

Kea Team Newsletter

Term 1, 2018

Meet our fabulous team



(Miss Janae Gaskell, Miss Carli Michelsen, Miss Olivia Mead,
Miss Jenny Cornish)

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Welcome

A big welcome to 2018 and a special welcome to our children and families who are new to Whenuapai School. Get ready for an exciting year ahead of us, filled with fun, learning and great memories! This year each Whenuapai team have adopted a native bird as their team name. The Year 0-1 team will be known as the 'Kea's'.

This year we have welcomed two new teachers to our team, Miss Jenny Cornish and Miss Janae Gaskell. Shortly we will be farewelling Miss Rachel Capizzi as she heads off on maternity leave. We wish her all the best!

Reminders

Communication - You will receive our team newsletter at the beginning of each term. School newsletters are emailed out every two weeks. On top of this, each Friday you will receive a weekly round up highlighting our achievements and reminders for up and coming dates.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to address them with your child's classroom teacher. From 8.30-9am can be very busy so please make an appointment with the teacher.

If you know your child will be absent from school please notify your classroom teacher and the front office.

Brain Food - Usually around 10:00am. Please ensure a small healthy snack is included in your child's lunch box or a separate container. This is an addition to a morning tea snack. Some examples are fresh fruit or vegetables (pre cut and peeled). No nuts please - we are a nut free school.

Uniforms and Hats - The children are looking great in their school uniforms and we thank you for your continuing efforts on this. Please ensure all items are named - including shoes. Sometimes it is best that children have a spare change of clothes in their bags. Hats are compulsory for Term 1 and Term 4. No hat...no play in the sun. Please check your child's hat is named.

Arrival at school- School starts at 9.00am so it is important that children arrive in time to get ready in the morning, including hanging their bag, bringing in their book bags, brainfood and drink bottles. Classrooms will be open for children from 8.30am.

Assemblies- Each fortnight we will have a team assembly where one class will be on the stage and share some learning. These will take place in weeks 3, 5, 7 and 9. We will start at 9.15am in the Hall

Learning this Term

At Whenuapai we use an integrated approach to our learning. Our first 'context' for the year is 'Where we are in Place and Time'. As a part of this we will be learning about who we are, cultures in our communities and about our country.

Alongside this we have a jam packed literacy and numeracy programme!

Numeracy

- **Number** - Throughout the term we will focus on identifying numbers and counting forwards and back. We will learn strategies in maths for adding, subtracting and place value.
- **Statistics** - This is our strand focus. We will be learning how to collect information (data) and share this in a graph. We will also come up with a statement/s about what the graph is showing us.

Literacy

- **Phonics**: throughout Whenuapai we follow the Yolanda Soryl phonics programme.
- **Handwriting**: we use the language and shapes from Casey the Caterpillar. For more information please see your child's class teacher.
- **During reading time** we will read poems and books together as well as working with a group.

Our Key Learning Focuses

Learning to Work Together

- We start the first couple of weeks understanding what makes a good learner. We will learn to work with each other, understand friendships and unpack our school values (Respect ourselves, respect others, respect the environment, respect learning).

Kea Home Learning Expectations

Students will each have an Alphabet Book which they will keep in their book bag. This will have the simple chant on how we say the sound and will have some handwriting practice using the Casey Caterpillar shapes. In addition to this they will have a daily reader (Mon - Thurs). On Friday they will bring home their poem book.

Later on in the term we will begin to use two web-based home learning sites, Mathletics and Reading Eggs. These websites can be accessed through mathletics.co.nz and readingeggs.co.nz. As these activities are both internet based, it is up to each family to find the best way to fit in time on the websites. This option allows parents to tailor home learning to their individual schedules. More information regarding your child's details will be sent home soon.

Whenuapai School Values

At Whenuapai we have four school values the children learn about. These are;

- *Respect for Ourselves*
- *Respect for Others*
- *Respect for the Environment*
- *Respect for our Learning*

We run a token system using Class Dojo. Children will receive points based on the school values and are **rewarded** when they meet individual and whole class targets.

Important Dates

Please be aware of these important dates coming up...

22nd February: Family fun Evening (run by the PTA)

8th March: Junior and Senior Disco's

12th - 23rd March: Easter Hamper sales

30th March: Good Friday - No school

2nd April: Easter Monday - No school

3rd April: Easter Tuesday - No school

13th April: PTA lunch and Ice Block. Term One Ends

30th April: Term Two Begins