

Room 1/Room 2

2016 has started and we have begun our learning with enthusiasm! We have been writing about things that they like to do. Enjoy their stories.

I like swimming in the pool.

By Pire

I like going to the beach, and jumping the waves.

By Karli

I went to the beach with my whole family. We liked the rainbow waves. We surfed the rainbow waves.

By Maiki

I like going to the rock pools.

By Jai

I like going fishing.

By Daya

I like playing with my toys.

By Nikau

I like riding my skateboard. I like looking at the rainbow and flowers.

By Tillie

I like my sister.

By Tumoana



I like swimming with Mana.

By Kaila

I like going to the shop.

By Unaiki

I like going a wiggly slide.

By Charvel

I like playing with my friend Kaila.

By Mana

I like diving under the water.

By Kedjron



Dear Parents/Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa

1) Ahipara School is a Health Promoting School

Ahipara School is a Health Promoting School and we have a number of policies and programmes that reflect this.

Sun Safe

Our school policy requires all school members to wear a school hat outside during every break. If a child is not wearing a hat, he or she will be directed to play in a designated shady spot.

Healthy Eating

Just a reminder that in line with healthy eating guidelines, children are not to bring fizzy drink, lollies or chewing gum to school or to school events. Our Fruit in Schools programme commenced this week.

Water

During these very hot weeks it is vital that children keep hydrated. Drinking water is encouraged and please ensure your child has a water bottle which they can use in class (this prevents children wanting to leave the room during learning time).

Breakfast Club

Next week the student council will be starting our Breakfast Club. Research shows that eating breakfast stimulates the brain and aids the learning process. Between 8.10am - 8.40am every day at the canteen, cereal and milk are available. This is a great opportunity for children to start their day with a nutritious meal. We have been very fortunate to have Fonterra and Sanitarium sponsor milk and Weetbix.

Fruit in Schools

We are part of this programme and every student will receive a piece of fruit daily. This started this week.

Dental Clinic

If your child has any dental problems please ring **08006983384** for assistance

Milk

We are part of this programme and every student will receive a carton of milk daily.

If your child is lactose intolerant please let us know.

Kids Can

Kids Can provide our students with a range of food items varying from muesli bars to scroggin. **If your child has any food allergies or has developed any since enrolment, please let us know.**

2) New Zealand Curriculum

This document is the foundation of our curriculum and a copy of this is available for viewing at the office. It provides us with a vision of ***“Young people who will be confident, connected, actively involved lifelong learners.”*** It has identified five Key Competencies (which are capabilities for living and lifelong learners). These are thinking, using language, symbols and texts, managing self, relating to others and participating and contributing. This term our focus is on managing self. Teachers have been discussing ideas about how students can manage self eg. bringing all they need to school, to be ready for learning, togs, books, putting things they use away, being punctual, meeting deadlines, etc (I'm sure you have some great self managing responsibilities that you can put in place at home which will reinforce the learning that children are doing at school). We are also focusing on ***How to Manage Self in a Learning Context. This will involve setting goals and targets, taking ownership of learning opportunities and decisions on aspects of the learning journey.*** We will be unpacking our school values, TIKANGA, RESPECT MANAAKITANGA and PERSEVERANCE and some virtues associated with these competencies. These are courtesy, kindness, perseverance, diligence, responsibility, self discipline and integrity, so as to have a common language for all our school community.

3) Positive Behaviour For Learning

This year our school will take part in a Ministry of Education contract called PB4 Learning. The emphasis of this contract is using best practice methods to set clear expectations for behaviour, that is consistent across all classrooms, with an emphasis on those who display positive actions. This contract will enable us to continue to build upon existing school wide behaviour interventions and discipline plans to provide an even better positive school climate and to create a supportive environment for personal, social and academic growth for all within our school community.

4) Student Council

Our student councilors are currently being selected and I have every confidence that participation in the council will enhance leadership qualities. This team will undergo training and I'm sure will have the dedication and perseverance to drive the many programmes that will directly benefit our students (Breakfast club, The Zone, lunchtime events and I'm anticipating some great new initiatives). I look forward to seeing who will be selected and to working with them. Successful candidates will be notified in the next couple of weeks.

5) Room 3 & 4 Whanaungatanga Wananga

As part of engaging whanau and building the connection between home and school in Room 3 & 4 this year, we will be holding Whanaungatanga Wananga and overnight stay tonight Thursday 11th February held at Ahipara School.

The purpose of this wananga is for teachers, whanau and students to begin to form good working relationships early in the year by getting to know each other. It is also a great opportunity for parents and whanau to meet and make a connection with their child's teacher to be able to support their child's learning journey for the year.

During the school days students will be involved in team and confidence building activities. The format for the Thursday evening part of our wananga will involve:

3-6pm – Meal preparation and activities for students

6.30pm – Korero with whanau

7pm – Shared dinner with whanau

8pm – Games/activities and swim with whanau

There is no charge for the wananga. We highly recommend parents and whanau take this opportunity to engage in their child's educational activities and support them.

6) Visitors to the School

As the majority of parents will know we have an open door policy at our school which basically means as parents, you are welcome to come in at any time. However, we would like all visitors to report to the office, to inform our office staff of your intentions before heading to classrooms. This is of course a safety procedure for all members of our school community.

7) Behaviour Standards

Firstly, I have been really impressed with the behaviour standards and caring attitudes of all the pupils I have mixed with over these first two weeks. I know it is only early but the tone of the school is often set by our senior pupils. I believe we have a really great group this year. Please, look out for further information regarding our acceptable standards of behaviour and the course of action that we intend to take for those pupils who elect to push the boundaries. If your child has any issues with settling into their new class/school, come and talk to us about these. Children who are happy, learn best!

8) Bus Fees

Just a friendly reminder that all necessary fees and any outstanding accounts need to be paid as soon as practically possible. A last minute reminder about our **10% discount** on bus fees, if they are paid in full for the whole term by **Friday 19th February**. If you have any queries or concerns in regards to fees, please contact the school and ask to speak with me.

9) Road Patrol and Parking (before and after school)

In the next couple of weeks road patrol training will commence for all those students in Years 6 - 8 who have indicated they would like to take on this responsibility. We would also like to remind you **not to park** in our bus bay areas before and after school as this can cause some unsafe situations for our pupils and road patrol monitors. The yellow lines in front of our main gate may **only be used** as a quick loading and unloading zone.

Kia Ora,
Jackie Osborne
Tumuaki/Principal

Rarawa Netball AGM

Date: Wednesday 24th February

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Ahipara School