

Ngahere Team

Term 1 Newsletter - Friday 3rd February 2017

Tena Koutou Parents / Caregivers

A warm welcome to all our new whanau joining our team for the first time, as well as whanau who will continue to work with us for another year in 2017. 2017 sees our Ngahere team grow in size to a total of eight classes ranging from Years 4 - 6. As a team, we are all excited to commence another year of teaching and to be working with, and alongside, you to support your children in their learning.

OUR NGAHERE TEAM

**Jamie Merrick - Room 7 - Co Team Leader - jamie.merrick@titahibay.school.nz
Deputy Principal**

This is my seventh year at Titahi Bay School. I love the way that people at this school care for and look after one another. I am passionate about learning and am an avid reader. I enjoy working with children and challenging them to push themselves to try new things and take risks. I am excited about the move back to Year 5 and 6 and look forward to working with you and your children.

Sharon Hartley - Room 7 sharon.hartley@titahibay.school.nz

My name is Sharon Hartley. I have been teaching at Titahi Bay School for over 10 years. During that time I have taught at most year levels. I am a trained Reading Recovery teacher, and I am involved in the ALL (Accelerated Learning in Literacy) programme working with children who need support with their writing. I team teach with Jamie Merrick in Room 7. I take the class for Reading and Writing. I am looking forward to meeting the children and their families this year.

Candis Wood - Room 12 - Co Team Leader - candis.wood@titahibay.school.nz

Kia ora, my name is Candis Wood and this is my eighth year teaching at Titahi Bay School with 2017 being my fifth year of teaching seniors. I have a strong passion for working with children and supporting them in their learning journey. I particularly enjoy helping to grow students' leadership capabilities and ensuring they leave Year 6 with the knowledge, skills and positive attitude towards learning to make their transition onto Intermediate a success.

Matt Tan - Room 13 matt.tan@titahibay.school.nz

I am looking forward to my fourth year teaching here at Titahi Bay School, my second with Year 5 & 6. I love the community and values of our school and can't imagine a better place to teach. I enjoy the life and energy that children bring to the

classroom, and it is always a highlight to see new friendships develop as children work with each other. Music and technology are both things I enjoy and I will be working with students in our school band and Code Club again this year.

Phil Edgecombe - Room 16 - phil.edgecombe@titahibay.school.nz

The thing I love about working with children is their passion, energy, and ability to speak their mind, move on from disappointment quickly and learn through experience. This year is my sixth year teaching at Titahi Bay School and first in the senior school. I love ball sports and music, and always do my best to create an environment in the classroom that is fun, trusting and engaging.

Nicky Bell - Room 10 - nicky.bell@titahibay.school.nz

This is my seventh year teaching at Kura Street. I am looking forward to establishing relationships with new families this year and working with them to tailor programmes to how their child works best. The thing I love about teaching is that it is a never ending journey, getting to know what sparks learning in a child and learning how to better communicate your craft with them. I also love sharing a book with children and connecting with them through all the characters in the story.

Janelle Reid - Room 11 - janelle.reid@titahibay.school.nz

I'm lucky enough to have taught at Titahi Bay School for seven years; I love it here. Coming back to Year 4s from the senior school I'm excited to teach a new group. I love visual arts, music, movie making and sports. I look forward to getting to know your children and learning about their interests and what motivates them. It'll be nice to get to know you as the year gets under way.

Gillian Tumoana - Room 18 - gillian.tumoana@titahibay.school.nz

Kia ora

I am excited to be teaching our Year 4's this year. I have a granddaughter in this year group and I'll get to spend more time watching her grow and being part of her celebrations alongside all the other children. I know our Kura will have lots of exciting experiences lined up this year for your tamariki and I look forward to working with you and your whanau this year.

