

Ngahere

(Year 5/6 Hub)

Term 1 Newsletter - Thursday 4th February 2021



Kia ora Ngahere whānau, welcome to the 2021 school year! We are very excited to be working with your tamariki this year.

IMPORTANT DATES/EVENTS:

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| ● 8th Feb | Waitangi Day observed (School Closed) |
| ● 9th Feb | Pō whiri |
| ● 16th Feb | Meet the teacher 3.00-6.00pm |
| ● 24th - 26th Feb | Year 6 Camp |
| ● 8th Mar | Pō whiri |
| ● 20th Mar | School Triathlon |
| ● 2nd-6th April | Easter Break (School closed) |
| ● 7th April | Teacher Only Day (School closed) |
| ● 16th 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 lead the Ngahere team. I am a Deputy Principal at Titahi Bay and love working with Year 5 and 6 students. I run some extra programmes for Year 5 and 6 children in the school including maths problem solving and science research groups. I have two primary school age children of my own which takes up all of my spare time.

Ang Strand - Room 9 Teacher/Team Leader - ang.strand@titahibay.school.nz

Hi, I'm Ang Strand the teacher in Room 9. I am excited about another year teaching a class of Year 5 and 6 students. 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 running the Garden to Table program in our school and with the students in our hub.

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 love being able to teach within our fantastic community. This is my 7th year at Titahi Bay School and 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 all sports like biking, tennis and snorkeling. I am responsible for the care and maintenance of our school bikes and love to see the enjoyment our tamariki get from biking.

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.

Whaea Nadia - Room 11 Wednesdays, Room 9 Fridays and Classroom Release Time (CRT) for Ngahere - 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. I know 2021 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

I am very excited to be part of the Ngahere Team for a second year. I am looking forward to working with our Senior students to help them 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 I am really looking forward to leading the Senior Production later on this year. Bring on 2021!

Candis Wood - Room 11 - candis.wood@titahibay.school.nz

Kia Ora, and welcome back! I am looking forward to returning back to school this year after being on maternity leave in 2020 with my son. This year will be my 11th year teaching at this school and I am really excited to be back working with Year 5 and 6 children and working with them to grow their leadership skills. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my whanau and friends, exploring the outdoors and travelling. I enjoy teaching all subjects; however, my passions are teaching maths, writing and sport skills.

TERM 1 LEARNING

INQUIRY

Our Term events start with our camp in Week 4 for our Year 6 students. This is at El Rancho and takes place on Wednesday 24 February until Friday 26 February.

Following this experience we will be focusing on learning about 'Our Place' - we will be looking at how local areas are used for leisure activities, how they are impacted by environmental issues and how to be kaitiaki in our local area.

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 genres of writing when they fit our learning. We are also wanting to focus on children writing what they want to and having fun with their writing.

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

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 Grade 1 for new children and less confident riders -Friday 5th Feb
- Year 6 Room 8 (and a couple of children from Room 9) - Tuesday 9th Feb and Wednesday 10th Feb.
- Year 6 Room 10 (and a couple of children from Room 9) - Thursday 11th Feb and Friday 12th Feb.
- Year 6 Room 11 (and a couple of children from Room 9) - Monday 15th Feb and Tuesday 16 17th Feb
- Year 6 Room 9 - Tuesday 18th Feb and Wednesday 19th Feb
- All Ngahere Year 5 students - Thursday 13th Feb
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TRIATHLON

Our PE focus will be on working with our children to build their confidence and fitness levels to participate in this year's school triathlon. Focus will be on transitioning successfully on and off their bike. If children can please come to school with appropriate running footwear and active clothing, as well as their own bike and helmet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Week 5 (Tuesday 2nd March) to participate fully in our practice sessions they will have more enjoyment.

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 "Ko Au- (Me)" learning words and phrases about myself and my family. We will learn whole school karakia and waiata. 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.

Essential Spelling List Words - We will send home the list of words for you to practise with your child at home which will support their daily writing at school.

CAMP

Camp is from Wednesday 24th February to Friday 26th February at El Rancho Camp in Waikanae. Year 6s are going to camp and Year 5s are staying at school.

This is for students who are in Year 6 this year. We will be going to El Rancho Camp in Waikanae. We are there from Wednesday 24 February through to Friday the 26 February.

<https://elrancho.co.nz/> We see this as an opportunity to set up our leaders at the start of the year. It is also a great chance to expand friendships, relationships, and horizons.

It will be an action packed three days and two nights where children will be regularly challenged to push themselves outside of their comfort zone.

