



Wadestown School

Term 1 2021 Newsletter

Rimu Team



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau,

Kia ora and welcome to the new school year for the Rimu Team. We are enjoying being back at school with your children, and finding out what they got up to over the summer holidays. A warm welcome to our new students who have joined the Rimu Team and Wadestown School.

The Rimu Team

The Rimu team is comprised of Rooms 4, 5 and 6.

Our teachers are:

Room 4: Amy Maddock (Team Leader)

Room 5: Jess Keetley

Room 6: Christine Ralph (for Jo Hamid)

Pip Honore: Rimu Team Relief Teacher

Ms Wilkinson is the Deputy Principal who oversees the Rimu and Kowhai teams.

Curriculum

Literacy:

Reading commences with a teacher directed shared novel study using the book 'The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl' by Stacey McAnulty. This book looks closely at friendships, diversity and overcoming obstacles. The children will be analysing characters, use of vocabulary and key messages within the story.

Later on in the term, we will start small group and individual instructional reading. The focus being on finding key ideas and evidence to support these messages, and finding answers to inferential questions.

Writing: will be across all areas of the curriculum with a particular focus on reflective writing, re-crafting and editing. The children will be recounting personal experiences with their camp experience being a great motivator for their writing.

In **Numeracy:** we begin with Statistics where the students will conduct investigations where they gather and record analysis of their posed questions. Following this unit of study we will be revisiting and extending their 'Place Value' knowledge of whole numbers and decimals. The children will be grouped within their classes according to their individual stages and needs. Students will also take part in mixed ability and whole class problem solving challenges.

Social Sciences/Inquiry

Our schoolwide inquiry for 2021 is 'Diversity.' This theme will form the basis of cross-curricular units. The over-arching ideas being explored this term are coping with diverse problems and relating to others. Also, looking at what ethnicities and cultures make up each of our classes.

Science

A variety of practical hands-on experiments from across the science curriculum will be carried out. These are designed to engage the students and encourage scientific questioning and skills based learning.

Te Reo

The focus for term one is 'Ko Au'. This will include phrases, sentence structures, questions and answers that can be used for simple conversations about ourselves. (e.g. tikanga, pepeha, states of being, whanau, age, greetings, farewells)

Rimu Team Reminders

- ⇒ **Mobile phones** are students' responsibility and remain in their school bag throughout the day unless specific permission has been given by a teacher.
- ⇒ **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.
- ⇒ Year 6 students doing **Road Patrol** duty are expected to arrive at school by 8:15 am to set up for their duty.
- ⇒ 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.
- ⇒ **Sunhats** are compulsory in term 1 for all outdoor activities.
- ⇒ **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 and stationery, including the retrieval of lost pieces.
- ⇒ Students bringing scooters to school need to remember their **helmets** and license. New **licenses** can be obtained through the office.
- ⇒ If you have anything you wish to discuss, please make contact with the **classroom teacher in the first instance.**



Room 4



Room 5



Room 6

Kapa Haka

Hemi Prime will once again be teaching all Rimu students Kapa Haka on Thursday mornings from 9.55 am—10.40 am.

Physical Education

The Rimu Team will begin the year exploring a range of team building and cooperative activities. This instils the concepts at the heart of all learning in Physical Education and sets the standard for the attitudes and values expected. Rimu Team Physical Education lessons will take place on a Tuesday afternoon. We aim to have fitness lessons each day, with a combined Rimu Fitness session on a Thursday morning. Please ensure your child has appropriate footwear for these activities.

Health

This term the students will be looking into ‘Growth Mindset.’ The Year 5 children are familiar with this concept as they did some work on this last year in the Rata Team. Over the course of the term the students will be investigating ways to:

- Stay resilient
- Welcome mistakes
- Overcome the fear of failure
- Discover the power of the brain and mindset
- Turn their negative self-talk into a positive and empowering one
- Learn to overcome challenges and setbacks

In conjunction with the growth mindset, each class will be working on inclusion. The students will be given various scenarios to work through which includes role play. This ties in nicely with our RIMUITES values which include inclusion as part of.

Arts Curriculum

Students will be examine the techniques of a well-known artist and produce their own self-portraits using their varying styles. Informal drama activities and games aim to explore the elements of drama and develop confidence.

Digital Technology

Gmail accounts: All students have their own email address that are linked to the class teacher. These accounts are only to be used for school purposes and are monitored regularly.

To develop their computational thinking the students will begin the year using the programme ‘Scratch’ to build their coding and problem-solving skills.

Financial Literacy

The Rimu classes will again be using Banqer, an online educational tool that supports the teaching of financial literacy. This platform transforms the classroom into a virtual economy. Students have their own mock online bank account. This is in a safe, controlled environment where they learn about important financial concepts, including wages, paying for expenses, savings and calculating interest.



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.
- ◇ Practice making their **own decisions** to foster **independence** and develop the confidence to think for themselves.



Homework

We will continue with homework this year via Google Classroom. It will be given out on Monday and the students work their way through the tasks and complete these by Friday. It will consist of teacher set Mathletics tasks, 15-20 minutes daily reading, individual spelling lists, and basic facts.

Book Bingo awards are available for children to work towards and gain valuable house points for each challenge they achieve.

The homework is designed to be flexible and allows each student to manage and organise their time around after school commitments. Homework guidelines will come home on Monday 1 March.

Movin March is coming soon. It is a Wellington Regional Council themed promotion to **encourage active travel to school**. The students have a 10 sticker passport held by the teachers at school and if they walk to school each day (x 10), then they earn a 'Movin March' reward.

Student Behaviour and Well-being

In Rimu Team we aim to encourage an environment where mistakes are viewed as a natural part of the learning process and students take the lead in solving and taking responsibility for problems. We will support students in this learning and they should come to teachers for advice in the first instance. Dealing with issues straight away ensures a resolution for all parties can be reached.

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 are all looking forward to the year ahead with the keen and energetic children from the Rimu Team. The teachers look forward to alongside you throughout the year.

Kind regards

Amy Maddock (Team Leader), Jess Keetley and Christine Ralph

The values the students of the Rimu Team have chosen to display as 'Rimuites'

- R - Respect
- I - Inclusiveness
- M - Manners
- U - Understanding
- I - Initiative
- T - Trustworthy
- E - Empathy
- S - Self Managing

Date for your Diary

⇒ Rimu **Information Evening**
Wednesday 24 February

Activity Fees Term 1

Mathletics subscription \$21.00

Dragon Maths Workbook \$17.95

TOTAL: \$ 38.00