Delwyn Gardner - Room 8 - delwyn.gardner@titahibay.school.nz

Kia Ora

This is my fourth year at Titahi Bay School. I am looking forward to working with a great team and building new relationships with my new students. I have a son starting in Year 4 and I look forward to seeing him grow within our Ngahere team on a daily basis. I am passionate about Te Reo Maori and Kapa Haka. I am excited to work on improving our performance skills and building on all the positives from the last few years.

COMMUNICATION

Communication with parents and caregivers is very important to the Ngahere Team. Therefore, if you have anything you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to see your child's teacher. Email is also an effective way of communicating with your child's teacher and they will always endeavour to reply as soon as possible. If there is something you would like to discuss about your child please see the classroom teacher first otherwise either see Jamie Merrick or Candis Wood as syndicate leaders.

ICT DEVICES in Classrooms

All Ngahere classes will be using devices (Google Drive) to support their learning and as evident in 2016, these are motivating tools. We will be introducing Chromebooks/laptops over the first few weeks and working alongside them to:

- Establish KURA for Chromebooks/laptops expectations for our students to understand how they are used and cared for.
- Explore how to sign in and out using their individual login and emails.
- Explore features of Google - creating and saving documents, labelling documents and general features of using google documents, as well as new apps that can be used to support classroom learning for children.
- Initially we will use Chromebooks/laptops for Maths Whizz and for everyday writing. We will eventually use Chromebooks/laptops for other curriculum areas as we progress through the year.

We understand this will be a new way of teaching and learning for both children and parents; however, we are excited about the positive impact this learning will have on our student's achievement and the visibility of your child's learning for you at home to discuss what they are learning in the classroom and view the work they are producing. We will hold a **Digital Citizenship parent meeting - Tuesday 28th February 6:30pm** in our hall to discuss with you more specifics about device use within the classroom, ways to ensure digital safety at home and ideas of how you can support your child at home with their learning using their google accounts. We expect all Year 4 and 5 parents, as well as any new whanau of Year 6 children to attend this evening.

OUR LEARNING IN TERM 1

Inquiry



Our two focus inquiries for this term will be exploring **Digital Citizenship**, which will encompass establishing our KURA for Chromebook expectations. **Digital citizenship** is about confident and positive engagement with digital technology. Three core principles that responsible digital citizens should practise are: **ENGAGE positively, KNOW your online world, CHOOSE consciously.**

Coding (Using Scratch - a programming language where children can program interactive media such as stories, games, and animation).

<p>Classroom Programmes</p> <p>Numeracy Literacy (Reading and Writing)</p> 	<p>Numeracy and Literacy (Reading, Writing and Spelling) programmes will be taught daily and teachers will be in touch during Term 1 to discuss support programmes that will be in place for any children who are identified as target children in specific learning areas.</p>
<p>KURA</p> <p>Values</p>	<p>To start the year, all Ngahere classes will be focussing on building our children's SWAG skills. (SUCCESS, WILLPOWER, ATTITUDE, GOALS). To do so, we will be working on building and setting up our classroom culture; class treaty, classroom routines and expectations of how children will work together. There will also be a lot of emphasis on what leadership will look like for all children as seniors and children will be given various opportunities to take on different leadership roles both within our syndicate and across the school. Children will be encouraged to set personal goals which they will begin to work on.</p> <p>To support our children with the above, we will also be exploring Growth Mindsets with them to build self-esteem and confidence.</p>
<p>Health and PE</p> 	<p>Our P.E. programmes this term will focus on; preparing for our whole school Triathlon coming up on Saturday 4th March. Students will work on their fitness and also concentrated training on each discipline (running and biking). It is essential that your child brings suitable footwear to school daily, as they will be practising each day for this event. We ask that you encourage your child to bike to school daily also, so they can make use of this for practise and during playtimes in the sunshine.</p> <p>Pedal Ready will also be back in school to work with our Year 5 and 6 children to practise and refine their biking skills.</p> <p>Year 5s - Review of Grace 1 and specific activities to prepare them for the triathlon.</p> <p>Year 6s - Recap of Grade 2 and lots of practise with decision making and activities to prepare them for group riding on the road.</p> <p>All children are encouraged to bring their bikes and helmets to school every day in order for them to practise during school time. If your child does not have a bike, they may use one of our school bikes for practises.</p>

