



*Kura Street, Titahi Bay, Porirua 5022 Phone: 04 236 8399 Fax: 04 236 8302 email: [office@titahibay.school.nz](mailto:office@titahibay.school.nz)*

Welcome to all parents and caregivers of Rakau children. Rakau is a Year 1 to 3 syndicate made up of eight classes.

Mike Laing, Associate Principal, Team Leader, is in Room 19 Year 1

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Rebekah Maskell is Co-Team Leader, Target Teaching, Reading Recovery, ALL Writing, SENCO for the Rakau Team

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Kristina Stevens is in Room 1 Year 2

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Ebony Sushames is in Room 3 Year 1

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Nadia Collins is in Room 6 Year 1 and 2

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Ang Strand is in room 9 Year 2 and 3

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Jacinta Hamer is in Room 14 Year 3

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Grace Mulvihill is in Room 15 Year 3

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Karly Logan is in Room 17 Year 2 & 3

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Sarah Taylor will be working in Room 3 one day a week and Tanya Balfour will be doing teacher release in the Rakau classes during team 1.

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.**

School starts at 9.00am. We usually start by discussing KURA Values, what is coming up and set ourselves up for the day. The school day finishes at 3.00pm. We often finish by reflecting on our learning and reminders for the next day. Children who miss these times often feel unsettled and

miss out on opportunities. Please help your child by getting them to school on time and collecting them after the bell.

### **Interviews**

We have short 10 minute interviews in Term 1 so we can get a chance to chat about how children have settled into their new classes, what is going well for them at school and any areas they may need support in. The bookings are made online at [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz). The code for this is gb4s5 and will be in our school newsletter and on our site early in term 1.

### **Topics for Term 1**

**Weeks 1-5 Positive Behaviour for Learning or PB4L.** Learning the KURA way and understanding the rules and expectations of school. During this time we also do fun activities as part of getting to know each other and how we learn. Help to create Kura rules for the classroom.

#### **Weeks 6-10 Social Sciences: ANZAC**

**Big Ideas:** There is a special reason why we acknowledge ANZAC day

**Key Understanding:** ANZAC is an important part of NZ history and Why?

**Weeks 11 Celebration Week:** During this time we also do fun activities across the whole team to celebrating our term and what we have learned.

### **Triathlon: Saturday March 4<sup>th</sup> (Postponement Saturday March 18<sup>th</sup>)**

The School Triathlon will be the main focus during term 1 and we will be focussing on building stamina for this event. On Wednesday afternoon classes will be walking to the beach to go through the triathlon course. Children are welcome to bring bikes any day and practice riding on the bike track. Thursday afternoons we will be practising running and biking in preparation so we ask all children to bring bikes on Thursdays.

### **Homework**

Homework will start coming home by week 3 at school.

Students will have daily reading sent home in book bags. These will be familiar text that the children may have read more than once. Reading can be done by the child, parents or together. Some children may bring home sight words to learn and support their reading. During the term some basic facts maths work will also be sent home.

### **Toys and other special belongings**

We prefer that students don't bring in precious items from home as they are often misplaced or go missing. Teachers will not take responsibility for these items unless they are part of the class programme and it has been agreed that they can be brought to school the day before. This also includes cell phones/electronic devices.

### **Hats**

Our school follows a 'Sun Smart' policy which aims to keep students safe from harmful UV rays. It is a school requirement that children wear a hat when outside during Terms 1 and 4. We encourage children to keep their own hats at school as sharing can cause transfer of nits. Please make sure hats are named as they are very easy to put down and forget. The school policy is "no hat, no play" and children who aren't wearing them will need to sit in shaded areas during lunch and playtimes.

**P.E.**

Children will need to have clothes and footwear that they can run in everyday at school. It is important that children are not wearing heelies, jandals, sandals and gumboots for P.E. After our Triathlon focus, we will be learning team building games towards the end of the term.

**Water & Milk**

All children are allowed (and encouraged) to have a water bottle at school. Children are allowed to drink water all day. Being well hydrated helps them to learn. We are part of the Fonterra Milk for Schools programme. They supply us with milk for every child, every day. We usually have the milk around 1.30pm straight after the lunch time break. If you would prefer your child not to be given milk please let your child's class teacher know.

We will keep you informed of upcoming events. Please read the school newsletter, website and facebook page as they have a lot of valuable information in them.

We are looking forward to a fun year.

The Rakau team.