

Kakano Syndicate Newsletter Term 1, 2023



Kia ora Whānau, and welcome to the Kakano Syndicate for 2023!

We hope you are refreshed and ready to jump into an exciting year. We are looking forward to seeing our tamariki tomorrow and connecting with whānau.

This year, the Kakano Syndicate has 3 classes, and we will be starting a 4th class later in the year for the New Entrants.

Kakano Syndicate Teachers for 2021



Charlotte Mantel
Room 5 - Harakeke
Year 1



Stephanie Bosch
Room 6 - Ti Kouka
Year 1-2



Miriam Gaynor
Deputy Principal, SENCo,
Kakano Team Leader,
Teacher Room 8 - Ngaio
Year 2



Jill Holmstead
Working across the school
Teaching Room 8 - Ngaio
on Wednesdays for Term 1

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Meet the Teacher

We will have a Meet the Teacher session after school in Week 2 on Wednesday where we will share more about the Kakano Syndicate and provide an opportunity to connect with your child's teacher.

What's Happening This Term?

For the first part of this term, we are focussing on developing positive relationships and Ko Wai Au, Who am I? (Weeks 1-6). These will be explored through Learning Through Play, literacy, visual arts, mathematics, and woven throughout a range of other learning areas. The unit links to self-regulation, restorative practices, and developing learners' understanding of Hauora. We have the Life Education bus visiting the school in Week 6, and this will link into our unit, focussing closely on what makes a good friend. For the last part of the term, we will be doing a short inquiry into sustainability, supported by Wellington City Council.

Our Learner Quality for the term is Self-Manager as we aim to support learners to understand and manage routines that help them to be prepared for learning, such as unpacking their own bag as they arrive at school.

Swimming!

We are thrilled to be starting the year with swimming. We will begin our weekly sessions on Thursday 9 February, Week 2 and will swim every Thursday from there. The Kakano syndicate leaves at **9.00am**, so it is important that students are at school ready to go before 8:50am. We will travel there and back by bus. Tamariki need their own towels, goggles and togs, and it is extra helpful if these are all named and in a sturdy tog bag.

The programme is organised and taught by a fantastic group of instructors from the Kilbirnie Swim School, and lessons are tailored to the needs of each student. Please be in touch with your child's teacher with any questions.

Learning Through Play

The children are always excited to begin the day with Learning Through Play, and this will continue each day this term at the beginning of school. For those parents new to Learning Through Play, it is a pedagogical approach where play is the valued mode of learning – where children can explore, experiment, discover, practise learned skills and solve problems in imaginative and playful ways. If you have any further questions around this please ask your classroom teacher.

Term 1 Reminders

Children need to arrive at school between the times of 8:30am – 8:50am so they have time to settle in and connect with their teacher and peers before the day begins. We have a strong focus on self-management, and we support students to unpack their bags, bring in their water bottle and book bag into the classroom, and settle into learning through play.

Please remind your children that they are not to bring any toys to school, even for news items. If your child has something special to share, you could email a photo.

Students have at least 3 opportunities to eat throughout the day (fruit/veggie break, morning tea and lunch). With swimming, we often find the students are extra hungry, so if your child needs it you might like to pack an extra snack or two. It is also really helpful for children to have a named drink bottle in class every day, especially during the hotter months!

Sunhats

Children need their hats for tomorrow and the rest of the term so dig them out of the beach bag, car or bedroom today for their school bag. We have new ones available from the school for \$18. If your child needs one please phone 939 3318 or email - admin@houghton.school.nz and Denise will organise it with your child and send you an invoice.

Home Learning

Home Learning in the Kakano syndicate surrounds reading for enjoyment and reading mileage. Your child will bring home a small selection of texts on a Monday to read throughout the week and then return on a Friday. The texts should be accessible for your child to read with some independence, and reading at home should be for enjoyment and practice, rather than like a reading lesson. We also recommend reading to your child daily, either chapter books or picture books (fiction and non-fiction). Please let us know if you have any questions or would like any guidance with this. We are more than happy to help.

We are looking forward to the term ahead!

Ngā mihi nui,

Miriam, Jill, Charlotte and Stephanie