

Kakapo Syndicate

Term Three, 2017



Welcome back and a special welcome to students and families who are new to Kakapo or Ngaio School.

Reporting

Year 3

Children in year 3 receive two written reports and two 20 minute conferences with their child's class teacher. These either fall in terms one and three or in even terms two and four. Year 3 parents of children with full or half birthdays this term, will be contacted via email to make an online conference booking with their child's class teacher. The 20 minute conferences are held on 22 and 23 August in classrooms.

We have received positive feedback on the new booking system. It is certainly saving teachers time and ensures everyone receives the same amount of reporting time. Please only book an interview when you have been sent the appointment booking directly. All conferences are 20 minutes in duration and will be held in classrooms.

Year 4

In year 4 children also receive two written reports and two 20 minute conferences with their child's class teacher. These take place in terms one and two. In addition, year 4 children receive an end of year report.

Cummings Park Library

Classes will be visiting Cummings Park library again in term three. If you are able to attend please contact your child's teacher.

Room 13	Friday 25 August
Room 14	Friday 11 August
Room 20	Friday 18 August
Room 5	Friday 1 September
Room 12	Friday 8 September
Room 8	Friday 4 August

Numeracy

Our term three focus is proportions and ratios. Geometry will also be targeted this term. Children are encouraged to revise their basic facts at home. Check out <http://maths.prototec.co.nz/> Mathematics is all around us. Encourage your child to notice mathematics in their daily lives eg, when cutting food, sharing food, patterns in the garden, naming shapes, money or telling the time.

Literacy

The best way to improve our literacy is by using literacy. Here are some suggestions for encouraging literacy at home:

- read aloud to a family member or to yourself
- write a play to perform with family members
- email a grandparent or friend
- send a letter to a relative or friend
- visit the library
- set yourself a list of books to read
- read magazines
- play scrabble
- wordfinds and crosswords

Triathlon

In term four Kakapo syndicate will be holding our annual triathlon. Although it is called a triathlon (swim, cycle, run) we also offer a biathlon (swim, run) and an ultrathon which is a longer version of the triathlon. The cycle session requires children to bike twice around the lower courts. We are making families aware of this now to give plenty of time to practise riding a bicycle and tying shoes quickly without too much adult help.

STRIVE

Teachers have received some spectacular STRIVE projects this year. To complete STRIVE and receive a certificate at our special STRIVE assembly children in Year 3 need to complete six activities or seven activities in Year 4. Many children will manage to go beyond this requirement.

Science Focus

In term three our science topic is 'Space'. We will be learning about where Earth fits into our solar system, the planets that make up our solar system, day and night, and the sun. If you have a science strength in this area we would love to hear from you.

Syndicate Trip to Carter Observatory

Fortunately our trip to Te Papa was subsidised by Te Papa. This has allowed us to stretch our activity budget for a trip to the Carter Observatory. We have worked with the Carter Observatory to combine two of their workshops *World Around Us* and *Explore the Solar System*. The visit will have three parts including time in the planetarium, workshop and exploring the gallery. We will be travelling by bus.

Due to the size of our syndicate our visit will span over three days:

Monday August 21, Room 20, 9 - 11.45am

Monday August 21, Rooms 13 and 14, 11.50am - 2.15pm

Thursday 24 August, Room 12, 9 - 11.45am

Friday 25 August, Rooms 5 and 8, 9 - 11.45am

If you are able to attend please contact your child's class teacher.

Key Competencies

The New Zealand National Curriculum is tied together by five Key Competencies designed for living and life-long learning they are:

- [thinking](#)
- [using language, symbols, and texts](#)
- [managing self](#)
- [relating to others](#)
- [participating and contributing](#)

In Kakapo we have been focusing on the 'managing self' key competency and have worked hard to create authentic situations for children to manage themselves. It is wonderful to see the vast majority of children arriving at school independently and organising themselves for the school day. Thank you to parents for encouraging this in your child.

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

Absences

If children are going to be late or away from school please email absences@ngaio.school.nz and copy in your child's teacher to that email. The email should contain your child's name, room number, reason and period for absence or lateness. Please also remember to sign out your child at the office if they leave the school grounds between 9-3pm and to sign in if they arrive between these times.

Messages

If you need to contact your child with an urgent message please notify the office to ensure the message is received rather than the class teacher. Messages emailed to teachers for children may not be received during teaching.

The Kakapo Team

Sarah Simpson (team leader), Alayne Wright, Lucy Unsworth, Karen Lathan, Emily Pettigrew, Daniel Edmonds and Lucy Yates.

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