



Wadestown School

Term 2 2019 Newsletter

Rimu Team



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau.

Nau mai, haere mai.

Welcome to the new term. We hope that everyone had a relaxing break with their children and made the most of the Easter and Anzac breaks.

Term one provided the Rimu students with a memorable variety of learning experiences, both inside and outside of the classroom. Undoubtedly the highlight was the camp at Forest Lakes. We would like to once again thank the very enthusiastic, energy bound group of parent helpers for their contribution towards making the camp a memorable experience for all involved. Student reflections frequently mentioned the words of encouragement and support they received from their group leaders.

It has been a pleasure to see the positive note with which the children have returned to school. They have quickly settled into their classroom routines and team cultures are being firmly ingrained.

We have a full programme planned for the term ahead and are looking forward to building on the momentum generated last term, particularly the pro-active and collaborative learning environment we are working hard to foster in the Rimu team.

Curriculum: Below is a brief outline of what you can expect your child to be learning this term.

Literacy:

Writing in the Rimu Team is about growing enthusiastic writers who enjoy working with the written word. We do this by 'playing' with language and using a variety of text forms. A key factor for a successful writer is having ideas. So using their imagination, while developing the skills of grammar, spelling, proof reading and providing feedback, is a key focus for the term.

The **Reading** programme begins with small group instructional reading, with the learning focusing on:

- Finding key ideas
- Finding evidence to support these ideas
- Finding answers to inferential questions.

Students also work independently, responding to a text they have read, or working online through a series of reading challenges.

During the final weeks of the term the students will choose an ancient civilization for an independent research study. They will read and sort information that is relevant to their line of inquiry, and present their work using text, diagrams, maps and illustrations. The teaching will be focused on note taking and rephrasing information in non-fiction texts.

Oral Language and Performing Arts:

Debating, 'Agree or Disagree' discussions, play performances and drama games are interwoven into class activities. Students will also have the opportunity to share written work through our Rimu 'Visiting Writers' sessions.

Numeracy:

This term we will conclude our work on addition and subtraction and then move into multiplication and division strands. Students will be working on numerous strategies for number and problem solving tasks. Time will be given to mastery of the basic facts and times tables, as this is a key factor in moving ahead in maths.

Social Sciences/Science/Inquiry

The school wide theme of 'Change' is being explored through a unit of study exploring historical change with a focus on Ancient Civilizations.

Te Reo

Hemi Prime will continue to lead the Kapa Haka programme for all students in the Rimu Team. This takes place on Thursdays from 11.00am to 11.45am. Ongoing integrated learning of basic language and conversation will also take place in the classroom environment.

Rimu Team Reminders

⇒ Naming Uniforms and Equipment

Please make sure all items of school uniform are clearly named. Without this lost items are unlikely to be returned the owner. The children are responsible for all their items of clothing, including the retrieval of lost pieces.

⇒ Wadestown School is a **nut free** school.

⇒ Students bringing scooters to school need to remember their **helmets** and licence. New **licences** can be obtained through the office.

⇒ **Mobile phones** are students' responsibility and remain in their school bag unless specific permission has been given by a teacher.

⇒ **Email**- All students have their own email address. These are only to be used for school purposes.

⇒ **Classrooms are open from 8:30am.**

Children should not be at school before 8:30am. Arrival time between 8:30am and 8:45am, ensures they have enough time to organise their belongings and be ready for the 8:55am bell. Students who arrive later than this bell must sign in at the office.

⇒ To ensure an **urgent message** gets to your child please do this through the **school office**, not the class teacher's email, as there is very little opportunity to clear emails during the school day.

⇒ If you have anything you wish to discuss, please make contact with the **classroom teacher in the first instance**, via the school email.





Physical Education and Sport

Cross-country training will take place on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves and set individual goals. This is a valuable opportunity to reflect on the values of resilience and well-being. If your child is unable to participate, please provide their teacher with a note or e-mail.

Rimu physical education lessons take place on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00pm – 2.55pm. The focus this term is on developing large ball skills, through a variety of winter games.

Homework

Homework continues to be issued on Monday and is due back on Friday for testing and marking. Students are responsible for managing and organising available time around their after school commitments.

- ◇ Mathletics tasks are set for each student and they are encouraged to attain 1000 weekly points.
- ◇ Regular reading for enjoyment at home supports children’s language development; please help your children get that reading mileage up and talk to them about their reading.
- ◇ ‘Reado’ and ‘Spello’ challenges provide suggestions for reading and spelling activities.

Uniform Reminders

As we journey into the cooler months, it is important the students come to school with extra layers of clothing as we are likely to get outside for exercise most days.

- ◇ A **navy** long sleeved polypropylene or long sleeved tee may be worn under the polo shirt. A clearly named jacket is recommended for wear during breaks.
- ◇ Socks are to be white, navy or black. No coloured socks please.
- ◇ A plain, navy blue beanie is ideal for the colder weather. Wadestown School beanies can be purchased from NZ Uniforms. Their retail store is at 168 Thorndon Quay.

Student Well-being, Self-Management and Resilience

- Behaviour expectations in Rimu team are being reinforced through our ‘Rimuite’ values. The key focus this term centres around two of these values: being Mindful and Unique. Positive behaviours are recognised at our team assemblies, through peer nominations.
- The Rimu team has a strong focus on teaching children to be responsible for themselves. Please encourage your child to check that they have all they need for school each day, particularly stationery requirements.
- Mistakes and problems are viewed as a natural part of learning process and we encourage students take the lead in solving problems. We will support students in this learning and they should come to teachers for guidance in the first instance.

If you have anything you wish to discuss with the classroom teacher please feel free to make contact via email and we can arrange to meet or chat on the phone. We all look forward to another great term. Our thanks for your support, as always.

Kind regards

Cathrine Wilkinson (Team Leader), Amber Pullin and Amy Maddock

Expectations of a Rimu Student

- ◇ Take **responsibility** for their belongings and behaviour.
- ◇ Have **confidence** in handling adverse situations.
- ◇ Show **respect** and **empathy** for others, with a willingness to work with those outside their friendship group.
- ◇ Take **risks** and not be afraid of making **mistakes**, they are a normal part of learning.
- ◇ Practise making their **own decisions** to foster **independence** and the confidence to think for themselves.
- ◇ Take **small steps** towards accomplishing a feared task.

The values our Rimu students have chosen to focus on this year:

R - be Respectful

I - be Inclusive

M - be Mindful

U - be Unique

I - show Initiative

T - be Thinkers

E - be Enthusiastic

S - show Self-control

Activity Fees Term 2

Playhouse performance

“The Hare and the Tortoise” = \$5.00