

Ngahere

(Year 5/6 Hub)

Term 1 Newsletter - Monday 3 February 2020



Kia ora Ngahere whanau, welcome to the 2020 school year! We are very excited to be working with your tamariki this year.

IMPORTANT DATES/EVENTS:

- 3rd Feb Pōwhiri
- 12th - 14th Feb Year 6 Camp
- 16th Mar Pōwhiri
- 28th Mar School Triathlon
- 9th Apr Last Day of the term

A little about us...

Jamie Merrick - Team Leader - jamie.merrick@titahibay.school.nz

Kia ora, my name is Jamie Merrick, I am a Deputy Principal at Titahi Bay School. I am leading the Ngahere team this year. I love working with year 5 and 6 and am looking forward to working with your children. I run some extra programmes for year 5 and 6 children in the school including maths problem solving and science research groups. I will be teaching one day a week in Room 7. I am passionate about reading and look forward to sharing this interest with the team.

Natalie Hillier - Room 7 - natalie.hillier@titahibay.school.nz

Welcome to Ngahere. My name is Natalie Hillier, I am the teacher of a lovely group of year 5 and 6 tamariki in Room 7 this year. I am excited to begin my teaching career at Titahi Bay School; after completing my Masters in Teaching and Learning Primary in 2019. After completing my placement at Titahi Bay School, I am not only looking forward to building on relationships previously made; but forming connections with the wider Ngahere hub. I'm looking forward to working with the buddy patrols throughout the year, where tamariki will model the KURA values within our school environment. In my spare time I love to dance, paint and spend time at the beach with family and friends. 2020, let's go!

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

Kia Ora, my name is Delwyn Gardner and I am teaching Year 5 and 6 in Room 8. I live in Titahi Bay and have had a son move on from Titahi Bay School last year. This year will be my 6th year teaching at Titahi Bay School and absolutely love teaching in this fantastic community. I look forward to working with our Ngahere tamariki. I have a passion for Kapa Haka and Te Reo Māori and I hope to continue building our knowledge and skills within our kura. I enjoy sports and biking and am looking forward to working with our awesome Sports Leaders on monitoring and maintaining our school bikes and other sports related tasks.

He aha te mea nui o te ao, he tangata, he tangata, he tangata

What is the most important thing in the world, It's people, It's people, It's people.

Ang Strand - Room 9 - ang.strand@titahibay.school.nz

Hi, I'm Ang Strand the teacher in Room 9. I am excited about returning to my own classroom to teach a class of year 5 and 6 students; after working the last couple of years part time in our school. I already have some great relationships with the children in my class and the Ngahere hub, as many of the children who are now our seniors are ones that I have taught as juniors.

In my spare time I enjoy playing mum to my two boys Jake and Liam and getting out and about in Wellington. I have a big passion for gardening and anything to do with nature, so I am excited about looking after the Enviro kids this year. I have already been running the Garden to Table program in our school and I look forward to running a similar program with both the Enviro kids and the students in our hub.

Whaea Nadia - Room 9 Fridays - nadia.collins@titahibay.school.nz

Kia ora my name is Nadia. I live in the Bay with my awesome husband, Hayden, and 3 beautiful children, Carter, Anahera, and Amaia-Grace. I really love this beautiful place and the people in it and couldn't ask for a cooler kura and community to work in. My heart is for the growth of all our tamariki and whānau. I know 2020 is going to be a great year and am looking forward to connecting with you all.

Ebony Sushames - Room 10 - ebony.sushames@titahibay.school.nz

This is my fourth year teaching at Titahi Bay School and I am very excited to be part of the Ngahere Team. I am looking forward to working with our Senior students and help them to become strong leaders in our school. I am from Titahi Bay and love being able to live and work in such an amazing community. My background is in dance and performing arts so am really looking forward to leading the Senior Production later on this year. Bring on 2020!

TERM 1 LEARNING

INQUIRY

Our Term events start with our camp in week 2 for our Year 6 students. This is at El Rancho and takes place on Wednesday 12 February until Friday 14 February.

Following this experience we will be focusing on learning about 'Our Place' - the history of the Porirua area, especially Titahi Bay - and looking at local land use, how it impacts on our environment and how it leads to differing opinions about what land should be used for. We are excited about this and will need children to tap into the knowledge of their whanau.

NUMERACY

This term we will be focusing on number knowledge all term. We will focus on student's strategies to solve number problems in the first half of the term before switching to Geometry and Measurement in the second half.

READING

In Reading, our focus for Year 5 and 6 students is comprehension, (Reading to Learn). We want our students to be able to look at a text in depth, be able to find and retrieve information in a text, and be able to answer questions, justify opinions and support their answers with detail. We also want our tamariki to be able to organise ideas and information from non-fiction texts, and present it in a range of formats that consolidates their understanding of the subject, e.g. brochures, posters and reports.

WRITING

This term will see our Years 5/6 children writing reflections about personal experiences such as camp and pedal ready. We will touch on other genre of writing when they fit our learning.

SPELLING

In Term 1 we will focus on teaching spelling sounds that have been identified as gaps in children's knowledge from testing.

HEALTH & PE

SPORT START PROGRAMME

This term will be busy with a number of physical education programmes set to challenge our students in both team and individual sports. We will begin our year with Invasion Games. This unit is part of the SportStart programme. The lessons take between 30/45 minutes each, and they are designed to teach specific skills appropriate to our year levels. Students refine their attacking skills and explore a range of ways to defend. They learn how to work as a team.

KURA FOCUS

Our KURA focus in Term 1 is Unity/Kotahitanga as we build new relationships within our classes and our hub.

PEDAL READY

The Pedal Ready crew will be back in from week 1 to help build students' confidence and competency on their bikes. Students are encouraged to bring their own bikes for these sessions.

- Year 6 Room 8 - Tuesday 4th Feb and Wednesday 5th Feb.
- Year 6 Room 10 - Friday 7th Feb and Monday 10th Feb.
- Year 6 Room 7 - Tuesday 11th Feb and Monday 17th Feb
- Year 6 Room 9 - Tuesday 18th Feb and Wednesday 19th Feb
- All Ngahere Year 5 students - Thursday 13th Feb

ARTS & LANGUAGE

THE ARTS

Our initial focus for Term 1 will be personal art: portraits and what is important to us. We will continue with Art related to our inquiry through the term. Landscapes after camp, water related art during waka ama and transportation related art during Pedal Ready. We'll finish our term with some large piece collaborative multi-classroom art tying back into our KURA unity focus.

TE REO MAORI

Our Te Reo Māori focus this term will be learning whole school karakia (prayer) and waiata (songs). We'll learn some rhythm waiata to help us paddle our waka ama more efficiently as a group. Tamariki will also learn and recite their mihimihi/pepeha. Along with learning classroom

objects, tamariki will also learn simple classroom commands and whakatauki (proverbs) based on our KURA Value “Unity”.

HOMEWORK

The expectations of homework remain the same. These are listed below:

Maths-Whizz - We recommend three 20 minute sessions a week on top of what your child does in class. If this isn't possible at home we can accommodate by making computers available before school and during break times.

Reading daily - The importance of this can't be emphasised enough. Your child's class teacher will have a system in place. This may involve specific set books from school or personal choice books from home. Regular reading is what makes great readers.