



# Wadestown School

*Growing and Connecting as Learners*

## Rimu Team Newsletter Term 2, 2022



**Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau,**

Nau mai haere mai, and welcome to Term 2 with the Rimu Team. We hope you had a relaxing holiday with your tamariki. They have come back refreshed and ready to go for a fun and exciting, yet busy term. The Rimu students are an enthusiastic, supportive and positive group of children. We as teachers are very fortunate to work alongside such great Year 5 and 6 students.

This is the second of our Team newsletters for the year. Its main purpose is to keep you informed of the organisation, expectations, key events and learning your child will be engaged in throughout Term 2.

### Curriculum Overview

#### **Reading**

To start the term, all students will be involved in guided reading sessions with their class teacher. The focus will be on examining the setting, characters, plot and language features of stories they have read. Techniques for skimming and scanning text to find keywords or phrases will help them comprehend the content and messages within the story. Following this, the students will delve into a 'Novel Study' where they will choose a book to read independently. They will then complete activities that relate to the key events, characters and messages within each novel.



#### **Writing**

Writing will again be across all areas of the curriculum with a particular focus on explanation and persuasive writing. Interwoven through this will be editing skills and students using a set criteria to critique their own or a peer's writing. We will also be looking at poetry, concentrating on haiku, couplets, cinquains and acrostic poems.

#### **Mathematics**

We begin this term with a focus on addition and subtraction. The students learn and practise various strategies to help solve problems within the realm of whole numbers and decimals. Each Friday, there will be a focus on measurement - length, area, perimeter and volume. 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.

#### **Inquiry**

As outlined in the Term 1 newsletter, our school wide theme for 2022 is 'Growth - Looking back to move forwards'. The term two focus is on understanding growth from an environmental perspective and will be integrated throughout other curriculum areas. The big question the students will be exploring is: 'What birdlife resides at Wadestown School?' They will do a bird study where the students research, explore, investigate and share their findings to their peers on bird life around our school.



Towards the end of the term, the Rimu team will be participating in the Zero Waste programme which is run through the Wellington City Council Waste Education team. This ties in well as the Rimu team are trying to reduce waste packaging through using reusable food containers in their school lunch boxes, as an alternative to single-use packaging.

#### **Wonder Project Rocket Challenge**

Every second year, the Rimu students participate in this wonderful initiative. The 'Wonder Project Rocket Challenge' is Engineering New Zealand free programme for schools, designed to get students excited about science, technology,

engineering and maths (STEM). It is a project based hands-on programme to spark wonder in students about a career in STEM. It is very popular amongst our children when they are in the Rimu team!

### **School 'Grow' Values**

The Rimu classes will continue to look at our GROW school values this term. Students focus on each value for several weeks, and will extend on their understanding from Term 1 by unpacking what each of our values looks, sounds and feels like from a Year 5 and 6 point of view. Students will then demonstrate these through a visual representation.

### **Te Reo Māori**

The focus this term is Te Tiana which means (the body). The students will be extending their knowledge of vocabulary relating to the body which will include simple phrases, sentence structures, questions and answers.

Hemi Prime our Kapa Haka kiako will again be teaching all Rimu Team students Kapa Haka on Thursday mornings from 9.10 am - 10.00 am.

### **Visual Arts**

Students will examine environmental artwork and what natural materials they can use around our school environment to create their own individual piece. We will look at various artists who use this in their artwork and why. Over the course of the term the students will be creating other artwork based around this as well.

### **Physical Education**

Cross Country training is well underway and all the Rimu students have been fully engaged in this. We will be training every day up until our School Cross Country which will be held on Friday 20 May. Each Monday, Wednesday and Friday we continue with class fitness sessions and each Thursday we have Rimu Team fitness. However, this is all weather dependent. On Tuesday afternoons we continue to have Rimu Sport where all the Rimu classes come together for PE skills. The activities this term are focused around large ball skills.



### **Homework**

Starting this term, homework will be via Google Classroom. It will be given out on Monday and the students will 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, Te Reo phrases and basic facts. Please ensure your child turns in their homework on Google Classroom each Friday. Book Bingo awards are available for children to work towards and gain valuable House points/Banquer dollars for each level they achieve. Students will still be using their homework book to practice their basic facts and daily spelling. Homework is designed to be flexible and allows each student to manage and organise their time around after school commitments. Homework guidelines went home on Tuesday in your child's homework book.

### **ICT in the Classroom**

G-mail accounts: All students have their own email address that is linked to the class teacher. Students are monitored regularly. If a student has used their school email account inappropriately, their search i.e. adult-type content, will be red flagged and senior management and their class teacher are notified. It would be greatly appreciated by the Rimu teachers if you can have a chat with your child about appropriate searching while using their school email account and how it is used for school purposes only.



Here is an excellent resource from Netsafe for whānau supporting their family to stay safe in the online world. [Online Safety Parent Toolkit](#)

Each child is assigned a chromebook that they are responsible for and to use it in accordance with the school ICT agreement that they signed at the beginning of the school year.

### **Communication with Teachers**

If you have anything you wish to discuss with your child's classroom teacher, please feel free to make contact via email and we can arrange to meet or chat on the phone. 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.

Amy Maddock (Room 4, Team Leader) - [amy@wadetown.school.nz](mailto:amy@wadetown.school.nz)

Cole Hanfling (Room 5) - [cole@wadetown.school.nz](mailto:cole@wadetown.school.nz)

Ashleigh Kulwant(Room 6) - [ashleigh@wadetown.school.nz](mailto:ashleigh@wadetown.school.nz)

Claudia Squire (Room 7) - [claudia@wadetown.school.nz](mailto:claudia@wadetown.school.nz)

## Useful Reminders

- **Classrooms are open from 8:30 am.** Children should not be at school before 8:30 am. Arrival time between 8:30 am and 8:45 am, ensures they have enough time for students to organise their belongings and be ready for the 8:55 am bell. Students who arrive later than this bell must sign in at the office.
- Students are to bring a **water bottle** to school **each day**, as our school drinking fountains are currently closed as a precautionary Covid measure.
- **Mobile phones** are the students' responsibility and remain in their school bag throughout the day unless specific permission has been given by a teacher.
- 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 and stationery, including the retrieval of lost pieces.
- Students bringing **scooters** to school need to **remember their helmets and licence**. New licences can be obtained through the office.
- **Mask wearing** continues until further notice under our orange covid protection guidelines, however, it is strongly encouraged in Years 5 and 6 to keep staff and students safe.
- Year 6 students doing morning **Road Patrol** duty are expected to arrive at school at 8:15 am to set up. Students who are unable to do their duty on a given day must let the school know so a replacement can be found.

We look forward to working with you throughout this term.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Amy Maddock (Team Leader), Cole Hanfling, Ashleigh Kulwant and Claudia Squire  
(Rimu Team Teachers)

Rimu Activity Fees	
Amount charged to Student Statement	100.00
Less: Term 1 Costs	41.00
Term 2	
NZ Playhouse 'The Emperor's New Clothes'	\$5.00
<b>Activity Fee Total Spent</b>	<b>\$54.00</b>

