

Dear Whānau

Welcome back to school. We have an exciting and busy term ahead. With Mrs Martin back in Room 1 this term, Sherwin will no longer be releasing Jo every Thursday. Joining us in Whanake is Lucy Bould, a student teacher from Victoria University who will be with us from Weeks 4 to 10. Nicola Clissold will be in Room 6 in Weeks 2 and 3 as Jo will be away in the U.S.A with her family.

Zoo Trip

In term 2 our inquiry theme of Citizenship through Globalisation saw us using a Science lens to explore animals, their habitats, and how humans can improve and/or threaten their existence. Thank you so much to Jina, Louise, Rose, Amie, Dave, Linda, Philippa, Rachael, Bessie, Rose, Jo, Rick and Miriam for coming with us to Wellington Zoo on Wednesday. We could not have done it without you and feel very fortunate to have such generous parents in our hub!

Inquiry Term 3

This term the whole school is focusing on the Arts curriculum. We are looking at how different cultures express their unique identity through the arts. Through our inquiry we will have the opportunity to explore the different aspects of the arts with a particular focus on Dance, Music and Drama. We will be dancing daily with the excellent teachers from *Dances For Schools* in Weeks 7 and 8. This will culminate in a dance expo for parents/whānau to enjoy.

Whanake Learning Conversations

Thank you to those of you who have taken the time to arrange a learning conversation with us this week to discuss your child's report. If you have been unable to book a time, we look forward to catching up with you in Week 5 when we will have further opportunities to do so.

Book Bags and Reading Books

Your child will bring home their book bag each night, inside should be a reading diary and reading book. Any notices, or lunch order change will be put in their book bags at the end of the day, so it is a good idea to check

these bags each night. In Whanake, children select their reading book of choice from the appropriate book box located in either Room 6 or 7. Please encourage them to log their reading in their diary.

Keeping Warm and Healthy this Winter

Now that winter is here please ensure your child packs sufficient warm clothing (named) and footwear each day. We encourage our students to keep their shoes on, but with the wetter weather children are welcome to bring their slippers in for use inside the classroom.

There have been lots of nasty bugs going around so if your child is sick, please keep them at home to stop the spread of germs.

Some important dates for your diary:

Kapa Haka	Every Tuesday
Rā Wīra / Wheels Day	Every Wednesday
Library Day	Every Friday
OLC Pōwhiri (9am)	Monday August 5
Māori Language Week	September 9-15

Please be mindful that our classes are open from 8.30am each morning. If your child arrives before then please have them wait in the office foyer. The day ends at 3pm and all Whanake children are to wait in their classroom until they have been collected by their adult. If children are still not picked up by 3.10pm they will wait in the office foyer. Children are not permitted to play in the playground unsupervised after school whilst waiting to be picked up.

Should you have any queries or concerns, you can email us or pop in and see us for a chat.

Noho ora mai ra.

Stay well and healthy,

Jo Sciascia and Chloe Meffan

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