

## Koru Team Newsletter

### Term 1 2016

Welcome to all parents and caregivers of the tamariki who are in Koru Syndicate this year. If you and your child are new to Titahi Bay School this year, we look forward to getting to know you.

#### Classes and Teachers

**Koru Team is a Year 1/2 syndicate made up of 4 classes:**

Rebekah Hill, **Co-Team Leader**, shares Room 6, a Year 1/2 class

Email: [rebekah.hill@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:rebekah.hill@titahibay.school.nz)

Nadia Collins shares Room 6, a Year 1/2 class.

Email: [nadia.collins@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:nadia.collins@titahibay.school.nz)

Kristina Stevens teaches in Room 1, and has a Year 1/2 class.

Email: [kristina.stevens@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:kristina.stevens@titahibay.school.nz)

Mike Laing, **Co-Team Leader** is in Room 3 with a Year 1/2 class.

Email: [mike.laing@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:mike.laing@titahibay.school.nz)

Sharon Thompson teaches in Room 2 and has a year 1/2 class

Email: [sharon.thompson@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:sharon.thompson@titahibay.school.nz)

Communication is very important and email is often the most effective way for us to communicate with you. Please use the email addresses above to contact your child's teacher and provide us with your email contact details.

Please feel free to call in to the classes and get to know your child's teacher, we are there to help you and answer your questions.

**Please check the school website [www.titahibay.school.nz](http://www.titahibay.school.nz) and Facebook page for more information about current and upcoming events and notices.** You can find a link to our Facebook page through our website.

#### Topics and Events for Term 1

Our focus for the beginning of Term 1 is KURA and getting to know each other. We will be looking at how to be friends, play fairly, have respect for people and property, and handle situations that may arise in the class or playground in a positive way. We will also be learning what KURA means in the class, hall, playground, library and toilets.

We will be getting ready for our school Triathlon which takes place on Saturday, March 19th. To do this, the students will be involved in a lot of fitness activities, walks to the beach to become familiar with the route for running and wheels, and bringing their wheels to school to practise the transition from running to wheels. This will take place on Tuesday afternoons and we will be taking full advantage of our bike track. Children will need to have their wheels **and helmets** at school on Tuesdays until the Triathlon. The route for the Triathlon for each year group can be seen on the notice board outside the Staffroom/Administration area.

We will also be doing a topic unit on cooking. Watch out for lots of fun recipes in your child's poem books. They will be an entertaining and tasty weekend activity for you and your child to share. Please let us know

if your child has developed any food allergies that we are unaware of, so we can choose appropriate recipes.

### **Sports and PE**

In order to ensure that all students are safe and comfortable when doing sports or PE, we encourage them to bring appropriate footwear. Jandals, sandals, 'Heelies', fashion shoes and other non-sports shoes are uncomfortable to run in, and can result in injury and permanent damage to developing tendons and muscles. We don't allow students to do PE in bare feet because of the risk of injury from sharp objects. All students are expected to participate in PE unless they have a note from parents or caregivers.

### **Hats**

We follow a **Sun Smart** policy at Titahi Bay School, and ask that during Terms 1 and 4 all students have a sensible sun hat at school every day to wear outside of the classroom and come to school wearing sunblock. This year we are providing school hats for each child. They will be named and kept at school.

### **Toys**

We prefer that children don't bring their precious toys or other treasures to school; it is very distressing if they get lost or damaged. Teachers will not take responsibility for these items if they are brought to school.

### **Reading Books**

Over the next few weeks teachers will be starting to send books home for reading from Monday to Thursday. Your child will also have a "Reading/Communications" notebook for you fill out and sign when the reading has been done. Please encourage your child to do the daily reading, and to take responsibility for bringing the books and notebooks back to school every day.

Children will not always have a different book every night. As the purpose of home reading is to support what is being learnt at school, as well as to develop fluency, expression and intonation, the same book may be sent home more than once.

We will send poem books home on Fridays, and ask that these are returned on the following Monday.

### **Homework**

Students will have daily reading sent home in book bags. We will also provide some activities and ideas that you can do with children to help them become more proficient with their basic facts.

### **Assemblies**

This term we are joining up with the Kakano team for our weekly team assembly. These will be held on Fridays at 1:30pm in the libraries. Please feel free to come along and celebrate with our children.

### **Milk**

We are part of the Fonterra Milk for Schools programme. We have the milk each day after lunch around 1.30pm. If you would prefer that your child does not have the milk, please let your child's class teacher know.

This is going to be an exciting learning year and we look forward to getting to know you and your children.

The Koru Team.

Rebekah, Mike, Nadia, Kristina and Sharon