



Growing Together For Success

ASHGROVE SCHOOL

48 Seddon Street
Rangiora 7400
Phone: 03 313 8552

Email: admin@ashgrove.school.nz
Website: www.ashgrove.school.nz

31st January 2020

Kia Ora and Haere Mai Kōwhai-Rata Whānau,

KŌWHAI-RATA TEAM KAWERONGO TERM 1

Welcome back to Term One at Ashgrove School. We hope the holidays have been a restful and enjoyable time for you and your whānau. A warm welcome to the Year 4 ākongā/students and whānau, and a warm welcome to new whānau joining us in Kōwhai-Rata for 2020.

The Kōwhai-Rata Team

2020 presents as an exciting year in Kōwhai-Rata as we settle back into our learning spaces. You will see some changes in Kōwhai -Rata this year. We now have a teaching team of 6 Ngāhere/homerooms; 3 in Kōwhai and 3 in Rata. Your tamaiti/child will be part of one of these. Your child's ngāhere kaiako is primarily responsible for their pastoral care. Ākongā/students will spend the majority of their day working within their hub and a short amount of time in their ngāhere. As a group of 6 kaiako, we will meet frequently to collaboratively plan and work together to ensure consistency within the hubs and to care for the learning and pastoral needs for all our ākongā.

Kōwhai-Rata is now one part of the senior school, with Kahikatea-Kauri forming the other part. With collaboration being well and truly cemented at Ashgrove, the senior school now comprises of 4 hubs. Kōwhai-Rata will work from the Mahuri building and Kahikatea-Kauri will work from the Tūrepo buildings.

We have some new additions to our team and we warmly welcome Miss Kylie Forrest and Miss Abby Washington into Kōwhai-Rata. Both Kylie and Abby have worked for the past few years in Tipu and we look forward to having their enthusiasm and wealth of experience in our team. We also welcome a new teacher to our team, Mrs Georgia Dunn. Georgia previously had a placement at Ashgrove during her University training with Mrs Bester.

The Kōwhai-Rata team for 2020 are as follows:

Kowhai:

- Kowhai Tahī Ngāhere: Kaiako Mrs Georgia Dunn (Year 5/6)
- Kowhai Rua Ngāhere: Kaiako Miss Abby Washington (Year 5/6)
- Kowhai Toru Ngāhere: Kaiako Mrs Shallie Doney (Year 5/6) (Kowhai Team Leader)

Rata:

- Rata Tahī Ngāhere: Kaiako Mrs Nicky Kelso (Year 4) (Rata Hub Co-ordinator)
- Rata Rua Ngāhere: Kaiako Miss Kylie Forest (Year 4/5)
- Rata Toru Ngāhere: Kaiako Mr. Graham Aldous (Year 4/5)

Ashgrove School Parent Information Evening

We warmly invite all parents and caregivers to the Ashgrove School Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 4th February from 5:30p.m. - 6:40 p.m. The first session will be from 5:30pm to 6:00 p.m and the second session will be 6:10 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. These sessions will be in the Mahuri building and you are able to attend the session that fits best with your

evening. If you are new to Kōwhai-Rata, this will give you an opportunity to meet all of the Mahuri 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.

Kauhoe/Swimming

Swimming Sports this year is planned for Monday 17th February at the Dudley Pool complex and will include all of the tamariki in our team. Ākonga will choose what races they want to compete in. These will take place in both the large and small pools and include running races, float and tow, kickboard, freestyle, backstroke, and breaststroke. We have a practice session on Monday 10th February. We will require parent help walking to and from the pool on these days. If you can help, please complete the separate swimming notice that your tamaiti/child will receive next week.

Both Rata and Kowhai will complete swimming lessons at Dudley Pool in Term 2. Day and time to be advised.

Mahi Kāinga/Home Learning

Mahi Kāinga/Home Learning in Kōwhai-Rata will be linked to the Ashgrove Star Values. There will be a booklet with a variety of activities that support developing a greater understanding and an intrinsic knowledge of the Values and their importance.

Together with this, we will continue to use the support booklet from the KiwiKids News available for families who wish their child to have Home Learning this year. This booklet has a weekly page for extending studies and focusing on some current events plus some additional activity pages. Your child will need access to the website to support their completing of the booklet pages www.kiwikidsnews.co.nz. We will still do the weekly quiz at school on a Friday. Completing this booklet is optional and at the discretion of you as parents, as we have found in the past that many of our students are so busy with extra activities outside of school, that additional work from us is stressful.

We would therefore rather encourage you to spend any free time you have reading with and to your child and revising their basic facts and families of facts. Basic facts are times tables and addition and subtraction up to 20. Families of facts are the 4 equations you can make with one initial equation e.g. Addition and Subtraction (+ and -) $3 + 4 = 7$; $4 + 3 = 7$; $7 - 4 = 3$; $7 - 3 = 4$ OR Multiplication and Division (\times and \div) $3 \times 4 = 12$; $4 \times 3 = 12$; $12 \div 3 = 4$; $12 \div 4 = 3$.

Celebration Assembly

At the end of the semester (Term One and Two) we are hoping to host a Kōwhai-Rata Celebration Item. We are planning to work as a team to produce STARS IN YOUR EYES items to present to our whānau. This celebration will give our students the opportunity to express themselves in a variety of ways and according to their choice. Dance; singing; acting; production; set making; prop making. Further details will be communicated to parents closer to the time or if help is required.

