



SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/Caregivers

Hi! My name is Dave Kirkland and will be teaching in Room 20. I have had the wonderful opportunity of teaching in the Bay of Islands for over fifteen years. I have spent the majority of that time at our neighbouring school, Riverview. I am now looking forward to teaching at Kerikeri Primary and the new opportunities it will bring.

I consider myself a well organised, hard-working, and self-motivated teacher who applies a great effort into preparing my lessons while using multiple teaching strategies to keep my students focused and interested. I am caring, friendly and patient, who works well with students of various backgrounds and learning capabilities. I am dedicated to helping **your** child learn!

I believe that by providing a learning environment (i.e classroom) where high expectations of behaviour and work standards are consistent and fair, and where the children are supported in their work, they can enjoy their learning and develop into learners who realise their potential as individuals in the community.

I also believe it is important to provide a friendly, caring and positive environment to promote and foster high self-esteem, caring attitudes, and independence for the children of my classroom, and that instilling aroha and passion for learning is crucial no matter what area of education one is working in. Finally, I believe that all children are entitled to the very best education, the kind of education that will equip them with the skills and knowledge to become life long, independent thinkers and learners who persevere with any task because they love learning.

One of my favourite quotes about teaching is "Tell me and I'll forget, Teach me and I'll remember, Include me and I'll learn!"

The first six weeks are generally a 'settling in' period for students, both individually, and as a class. I will be monitoring children during this time as we learn the class routines and rules. As far as schoolwork is concerned, I expect children to do the best that they can do: to strive for excellence.

In my free time, I enjoy the outdoors, going for a run, biking and enjoying the wonderful surroundings we live in.

I am very excited to be teaching at Kerikeri Primary, and hope to positively influence all my students to love learning!"

Nga Mihi
Dave Kirkland

KARAKA SYNDICATE 2015 TERM 1

We extend a very warm welcome back to everybody this term and look forward to the year ahead under the leadership of our new Principal, Andrew Read. We warmly welcome the new students and whanau who have joined us to become part of our learning community.

Stationery

In order for your child to begin the year confidently, please ensure that stationery is at school as soon as possible. A stationery list can be collected from the office if needed.

Term 1 Learning

We are focusing on establishing classroom routines, building positive relationships and expectations. Following that, our Inquiry focus will be on 'Changes' with a Science emphasis on the Water Cycle and Ko Wairoa te awa that is related to our school pepeha.

Library

Each class has a weekly Library session allowing children to choose books for recreational purposes for both home and school.

Room 1 – Wednesday

Room 19 – Thursday

Room 18 – Wednesday

Room 20 – Thursday

Swimming

Swimming begins in the first week of Term One. Please ensure that your child comes with named togs, towel, swimming cap (optional) and a plastic bag.

Room 1 – Tuesday and Thursday

Room 19 – Tuesday and Thursday

Room 18 – Tuesday and Friday

Room 20 – Wednesday and Friday

In week 2 children will be involved in the Top Energy Swim Safe Programme, and will require their togs every day.

Home Learning

In order to support your children's learning please encourage them to;

- Reading each night
- Practise Basic Facts
- Practise Spelling
- Useful websites to use at home <http://www.studyladder.co.nz> www.skoolbo.co.nz
www.nzmaths.co.nz (click on the family jigsaw) www.sunshineonline.co.nz (details will be sent home with your child)

Hats

A school sunhat is also required. If your child has lost his/her sunhat, another can be purchased from the school office.

We encourage children to bring their own, named water bottles to use in class.

Important dates

- Meet the Teacher – Thursday 19th February 2015 at 5.00pm – 7.00pm
- Parent Interviews – Wednesday 25th March & Thursday 26th March 2015 at 3.15pm – 5.15pm

Communication

It is important for your child's learning to attend school every day before 8.50am except in the case of illness or family circumstances. Please notify the school if your child is absent or if your child will be late. You can contact the school by either: phoning 09 407 8414 or texting 021 124 2836.

Please do not hesitate to contact us during Term time if you have any queries or concerns. Communication is the key to success and we believe that our open-door policy encourages and promotes positive parent/teacher/child relationships.

Nga mihi

Room 1 - Waimarie Muunu:

Room 18 - Eileen Taylor:

Room 19 - Larissa Bergman:

Room 20 - Dave Kirkland:

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