

Kakapo Team Newsletter

Term 1, 2019



New year, new bird.

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New Team Name

Due to feedback that 'Karearea' was a difficult team name to remember, we will now be known as 'Kakapo' team!

Welcome

Welcome back to another year of learning at Whenuapai School. To students and families both returning, and joining us for the first time, it was awesome to meet you on Tuesday individually. Your insight will help us greatly in the weeks ahead. If you were unable to attend this day, we are more than happy to arrange another time.

This Newsletter is designed to give you a overview of what's coming up and how things will be done this year in our team.

You will also receive a weekly round-up which will keep you up to date. This will also be an opportunity for each class to share and celebrate their learning from the week.

The Week Ahead

February 11th - 14th

Mon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Footsteps Dance commences for all Year 6-8 students.</i>
Tue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Tech commences for Year 8s. Remember to be at school before 8:30am</i>
Wed	
Thu	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>P.E. classes commence - all students are expected to be in Sport Uniform.</i>● <i>Kapa Haka group's first meeting and practise. New members welcomed.</i>● <i>Music Lessons - Musiqhub 'Have a go' sessions in the Hall 8-9am and 3-4pm, and lessons commence.</i>
Fri	

Reminders

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.

Hats - Compulsory for Term 1 and Term 4. No hat...no play out in the open (shaded areas only). Please check your child's hat and all uniform items are named, including shoes.

Sunscreen and Water - Term 1 can be very hot and children need to apply sunscreen as a part of their morning return. There will be times for children to reapply at school. Please ensure they also bring water bottles to school to sip on throughout the day.

Before School - Please remember that children are not supervised at school until 8.30am and classrooms are not open to the children until then. The Skids programme is run in our school hall from 7.30am-8.30am if morning supervision is needed.

Assemblies - We will have combined Year 4-8 assemblies fortnightly on Monday mornings. Our first will be in Week 3, on Monday 18th February. Assemblies will commence at 9:15am in the hall. Parents and whanau are welcome to attend.

Footsteps Dance - (Year 6 students only)
This is a compulsory dance programme we will be running in term 1. Footsteps dance

have been working with us for 2 years now and the program has been very successful. It has primarily been targeted to year 7-8 students in the past so it is great that our year 6 students have been invited to experience it this time. It comes at a cost of \$27. You should have received a notice about this by email. If not, you may access it here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/r2AwF8g9cAY0BvVn1>

Passion projects (Year 6 students only) -

On Tuesday mornings we will be giving our year 6 students the opportunity to work with the year 7-8 team around individual passion projects. These are self guided projects where students can choose a topic of interest and collaborate to produce a final product demonstrating their learning in this area. Students will be closely guided by teachers to support their endeavours.

Seesaw

This is a great program for sharing our learning with you.

You may have signed up to this already after the Meet the Teacher day. If not, you will receive a QR code for your child's learning journal with instructions for downloading the app. **Some students have already taken the sign up sheet home, please check this.** We look forward to sharing your child's learning with you.



Kakapo Home Learning Expectations

This year we are focusing on self management skills and time management to prepare our students for year 7-8 and beyond. For this reason our students will be instructed that while no formal, regular home learning expectations are in place, they have a weekly workload to complete which may require commitment at home. As we are moving towards a more digital focus, most of our student's learning tasks will be available to access from home through the following apps/websites:

Reading Eggspress - Website focused on reading skills and comprehension. Some work on this site is teacher assigned, other aspects are self guided.

Mathletics - Website focused on Maths strategies and knowledge. Work on this site will be aligned to your child's current ability and class learning focus. Mainly teacher assigned, some self guided activities.

Spellodrome - Website focused on spelling skills and exposure. Mainly teacher assigned, some self guided activities.

Google Drive - Google app where a large amount of student learning activities will be accessed and stored. To access this, you need to log in using the students email address which is their first name, and first two letter of their last name.

E.g. Joe Blogs would be
joebl@whenuapai.school.nz

Seesaw family app - App where you will be able to see examples of your child's learning. Ideal for home discussion about what is being learned at school ("nothing" or "I can't remember" are no longer viable answers!)

Please note that access and implementation of these programs at the start of the year will be incremental and may vary according to the needs of each class.

Important Dates

Important dates to mark in your calendar:

- 27th Feb - **PTA Family Fun Evening** - More info to come
- 12th April - **Term 1 ends**
- 13th - 28th April - **school holiday** - note that Easter falls during this period.
- 29th April - **Term 2 begins**

