



ASHGROVE SCHOOL

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Friday 1st February 2019

Kia Ora Pihinga Whānau

Welcome back. We hope that you all had a wonderful break over the Christmas period and managed to enjoy some time with your family and friends. A special welcome to all our new families who have joined us this year.



At the beginning of each term we will send out a newsletter outlining the term's events that are especially pertinent to our team. A copy of these letters may be found on the school website www.ashgrove.school.nz and also on the school app. Here you will also find a copy of the school newsletters and a calendar of events. It is a good idea to keep checking back so you are aware of all the events that are happening within our school. We will also send out a weekly email to keep you up to date with what we are learning and any upcoming events.

This year our team comprises of three classrooms of Year 0/1 children – Mrs Roberts in Room 3, Mrs Tibbotts in Room 4 and Mrs Green in Room 5. We will be planning on a team basis to provide consistency across our team.

Learning Focus - This term our main focus is based around 'Myself, My Whānau and I'. We will be looking at ourselves, our school environment and our whānau, focussing on developing relationships, routines, and making connections within our community.

Values - At Ashgrove School we have STAR Values. This stands for "Service, Trust, Attitude, Respect and Responsibility". Each term the school focuses on a different STAR value. This term is Respect and Responsibility. Your child may earn tickets for any of the Star values throughout their week from kaiako. The children have individual kete bags to collect their tickets. These tickets are totalled each week and can be used to buy rewards at the end of the term. For each Whole school assembly the tickets are collected in and there is a prize draw. One lucky Pihinga child will have their name pulled out of the box and will go up on stage for the Star Drop. The child will place a token on the Star Drop game and win a prize that matches the number they land on.

Dates for Term 1

Pihinga Picnic - Thursday 7th February 5.00 – 6.00pm. Please bring along your dinner, enjoy some activities and meet the new families in Pihinga in a fun and informal way.



Meet the Kaiako Evening - We warmly invite all parents and caregivers to the Ashgrove School Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 12th February from 5:00 - 6:30pm. The first session will be at 5.00pm in the hall and is for all Ashgrove parents. We will then be running two sessions in Pihinga 3, 5:30pm or 6:00pm. This will give you an opportunity to meet all of the Pihinga kaiako, hear about what we will be up to this year and how ako / learning will be structured and run. This will also be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have. Both sessions will have the same information so no need to come twice! We look forward to seeing you there.

Goal Setting Conferences - 12th and 13th March.

Pihinga Celebration Assembly - Monday 8th April at 2.15pm.

PMP - Perceptual Motor Programme. Term 1 Week 10 and 11.

Routines and Reminders

Oral Language - Children may bring a toy or small item from home to share with their homeroom on a Wednesday. Please place the toy in the class news box upon arrival to school.

Team Hui - This is held fortnightly on Fridays for tamariki to share and celebrate their learning together and sing songs. Some certificates will be given out to celebrate the tamariki's successes throughout the week.

Fruit Snack – Please make sure your tamariki has a healthy fruit or vegetable snack at school each day. It needs to be small and preferably in a named container. If it is an apple please cut into smaller pieces for your tamariki. If their snack is not finished at snack time they can finish it at morning tea.

Morning Tea and Lunch - All tamariki need to take their rubbish back home in their lunch boxes. We strongly encourage litter free lunches as we do not have rubbish bins outside which is part of the Enviro Schools Programme. Tamariki need to be able to open items in their lunch independently.

Shoes – Please make sure your tamariki only wears shoes with laces if they can independently tie them.

We encourage your tamariki to be responsible for their own belongings by unpacking each day when they arrive at school. It is great for the tamariki to carry their own bag and take responsibility for looking after themselves now they are at school.

School Day - Our day begins from 8.30am - 3.00pm. If you arrive before the 8.30am bell please wait beside the office area near the main gate or by the scooter shed on the field as kaiako are still preparing for the day. Please be considerate at the end of the day and wait for your child in an appropriate place so that children are focussed and not distracted by family until the 3.00pm bell rings. A clearance bell rings at 3:10pm. This is a time we ask that you take your child out of the school grounds so staff can meet and plan for the following day.

Sick Child - If your child is unwell please keep them at home so sickness is not spread within the team. Notify the school office via the app or phone before 9.00am.

Scooters - If you scooter to school please dismount your scooter before you enter school grounds. Scooters can be stored in the shed on the park during the day. Any bikes must be parked in the bike stands behind the hall and locked. However it is recommended by our local Police Constable Ken Terry that children under the age of 10 do not bike to school due to safety reasons.

Whole School Assembly - Every second Friday morning from 9.10am the school meets in the hall. One child from each homeroom will receive a Star Certificate during this assembly. If your child is going to receive the certificate the office will contact you a day before to let you know so you can attend. Parents are welcome to attend the Whole School assembly. We ask that you sit around the outside of the hall please.

Uniform - Please check that all school uniform items are clearly named and that your child has a named sunhat. If your child may require a change of clothes due to toilet training please provide these in your child's bag.

Urgent Messages - Please leave telephone messages with the office staff who will then pass these on to class kaiako at the next break. This will help to eliminate disruptions to the learning programmes.



We appreciate your support with these matters.

We are looking forward to a wonderfully busy and exciting term. If you have any matters you wish to discuss then please feel free to make an appointment to see your tamariki's class kaiako.

Ngā mihi

Nic Green, Ashleigh Tibbotts and Kaye Roberts

Pihinga Team