

Kairanga School

Building firm foundations for a lifetime of learning.

2019: Term 1, Week 3

What's on top?

Children settling into new schools, class and a new school year is a change all pupils face. There's so much going on that it's hard to keep up. As parents we want to show our children that we are supportive and interested in their school life. One of the first things we do when picking up our child is to say 'So, how was your day?' We can be disappointed in the limited answer: my child says 'fine', but looks sad. They are quiet on the ride home, so we dig deeper – something must be wrong. Oftentimes there is nothing wrong, but our children are tired, they want a bite to eat, they want to leave school behind, climb a tree, or watch their favourite YouTube clip (what happened to TV?!).

As a parent, I found the best time to talk to my boys about their school day was just before bed. I'd have a hundred questions at the end of the day: 'Oh what did you do today, who did you play with?' They were pretty exhausted - 'I've just had this full day, it's hot, I've got homework to do, I've got a million things I've just done at school and you're asking me all these questions'. So I simply asked my boys what their favourite thing was that they enjoyed that day and why. Then we'd talk about 'Who did you play with?'

Every child is different of course, but I found it useful to not find worries that didn't exist by allowing the boys to chill first, then show the interest. It helped us sort out the real from the supposed problems.

Have a Great Week, Alastair & The K Team.

School Swimming Starts: THIS Friday.

Classes are attending Swim lessons, each week for six weeks, starting THIS Friday. Bus trips into town have been arranged and Swim Magic are providing the coaches to instruct.

As part of normal learning, it is necessary that every child comes to school each Friday with Togs & Towel in a bag (named please). Practising getting changed is a good idea for younger children.

If your child is already an expert swimmer, they can do their training drills from your Swim Club independently in the lane pool – we are trying to work with their club work.

Lesson timings are: 11am-12: Rooms 1, 2 and 6, 12-1pm: Rooms 4 and 7, 1pm: 2pm Rooms 3 and 5. Swimming Sports is at Makino on March 7th.

ERO Visit

The Education Review Office have concluded their visit and audit of our school today. Two Officers have been here to thoroughly look into all practices, policies, procedures, and finances. They have focussed mostly on the achievement of our pupils and the way the school is run day-to-day, and the way the Board of Trustees governs the school.

They have been into every classroom and done detailed observations.

It has been very intensive and we feel we have done our best in showing these experts how good we are and how well our children do here.

We look forward to the report being sent to the Board in about a month.

Kairanga School 2019 Key Dates

All important dates are on our school website. Please note these dates and venues are subject to change – **keep an eye on the school calendar on the website**, because it's up to you to keep up to date and organised.

Tawhaiwhai Team Camp: Term 2, Forest Lakes: If your child is in Kereru, or Korimako Classes, then they will be having a camp in Term 2 to Forest Lakes. We have made application for funds to support this camp, but need to pay a deposit now. We are asking each child to pay a deposit of \$10 now please.

Please pay this to the office, in a labelled envelope. Many thanks, Michael and Donna.

Office Notices:

School Photos:

These are being taken next Wednesday, 27th from the start of the day. Envelopes with order and cost came home on Monday. If you want to order a photos, please do so, with details on the envelope filled out and money/cheque enclosed by MONDAY! If you're a split family, please let the other half know, so they can order too.

Accounts to pay – Keep up the good work in paying the accounts. We are happy at present with the level of payment. Receipts are coming home today via pupils, so look out for them.

After School Care: We are getting quite confused and so are children, about where they are supposed to be after school each day. It is very useful to let teachers and the office know if your child is going somewhere after school, especially if it with a person they don't know. Help us to help your child by letting us know where your child is going. This is also true for after-school care too, as some children are confused which day is which.

From now on, children going to these facilities will wait on benches outside the Office under the veranda to wait for the carer. This will make picking up a lot easier (we hope!).

2019 BoT Elections: This is happening in July 2019 and we want YOU to consider serving on the Board of Trustees. There will be two vacant places and are elected positions that make up the governance of our great little school. We have been fortunate in the past to have great people stand and serve on our Board, so who do you know that might be keen and good enough? If you'd like to know more, please come in and see Alastair, or a current Board member.

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Community Picnic Fun Evening

This annual event, held on the back field, is scheduled for the late afternoon and evening of Saturday March 2nd. More information is coming out soon. Keep the date free and come along to join in the fun and connect with the whole Kairanga Family.

Beginning School Reminders:

Hats are compulsory in Term 1 & 3. Please provide a peaked cap for your child to wear outside in the sun.

Shoes: Bees are prevalent, plus PE starts, so shoes are needed for foot support and bee-squashing.

Food: It's not been our experience that any child starves while at school. Please don't overload them with extra food, as wastage can be awful. We are trying to drastically reduce rubbish. Placing food in re-usable covers/containers is best.

School Plans to See

We are NOT breaking open all walls and having 100kids with three teachers! We ARE setting about to provide modern learning facilities and flexibility. Come into the foyer and see the plans we have for the remodel of the main school block, which we hope will begin this year.

They include breakout spaces, unisex toilets, redecorated classrooms, and better access and variation of learning spaces. Come in and view for yourself!

Year Eight Lunches!

Each Friday, the Yr8 Leaders offer lunches to all pupils. The funds from these lunches go towards Year Eight activities.

This week: HOT DOGS

\$3 for a whole, \$1.50 for a half, with sauce or without. Please put your order and money in a named envelope and place in box in office by



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