



Wadestown School

Term 3 2020 Newsletter

Rimu Team



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau.

Welcome back to Term Three, and a special welcome to Phoebe McArthur who joins the Rimu Team. The children have returned to school with wonderful anecdotes of their holiday adventures and journeys around New Zealand. It was a very timely and well-deserved break following the disruptions and changes that came with the COVID-19 lockdown.

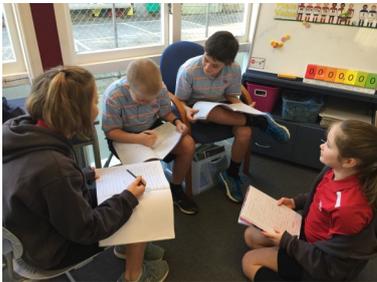
The new term is yet again a busy one. The following is an outline of the key learning activities, events, expectations and reminders for students and parents of the Rimu team.

Curriculum

Literacy:

The students are currently completing their 'Destination New Zealand' **reading** study, where they have been taken on a 'literacy tour' visiting numerous New Zealand cities and towns.

Next week 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 have a particular focus on narrative writing and structuring their thoughts and ideas for effect. Re-crafting, reflecting on their writing 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 solving problems using multiplication and division.

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.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

The Rimu team has signed up for the Wonder Project Rocket Challenge. This is a programme run in conjunction with Engineering New Zealand. We have two volunteer engineering ambassadors who will support the students as they work in crews to design, build and launch their very own water rockets. Basic science principles will be covered throughout their journey.



Rimu Team Reminders

⇒ **Communication:** All emails that arrive in the teachers' mailboxes are read daily and we endeavour to reply promptly if a response is required. Please note that emails will not be responded to during class time as staff are engaged with classroom teaching and learning activities. Lunchtime duties and after school meetings may preclude teachers 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 practical.

⇒ **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 to 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 as the staff need uninterrupted preparation time. Arrival time between 8:30am and 8:45am, ensures the children 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

Weekly Kapa Haka lessons lead by Hemi Prime will take place on Thursdays.

Verbs and pronouns relating to 'Te Kura' (school and learning) will be the key focus within the classroom. The students will be working towards including this vocabulary in their questions and responses.

Physical Education

Rimu physical education lessons will again take place on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00 pm – 2.55 pm. This term the children will be exploring strategies and ball skills required for the team games of basketball, netball and football. Towards the end of the term table tennis, lacrosse and handball will be introduced.

Health

The Wadestown School focus on fostering **Whanaungatanga**: a sense of belonging and caring for each other, underpins the health teaching this term. The key attributes include:

- Active listening
- Awareness of others
- Thinking before speaking/acting
- Including others
- Acts of kindness
- Upstanding (don't be a bystander)
- Tolerance of difference
- Owning my own actions (self-awareness)

Performing Arts.

The upcoming school concert takes centre stage this term. Each class is collaborating to plan, create and rehearse a unique performance around the theme of 'Space'. We are looking forward to performing the items at Pipitea Marae on the 4th and 5th September. To cover some of the costs towards accessories and costumes \$10 has been added to the activity fees for term 3.



Banqer (Financial Literacy)

Banqer, the online educational tool that supports the teaching of financial literacy, will continue in Term 3. This platform transforms the classroom into a virtual economy, using our Rimu currency. Students have their own mock online bank account. They learn about important financial concepts, including wages, paying for expenses, savings and calculating interest. In the last week of the term the students get the opportunity to spend their earnings at the 'Banqer Spending Day'.

Expectations of a Rimu Student

- ◇ Practise making their **own decisions** to foster **independence** and the confidence to think for themselves.
- ◇ Address any concerns, issues or questions with the teacher in the first instance and in near time to the incident.
- ◇ 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.





Digital Technology

The digital curriculum is about teaching children how to design their own digital solutions and become creators of, not just users of, digital technologies. Scratch, Sphero and mBot are tools the children will be using to develop their coding knowledge.

Stationery

Students are required to manage their belongings and ensure they have all the necessary stationery, so they can settle quickly on their learning tasks. A large number of students are currently missing numerous pieces of stationery.

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

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

Homework

We are continuing to use Google Classroom for Homework notices. Each Monday the students will receive a notification from their class teacher outlining the expectations and reminders for the week.

The weekly structure is as follows:

- ◆ Mathletics -tasks are set for each student and they are encouraged to attain 1000 weekly points.
- ◆ Basic Facts—each child has set goals for their basic facts knowledge. A copy of the skills they are working towards can be found in their homework book.
- ◆ Spelling- each week the students will learn 10 words that focus on a particular spelling pattern. An online copy of these lists can be found in their Google Classroom Spelling Folder, in addition to a hard copy that is glued into their homework book.
- ◆ Reading— students should aim to read each night. Book Bingo tasks are available for those children who wish to take up the challenges and earn points for their school 'Houses'.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are looking forward to another industrious term with our focused and hard working Rimu students.

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), Amy Maddock and Tim Whimster



Term 3 Activity Fees

• Bus to the Pipitea Marae (Concert Rehearsal)	\$ 5.00
• Concert costumes	\$10.00
• Science Road Show (Buses and entry fee)	\$14.00
TOTAL	\$ 29.00



A date for the diary:

Year 5 and 6 Camp — El-Rancho
27 - 30 October 2020