



# Wadestown School

Term 3 2019 Newsletter

Rimu Team



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau.

Welcome back to term three, we hope you had a relaxing time with your children over the holidays. We have a busy 10 week term ahead of us and this newsletter outlines some of the programmes, expectations and reminders for the Rimu team.

## Student Behaviour

Behaviour expectations in Rimu team are promoted through our 'Rimuites' values. To date, focus has been given to being, 'Respectful', 'Inclusive', 'Mindful' and 'Unique'. This term, showing 'Initiative' and being a 'Thinker' are our key values. We have been impressed with the considerate and thoughtful actions being displayed by the children. The expectation is that students show all values, no matter the company or location. The children have had two terms to get to know one another, and they are now being encouraged to look out for those in need of assistance. If at any time there is an indiscretion, it is important the students address the situation with a teacher and those involved at the time of the incident. It is far more effective and efficient, if these matters can be dealt with as early as possible.

## Curriculum

### **Literacy:**

**Reading** opportunities will be varied, and will be both teacher-directed (reading groups) and independent (personal enjoyment and novel studies).

We begin the term with small group reading rotations where students work either with the teacher, independently responding to a text they've read, working online through a series of reading challenges and completing response activities. The students will be learning to find evidence to support their thinking and form opinions based on information in the text.

Later in the term all classes will be working on an independent novel study. This will involve a close study of a chapter book read by the student, both at school and at home. Follow up activities examine character, plot, setting and language features. This task is a further opportunity to put into practice some valuable independent work habits including time-management and organisational skills.

The **writing** programme will be across all areas of the curriculum with a particular focus on persuasive and narrative writing. Re-crafting, editing for errors and giving informative feedback will have emphasis. Digital technology and online interactive programmes will be used to motivate and provide an alternative learning platform for our writers.

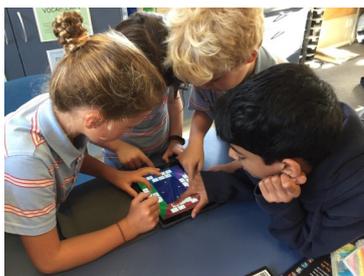
### **Mathematics:**

The major focus this term in mathematics is extending the students' knowledge and strategies for working with multiplication and division. Geometry activities looking at shape and space are planned for the final weeks of the term.

Students are grouped within their classes according to their individual stages and needs. These will vary from time to time depending on the topic and teaching focus. Students will also take part in mixed ability and whole class problem solving challenges.

### **Social Sciences/Inquiry**

Our inquiry for the year is 'Change' and this term we look at 'Environmental Change'. We will be using the 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Programme' that has a focus on: Sustainability, Our Environment, Recycling and Our Footprint. Each week a different sustainable module is covered through the use of interactive stories, science experiments and 'taking action' to make a positive change.



## Rimu Team Reminders

⇒ **Communication:** All emails that arrive in the teachers' mailboxes are read every day and we endeavour to reply as promptly as practical. Please note that emails will not be responded to during class time as all teaching staff are engaged with classroom teaching and learning activities. Lunchtime duties and after school meetings may preclude staff from attending to emails received on that day. Staff receiving evening emails will attend to these the following day or days, again as soon as is practical.

⇒ Please note that **phone messages** to the office recorded **after 2:30 pm** cannot be guaranteed to be actioned before 3.00 pm

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

⇒ **Student Email**—all students have their own email address. These are only to be used for school purposes.

⇒ **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.

⇒ **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.



### Te Reo

Hemi Prime will be teaching kapa haka to the Rimu students on Thursdays from 11.45am to 12.30pm. Waiata, using poi and rākau feature this term, along with key phrases, instructions and language.



### Health and Physical Education



Rimu physical education lessons take place on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00pm – 2.55pm. This term the children will be exploring the skills and techniques required for the games of table tennis, lacrosse and handball. Towards the end of the term, we will introduce the students to the traditional Maori game of 'Ki-o-Rahi'.

We have a booking for the Life Education Caravan. Each class will have lessons timetabled in the last three weeks of the term. We utilise a shared planning approach to create individualised lessons that link to the needs of our students. The theme is yet to be finalised.



### Stationery

Students are encouraged to manage their belongings and ensure they have all the necessary stationery, so they can settle quickly on their learning tasks.

Please ensure your child has all the following **named** items:

- \*Ruler (30 cm)
- \*Red and Blue pens
- \*Pink and Green Highlighters
- \*Rubber
- \*Pencils
- \*Glue stick

### Homework

- ◆ Homework continues to be issued on Monday and due back on Friday for testing and marking. Students are responsible for managing and organising available time around their after school commitments and ensuring they have their books back at school on Friday.
- ◆ Mathletics tasks are set for each student and they are encouraged to attain 1000 weekly points.
- ◆ Reading mileage is important, as in the words of Joseph Addison: 'Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body'. The children will need to spend some time at home reading the book they are using for their independent novel study, in order to keep to the class timeline.
- ◆ Book Bingo tasks are available for those children who wish to take up the challenges and earn points for their school 'Houses'.

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.

Kind regards

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

## Term 3 Activity Fees

• Buses to and from the Swimming Sports	\$5.50
• Cultural Performance at Wellington College (Buses and Koha)	\$5.00
• Science Road Show (Buses and entry fee )	\$12.00
• Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Programme	\$3.50
• Life Education Caravan	\$5.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 31.00</b>

## 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.