We are running an activity based camp. The children will be split into groups with up to 12 students each to complete the following activities:

- Go Karting
- Rock Wall climbing
- Kayaking
- Tubing (on the river)
- Soft Archery (Like a big Nerf battle with bows and soft tipped arrows)
- Archery
- Air Rifle shooting
- Horse riding
- Raft Building (and riding)
- Bike riding
- Water Slide
- Swimming

The cost for camp is approximately \$260 per child. With grants and school funding we have managed to lower the cost to whānau to \$50 per child. This can be paid at the school office or online ASB 123254002777600. If you choose to pay online please put your child's name and 'camp' as reference

Year 5s will be at school working with the year 5s from the Rakau hub having an Education Outside the Classroom focus.

DIGITAL PLAN

Purpose:

- We aim to use digital resources to enhance our existing learning programmes.

Expectations:

- Digital technology is only used when directed by a Teacher
- No digital device is allowed to be used during break times
- KURA websites document clearly states what websites can be used and when.

Sharing learning - iPads and Chromebooks

Seesaw - we use this to share our learning with our whānau. This will be across curriculum areas.

Maths - Chromebooks

Mathswhizz is used as part of our maths programme. It is a rotation activity that students will do as part of a whole maths programme where students work with a teacher and do independent tasks. Maths whizz is one of those independent tasks. The beauty of Mathswhizz is that it is a targeted programme

which works from an assessment and then tailors a programme for each student, setting work at their next learning level in each of the maths learning areas.

Yesikan We use yesikan as a maths warm up activity at the start of a maths lesson. It can be differentiated so that students get maths 'quick 10' type questions at the level they are working at.

Xtramath We use this website as a basic facts learning by repetition tool. It is progressive so that children all start with addition facts and then move through subtraction, then multiplication and finally division. This programme is timed and this is how we differentiate for our students. Some will get 6 seconds per problem, some 3 and some 1.5. Children work their way through this increasing their recall and speed of basic facts.

Prototec This is another really good site for practicing and learning basic facts

Prodigy This is used occasionally as a change from Mathswizz. It is a maths based adventure website. Children like the gaming feel of it. There are maths concepts being taught through the gaming.

Floor planner is a site that we will use when teaching measurement and geometry. It allows children to create a floorplan of a house online.

Literacy - Chromebooks

Kiwikids news - as part of our reading programme children will be encouraged to watch and read Kiwikids news articles and then explore their own views of the topics covered.

Epicreading - an online reading resource where children can access many well known children's books digitally.

NZ Education Games - Typing Used as a rotation option during reading. Touch typing, tutoring and practise. Students learn the correct finger placement for typing and become familiar with the location of lettered keys.

Google drive This is where students write using their digital device on google docs. Some children use assistant apps such as co-writer. Many children find typing easier and more enjoyable than handwriting. We often share reading and writing tasks to students on their google drive using our Teacher dashboard Hapara.

Inquiry - Chromebooks

Scratch This is a coding website where children may be directed to learn coding skills. This is where code club works when they meet in terms 2 and 3

Google drive Any topic work that children do is often collected and then presented using Google Docs or Google Slides

Google searching Children will be using the internet to search for information. This is a skill that is taught, especially how to use keywords to search and how to evaluate the reliability of a website to take information from.

Youtube This may be used as part of research with specific permission. The only other two ways we use this are; using it to teach art skills and to sing along to songs through the teacher's laptop.

KURA WEBSITES

Websites that I am allowed on without checking in with a teacher, if I have permission to be on a chromebook

Websites that I am allowed on after checking in with a teacher or being directed there by a teacher, if I have permission to be on a chromebook

Websites that I am allowed on only with specific permission and then supervision from a teacher

MATHS WHIZZ www.whizz.com

YES IKAN www.yesikan.nz

KIWI KIDS NEWS www.kiwikidsnews.co.nz

SEESAW www.web.seesaw.me

XTRAMATH www.xtramath.com

PROTOTEC www.mats.prototec.co.nz

EPIC READING www.getepic.com

FNZ EDUCATION GAMES TYPING

<https://nz.education.com/games/typing/>

SCRATCH www.scratch.mit.edu

PRODIGY www.prodigygame.com

FLOOR PLANNER

www.floorplanner.com/login

GOOGLE DRIVE

www.drive.google.com/drive/my-drive

GOOGLE SEARCHING www.google.com

YOUTUBE - WITH SPECIFIC PERMISSION

www.youtube.com

ALL OTHER WEBSITES