



St Johns Hill School

Piwakawaka Team Newsletter

Term Two 2019

Kia Ora Koutou and welcome back to all our learners and their whanau and a very special welcome to new families joining our school community. We hope you have had a restful and refreshing break and are ready for an action packed term in the Piwakawaka Team!

Piwakawaka Team Teachers

Room 11 Clemency Boyce- Year One

Room 12 Hilary Slight- Year One

Room 13 Laura Malone-Belliss (Team Leader)- Year One

Jess Devane, Dinny Harrison and Liz Preston - Teacher support

Piwakawaka Team Teacher Aides

Amanda Baldwin (Room 11/12)

Donna Scrimshaw (Room 11/12)

Trish Watt (Room 11/12/13)

Aisha Bristowe (Room 11/12)

St Johns Hill School is a Green/Gold Enviroschool.

This means we encourage all learners to think and act sustainably.

At our school this means:

- Womble lunchboxes- encouraging litter free and food in its natural form.
- Class gardens- we grow and use the food from our own gardens.
- Solar panels- panels on the roof of room 6 generate some of our power. Our school pool is also heated by solar panels.
- Our school is committed to reduce, reuse, recycle and rethink.
- We have sustainable systems in place like chickens, worm farms, the orchard and the greenhouse that provides seedlings.
- Each class has Earth Kid representatives that attend meetings where enviro issues are discussed. The students report back to their class on upcoming events and actions.

Key Competency:

Participating and Contributing.

I can:

- share my ideas and opinions with others
- share information about myself and my family
- contribute as a member of a group
- make connections with others
- have a sense of belonging and the confidence to participate in new situations

Virtues: Self-Discipline

"Self-discipline means self-control. It is getting yourself to do what you really want to do, rather than being tossed around by your feelings like a leaf in the wind. You don't lose control of yourself when you are hurt or angry, but decide how you are going to talk and what you are going to do. With self-discipline, you take charge of yourself." -The Virtues Project

School Uniform:

Terms two and three are winter uniform. Please follow the guidelines for correct school uniform on our website. Please ensure all items are named, including shoes and school bags.

Stationery:

As the weather changes and the cold and flu season is upon us, please send a box of tissues with your child for class use. It is also helpful to teach your child about blowing their own nose, a very useful skill.

Football Skills:

Central Football will coming to school on Thursday mornings to teach Football skills to our team. Children will need appropriate footwear for this session. A pair of sneakers is required. If you would prefer sports clothing to be worn, in case of muddy fields, please send this named with your child. It is your child's responsibility to know that it is there and to get themselves changed before school.

Library:

We will be visiting the school library on Friday mornings. Students will choose a book to bring home to share. Please make sure this book is returned to the classroom before the following session.

School and Team Assemblies:

We will have team and school assemblies on alternate weeks. During team assembly, teachers will draw from the Womble box, a student who has been a Womble during the week. We also present a class certificate and a Star Card student who has shown excellent qualities within the classroom. School singing will be every second week.

Topic:

Cyber Safety- Knowing safe practices and management with devices. Being aware of safe practice on the internet. Fire Safety-Knowing how to keep ourselves safe in the event of an emergency at school or at home.

Bookbags / Reading Folders:

All students must have a reading folder/book bag for their homework books, school readers, poetry books and library books. This is to protect books from spilled lunch and inclement weather.

Phonics:

We use a phonics programme to teach the letter sounds, names, blends and correct letter formation. At home you can discuss the letter for the week and reinforce the sound it makes.

Use your Piwakawaka handbook to support your child with learning the Casey Caterpillar letter formation

Parent / Whanau / Grandparent Helpers:

We would like help with:

- Discovery Time- Friday 11:00am-12:30pm. We are learning through investigating and play. We will be cooking, building, creating and exploring.
- Reading mileage- support our growing learners by building their fluency and discussing their books.
- People who are able to assist with returning of books to bookroom.

Oral Language:

While sharing our own news is important, a valuable skill to learn is being an active listener. Children learn to listen to others, make connections with other people's experiences and ask appropriate questions. It can be helpful to bring an item of interest from an event or experience or something starting with the letter of the week. This can provide students with motivation for writing about a personal event.

Writing:

While learning to record their personal experiences, your child may talk about the 'writing hands'. These hands provide the framework to guide their development as a writer and show their next steps in learning to be an independent writer. We encourage children to "Have a go" rather than being told how to spell something new. Recording the dominant sounds or the first sound they hear is a great first step.

Numeracy:

We focus on building a strong knowledge of number and problem solving strategies. We use real life contexts and play to make maths meaningful and authentic. This term we are integrating picture books and known fairy tales into our programme to support mathematical learning. We will be covering statistics, measurement, geometry and algebra.

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday 7th May- NZEI Union meeting- school closes at 12:30

Friday 17th May- Pink Shirt Day

Saturday 25th May- St Johns Hill School at the River Traders Market 9am-1pm

Thursday 27th June- Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences (School closes at 12:30)

Monday 1st July- Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences (School closes at 12:30)

Friday 5th July- PTA Sausage sizzle

Thursdays Week 2- Week 7- Central Football begins

Monday 3rd June- Queen's Birthday weekend

Friday 5th July- Last Day of term two