AKO IN KŌWHAI-RATA

Uiuinga/Inquiry Ako

Our focus for Inquiry is the Ashgrove STAR's - Service, Trust, Attitude, Respect and Responsibility. To start the year, we will be revisiting Growth Mindset and our Ngahere as a Community. We will also be working on ensuring we have an Attitude of Gratitude.

Teaching with a focus on gratitude and growth mindset creates motivation and productivity in the worlds of business, education, and sports. It enhances relationships. We will be looking at ways to approach learning with gratitude and a growth mindset.

Reo Matatini/Literacy Ako

Once we have settled into our teams and learning spaces, we will come together to collaboratively teach literacy. Ākonga will work across their own hub for Reading and Writing. Your tamaiti may have a different Reading and Writing kaiako, according to their needs.

As your tamaiti progresses with their reading, we do not send set reading books home. Daily reading, away from school will be a book of your tamaiti's choosing. We do encourage ākonga to read for at least 20 minutes daily.

Our first writing focus will be rooted in the ākongā lives and experiences over their holiday break, writing about themselves and their world around them. Our main focus will be on settling students into a new year of writing and looking at and reinforcing the basics - surface features such as capital letters, punctuation, ideas, paragraphs, spelling, proofreading and editing. It is essential for ākongā to be aware of these areas to be able to competently and independently write in a variety of genres.

Following on from this, our writing will be based on the School Kit resource. 'Get New Zealand Writing', where we engage with another school somewhere in New Zealand and send postcards.

Our Reading will be based on a variety of topics, including programmes designed specifically to enhance comprehension. Your tamaiti will have specific learning goals according to their needs and level. They will be working on a novel study using a book of choice as well as instructional reading books and tasks with their reading kaiako.

Pāngarau/Mathematics Ako

Ākongā will continue to work across their hub for Mathematics. Ako in Numeracy will be around number knowledge, addition/subtraction, multiplication/division and/or proportions and ratios, according to your child's needs. It will also have a practical focus, based upon using known strategies and knowledge in problem solving tasks and discussions about their findings.

Ako Journals

Ākongā will continue to develop their skills at managing their own learning through their Learning Journals. This involves your child planning, completing and recording weekly tasks in Reading, Writing and Mathematics that will help and continue to build their student agency.

Ākongā and kaiako will work together to monitor learning in all areas and track progress. Throughout the week, ākongā will reflect on their learning and set goals for their week ahead.

Stationery

Thank you for having stationery ready for the beginning of the term. We appreciate the effort that is involved. Ākongā will keep stationery they are using in their tubs. Spare books, pens and glue sticks will be held in a named bag by the kaiako to give to your child when they need it. If you have been unable to provide stationery at this point, please make contact with your child's kaiako so that arrangements can be made. We will start using our books daily in week 2.

Kaunihera Kōwhai-Rata /Kōwhai-Rata Council

We are looking at restructuring our Kahui Mahuri Council in Kōwhai-Rata to include students from across our team. The students will be notified in due course of what this will entail.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Kowhai and Rata are continuing to engage in BYOD again this year. Learning will incorporate the use of devices to enhance learning experiences where applicable. This will complement 'traditional' methods of learning. If your child would like to bring a device, please see their ngahere kaiako for a BYOD Acceptable Use Agreement. Please note, devices will not be charged at school, so please ensure your child takes care of this at home. If your child has a smart watch, they are required to fill in a separate agreement to have this as school. They must see their kaiako for a copy of this please.

If your child brings a cell phone to school, it must be handed into their kaiako before 9 a.m. and will be returned to them at 3 p.m. If you need to make contact with your child in the case of an emergency, it can be done through the school office 03 313 8552. If your child wears a smartwatch or similar, there are certain requirements that must be adhered to so that we are able to keep them and their peers safe. These are outlined in the BYOD agreements that you are required to sign. If your child has any digital device at school an Acceptable Use Agreement and an Ashgrove Digital Technology User Agreement MUST be filled in and signed by your child, yourself and ngahere teachers. These forms can be collected by your child from their kaiako. Please ensure that these are returned, signed, to school as soon as possible so your child can use their own and/or the schools digital devices.

North Canterbury Sport Coaching

Kōwhai-Rata team will take part in fortnightly sports sessions with the coaches from the North Canterbury Sports and Recreation Trust on Friday's of odd weeks.

If you would like to make contact with any of us, please feel free to come into our hubs, email (kaiako's first and last name@ashgrove.school.nz e.g. shalliedoney@ashgrove.school.nz) or phone the kura/school to make an appointment
Office: 03 3138552.

We look forward to a great year working with your tamaiti/child. If your whānau is new to the Kōwhai-Rata team, please come and introduce yourself to us, we would love to meet you.

Nga mihi nui,

Nicky Kelso, Graham Aldous, Kylie Forrest, Shallie Doney, Abby Washington and Georgia Dunn

Mahuri Term 1 Overview 2019

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	27 January FIRST DAY TERM ONE	28	29	30	31
2	3 February	4	5	6 WAITANGI DAY	7
3	10	11	12 SWIMMING PRACTISE	13	14
4	17	18	19 SWIMMING PRACTISE	20	21
5	24	25	26 SWIMMING SPORTS	27	28
6	2 March	3	4	5	6
7	9	10	11	12	13
8	16	17	18	19	20
9	23	24	25	26	27
10	30	31	1 April	2	3

11	6	7	8	9 LAST DAY TERM ONE	GOOD FRIDAY