friday 28 March - 8am	New Families are welcome to join the PTA and staff members for breakfast, tea, coffee and chat from 8am.This event will be held in Room 4. Come along and meet other families new to Ngaio School.	
Monday 16th to Thursday 19th March	Moneywise : ASB Moneywise sessions in classes	
Wednesday 1st April	African Drumming Performance	
Thursday 9th April	End of Term 1 - 3:00pm	

Class Events :	Room 15	Room16	Room 17
Swimming - please bring togs/towels/goggles in a separate swim bag.	Monday 1:30-2:30pm	Tuesday 1:30-2:30pm	Thursday 1:30-2:30pm
School Library - please bring your coloured book bag for ensuring books stay safe and dry,	Friday	Friday	Wednesday

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 the school newsletter.

Key Competency - Managing Self




While the focus in all classrooms for the first few weeks will be about establishing class routines, one of the Key Competencies we will explore is 'Managing Self'. This involves managing our own belongings, behaviour and responses.

We ask that students take responsibility for unpacking their school bags in the morning, bringing reading folders into the classroom and putting their own books and other items into the correct baskets.

At the end of the day the students will pack their bags before they go home. The skills required to 'manage self' may take some time, but starting this process is closely linked to getting students to develop greater independence within the classroom and take responsibility for themselves and their actions.

The children know that the 8.55 am bell is telling them that they need to get themselves organised and onto the mat. It is a good idea for children to be at school early so that they can greet and meet their friends, have time to play and say their goodbyes.

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.

<p>Absences / Late to school</p>  <p>Please email the office for all absences and copy your classroom teacher in as well.</p> <p>absences@ngaio.school.nz</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Lost Property</p> <p>Each term we gather a large amount of lost property.</p>  <p>Please ensure all items of clothing are named for easy identification. The lost property basket is located in the entry corridor to the Kowhai classrooms.</p>	<p>School Lunch Orders</p> <p>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</p> 
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School Communication

The school newsletter is emailed home to families. Paper copies can be requested from the office. Our school website and Facebook page will be updated regularly with photographs, children's work and reminders. All students across Ngaio have a Seesaw account as a way of sharing their learning directly 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. Bronwyn O'Halloran is the team leader of Pōhutukawa.





Sunsmart

Ngaio School is a sunsmart school. During Terms 1 and 4 all children need to be wearing a wide brim hat outside. If children do not have a hat, they will be asked to play in a shaded area during break times. School hats can be purchased from the office. We encourage parents to sunblock their child each morning. Sun cream lotion is also available in all classrooms. The staff will role model sun safe behaviours and we encourage other adults on the school grounds to please support us.

Teacher Release

Classroom release for all teachers occurs on a Wednesday across the school. 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 to ensure continuity.

<p>Spare Clothes:</p>  <p>Every now and then, children have accidents at school and a spare set of</p>	<p>Seesaw & Class Blogs</p> <p>As well as individual seesaw posts, items of interest are posted to class blogs.</p> 
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clothes is needed. It would be helpful if children could keep a spare set of clothes in a plastic bag in their school bag.

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 Pōhutukawa and your child's class.

Term One Programmes

Topic "Health & Social Sciences – 'I am a Ngaio Learner'"



The children will focus on building positive relationships with other people and exploring what it is that makes them special. We will be exploring and celebrating our Ngaio School Values. "ROCKET" - Resilient, Open Minded, Curious, Kind, Empathetic and Trustworthy.

Literacy

Reading : From Week 3 : Guided or independent books will go home every night from Monday - Thursday. You may find that your child is given the same book more than once or they may only read a specific part of their book in relation to their current learning goal.

The reading books your child brings home should be relatively easy for your child to read as they have been previously read in a guided lesson with the teacher or have been selected from an "independent box" of

familiar readers.

The Pōhutukawa Syndicate all use a yellow reading log book to encourage home reading communication. Please ensure you sign the reading log and return both the reading book and reading log to school the following day.

Writing : our focus areas for the term will be writing 'Recounts' of events using sequencing words and time vocabulary; 'Descriptive' writing using adjectives to provide clues and our third focus will be 'Information Reports' which links to our science topic. We will look at providing a format to explain facts and share our learning with others.

Each week your child will bring home a poem in their poetry book to share as well as 1 or 2 books from our weekly class visit to our wonderful school library. **Shelving books:** We would be most appreciative for any parental help to 're-shelve' the classroom reading books. If you have any free time (any time that suits you works for us) and would like to help with this, then please contact your child's teacher.

Numeracy

During year two our goal is to extend number knowledge, consolidate and link knowledge and strategies in all areas of mathematics. To start the term we will focus on 'Statistics' - asking questions, gathering data, creating simple graphs to represent information and interpreting data. Number knowledge will be our main focus of the term, in particular reading numbers (2 and 3 digit numbers), identifying numbers 'before' and 'after', skip counting as well as number sequencing and basic facts. Throughout the term we will also explore geometry - identifying and explaining 2 and 3 dimensional shapes.

Arts

'Self Portraits'. To start the year we will be exploring how everyone is unique and that we all have many strengths and talents we can share with our friends and families. Alongside this learning we will be exploring the visual arts through the focus of 'Self Portraits'. We will further extend our knowledge by exploring some famous artists such as Picasso. The children will use and explore a range of art materials such as crayon, paint, pastels and charcoal.

Science 'Protecting Our Precious Plants'

In the second half of the term our students will explore the science capability of 'Gathering and Interpreting Data (including finding patterns and making connections)'. Key questions we will explore are 'What do plants need to survive? How do plants have a relationship with the world and people?'. We will be extending the children's experiences and relationships with the natural world through the use of senses, asking questions, identifying patterns and making connections.

Te Reo

During Term 1 our key focus areas will be reviewing and consolidating our knowledge of numbers and colours as well as each student developing the skills to be able to recite a simple mihi e.g. Kō Bronwyn tōku ingoa (My name is Bronwyn).

Physical Education

Swimming is part of the NZ Curriculum and it is expected that all students will take part. The pool will be covered so we will be swimming regardless of the weather. During our swimming time 1/2 an hour will be instructed swimming lessons and the other 1/2

hour will be an instructional gymnastics programme. Please ensure your child wears appropriate clothing and footwear for these sessions. Please ensure your child brings their swimming gear on their swimming day.

The Pōhutukawa Team

Bronwyn O'Halloran, Morag Roberts, Tessa Gatenby, Kathy Yamada and Pearl Moon