	<p>Please note that this year classes will not have a classroom sports bin, as all gear is staying in the school P.E. shed so there is more equipment available for whole class skill sessions. Therefore, we encourage children to bring their own sports gear to school to use at morning tea and lunchtimes. Please ensure your child's sports gear is clearly named. If you would like to donate any sports gear to your child's class this would be appreciated.</p>
<p>The Arts</p> 	<p>Our visual focus for the start of the term will be drawing. During this unit, children will have opportunities to practise their drawing by being exposed to different drawing techniques through different drawing artworks.</p> <p>Our music and dance focus will be on participating in senior kapa haka to revise known waiata, as well as to learn new waiata which we will perform during our school powhiri and future performances.</p>
<p>Maori</p> 	<p>Our Te Reo Maori focus this term will be learning whole school karakia (prayer) and waiata (songs). Tamariki will also learn and recite their mihimihi/pepeha. Along with learning classroom objects, tamariki will also learn simple classroom commands.</p>

HOMEWORK

Reading - It is expected that all children will be reading for at least 20 minutes at home with a book of their choice.

Steps by the Learning Staircase is a programme that identified children will be enrolled on to help them improve their reading skills. If your child is enrolled on this programme they should be doing at least 20 minutes 3 x a week on top of what they do at school.

Maths Whizz – Children need to ensure that they are working on achieving progressions at home regularly throughout the week on this programme. 3x progressions each week will ensure that your child achieves their green tick. (ALL children should achieve a **minimum of 90 minutes** on Maths Whizz each week - including 60 minutes in **Tutor mode** and 30 minutes in **Replay mode**).

UPCOMING DATES

- **Trained road patrol refresher training - Tuesday 7th February 9:30 - 10:30am**
- **Powhiri 9am Tuesday 7th February and 9am Monday 20th March.**

- **10 minute parent teacher interviews - Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd February 3 - 6pm**
- **Digital Citizenship parent meeting - Tuesday 28th February 6:30pm** in hall.
- **School Triathlon - Saturday 4th March. Postponement date Saturday 18th March.**
- **Go-Getter Celebrations - Week 5** (Whole Syndicate Water Fight) and **Week 10** (Sports Rotation at KURA park.) .
- **Camp parent meeting** (Years 5 / 6 parents only) - **Tuesday 7th March 6:30pm** in hall

REMINDERS

- Please ensure your child has a hat at school daily this term
- Please ensure your child's updated civil defence kit has been returned to their teacher
- **\$10 needs to be paid to the school office** for your child to use Maths Whizz this year. This is a subsidised cost and your child's maths learning will be supported by their use on this learning tool.
- We ask that children have their stationery at school no later than the start of Week 3, so that we can get into the swing of our full programmes. (See attached stationery list for what is required.)

**Titahi Bay School
Stationery 2017
Year 4/5/6
Ngahere – Rooms 7,8,10,,11,12,13,16,18**

**2 x Clever Kiwi Activities Book
4 x 2B8 Hardcoverd Book
2 x 3B1 Notebook
2 x HB Pencils
5 x Blue Biro
2 x Green Biro
1 x Highlighter (green only)
1 x ruler (non flexi – mm/cm)
2 x Gluesticks (Amos 35g)
2 x Whiteboard Markers
1 x Black Sharpie**

Recommend

1 x Sharpener

Coloured Pencils/Felts

Earphones – all students will need to provide earphones to use with chromebook, ipad, laptop.

Optional

Computer mouse (not compulsory, but recommended if your child struggles with manipulating mouse pad)

PLEASE NAME ALL STATIONERY