



Wadestown School
Growing and Connecting as learners



Rimu Team

Newsletter

Term 2 2023

Kia ora Parents and Whānau

Nau mai haere mai, and welcome to Term 2 with the Rimu Team. We hope you had a restful holiday with your tamariki. They have come back refreshed and ready for a fun and exciting, yet busy term. A warm welcome to George Bayliss-Krause, who has joined Ruma Wha and the Rimu Team this term. We hope you enjoy your time here at Wadestown School. The Rimu students are an enthusiastic, supportive and positive group of children. We as their teachers thoroughly enjoy working alongside such great Year 5 and 6 tamariki.

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

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 students 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.



Reading

To start the term, all tamariki will be involved in guided reading sessions with their class teacher. The focus will be building on their inference and summarising skills and using evidence in the texts they have read to support their answers and opinions. Our inquiry topic, 'Aotearoa New Zealand Histories' is a great opportunity for our students to find out more about well-known New Zealand protests i.e. Bastion Point, Parahaka etc.

Our school library has been relocated to Room 15 and Mr Piper has done a sterling job of making it a welcoming place to read and browse the books the library has to offer. Rimu classes have weekly library sessions and we all look forward to his wealth of knowledge on new titles to read.

Writing



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

Inquiry

As outlined in the Term 1 newsletter, our school-wide theme for 2023 is 'This is Us'. The Term 2 focus is on Aotearoa New Zealand Histories and this will be integrated throughout other curriculum areas. The students will be exploring 'New Zealand Historical Protests.' They will compare and contrast various protests to see what umbrella these fall under - constructive conflict or destructive conflict.



This ties in nicely with the Peace Foundation - Cool Schools Peer Mediation programme which is being introduced to Wadestown School this term. This is a successful restorative practice approach that caters for all levels of Primary School. The Cool Schools Peer Mediation helps students understand conflict and how it can be resolved peacefully. They learn life-long skills which will put them in good stead as they move through their learning journey.

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 extend their understanding from Term 1. In the Rimu team, we have a MVP (Most Valuable Person) where Rimu tamariki can nominate another student who is showing a particular school value or positive action. This then goes into a draw and names are pulled out and students given a prize for their efforts at our Rimu Hui. All of the nominations from each class will go on display in the Rimu walkway for others to see the great role modelling of these students.

Te Reo Māori

The focus of this term is 'akomanga' or 'the classroom.' The students will be extending their knowledge of vocabulary relating to the classroom which will include simple phrases, sentence structures, questions and answers. Matua Alwyn will continue to work with all Rimu classes each fortnight for Te Reo lessons. Our tamariki look forward to having their lesson with him.



Matua Hemi, our Kapa Haka kaiako, will again teach all Rimu Team students Kapa Haka on Thursday mornings from 9.10 am - 10.00 am. Many of our Rimu tamariki also participate in our Kapa Haka Performance group where they are working towards participating in a local-school Kapa Haka festival in Term 3.

Visual Arts

Students will examine various New Zealand artists this term, which links with our inquiry topic 'Aotearoa New Zealand Histories.' Tamariki will work with mixed media and develop their skills in paint, blending, layout, perspective and complementary colours.

Physical Education

Cross-country training is underway and all the Rimu students have been managing very well with the new course. Due to the building work going on in the Rata block, our usual running route has had to be adapted for this. We will be training every day up until our School Cross Country which will be held on 23 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 P.E. skills. The activities this term are focused on large ball skills.



Homework

This will continue to be via Google Classroom. It will be given out on Monday and the students work their way through their tasks and complete these by Friday. It will consist of teacher-set Mathletics tasks, 15-20 minutes of 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 and Banqer dollars for each level they achieve. Students will still be using their homework book to practise their basic facts and daily spelling. From Term 2, all Rimu tamariki have until Sunday evening to complete their Mathletics. This is so they have more time to get their required Mathletics points. Homework is designed to be flexible and to allow each student to manage and organise their time around after-school commitments. Homework guidelines went home last Monday in your child's homework book.

ICT in the Classroom

Gmail accounts: All tamariki 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 uses the Chromebooks 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

Clare Gilligan (Room 5) - clare@wadestown.school.nz

Kate Dammer (Room 6) - kate@wadestown.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 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**.
- **Mobile phones** are the students' responsibility and must remain in their school bags 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.
- Year 6 students doing **Road Patrol** are expected to arrive at school at **8:15 am** to set up for their duty.

We look forward to working with you throughout this term.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Amy Maddock (Team Leader), Clare Gilligan, Kate Dammer
(Rimu Team Teachers)

Rimu Activity Fees for 2023	
Amount charged to Student Statement	\$100.00
Less:	
Term 1 Costs - Life Education visit	\$6.00
Term 2	
Book Week visiting author koha	\$2.00
NZ Playhouse Performance	\$5.00
Activity Donation Total Spent (Term 2)	\$7.00
TOTAL:	\$13.00

