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Kimi Ora School

March, Term 1 2018

2018 a year of amazing growth and change....



Easter Break dates:

Friday 30th March (Good Friday)

April 2nd (Easter Monday)

April 3rd (NZ Schools 'Easter Tuesday')

Last day of Term 1: Friday 13th of April

Term 2: Monday 30th April - Friday 6th July

Term 3: Monday 23rd July - Friday 28th September

Term 4: Monday 15th October - Thursday 20th December

Next BOT meeting:

Tuesday 20th March

It is March already! We cannot believe it, the first four weeks of our school year have flown by. We have had an action packed few weeks with lots of new students and staff over our now FOUR sites!

Our students at Pomare have settled into school life and we could not have had a warmer welcome from the school and community there.

They are spending time throughout the day with the students at Pomare school, enjoying getting to know each other and learning to communicate with each other. The Pomare students have been very interested in understanding the Kimi Ora students' communication devices and have been learning all about using yes/nos, PODDs and



Coreboards! Mel, Kristy and the team have been working hard getting new routines and groups underway as well as getting to know new students and staff from both Kimi and Pomare. Our students' highlights so far have been weekly assemblies and Kapa Haka with their new friends and getting to use the amazing library at Pomare.

Our students in our new Community Classroom at Hutt Valley Disabled Resources Trust are enjoying life in the middle of Lower Hutt City. Sarah, Liz and the team have set up a program that enables the students to take part in not only a rich and diverse curriculum in class but the ability to immerse themselves as members of their local community.

The Kimi crew have been getting to know the staff and clients at HVDRT. Shared Music Therapy sessions and lunchtimes are always a great time.



Once again we would like to thank both Pomare School and HVDRT to for welcoming us so warmly and giving our students these amazing opportunities.



What is happening this term....

Our main focus for our staff and students this term is getting to know each other. With the many changes in staffing, classes, new satellites and students we have our staff focusing on getting to know their students and forming relationships with them and their whanau. This will enable our students to reach their goals and develop independence in all areas throughout their time at Kimi Ora.

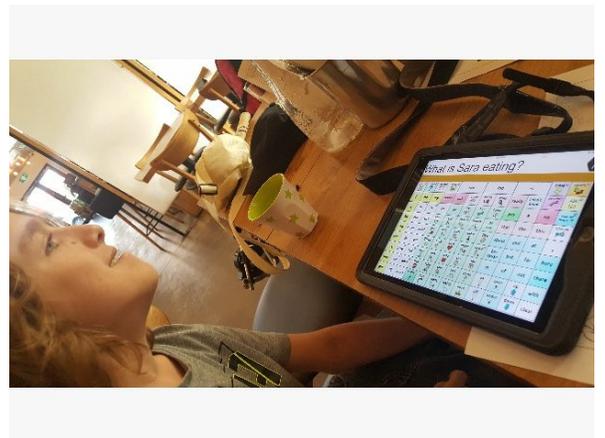
This term our school-wide topic is 'My Place, My Friends.' Our students are learning all about their community, especially the students that are new or have joined new classes or sites. This topic is based on the Social Sciences aspect of the New Zealand Curriculum and is integrated into all our students' learning over many subjects including literacy, maths, art, music and outings.

Key Competencies are part of the New Zealand Curriculum and are recognised as the capabilities for living and life long learning. The NZ Curriculum identifies 5 Key Competencies that set the direction of learning for all students; these are: Thinking, Participating and Contributing, Managing self, Using Language Symbols and Text and Relating to Others.

Like the Literacy and Numeracy Curriculum, Kimi Ora use an expanded, specially developed 'Key Competencies Pathway' that allows us to assess and develop next steps for all our students. It has been designed to demonstrate how the Key Competencies are relevant and accessible to all learners with special needs.

This term our school wide Key Competency focus is 'Relating to Others.' This ties in well with our school topic of 'My place, My Friends.' Students are working on goals around one of the following headings: "To express myself," 'To respond to others' and 'To learn from others.'

If you would like any more information about the Key Competencies Pathway you can check out: <http://www.sensorylearningnz.com/>



Over the holidays **Katie Thompson**, teacher at Naenae, resigned to take up a permanent position at Heretaunga College. We would like to thank Katie for all the wonderful work she has done with our students over the last few years. We wish her all the best in her new role.

Last week we also farewelled **Barbara Jones**, Admin Assistant at Naenae. Barbara has headed off to continue some study as well as volunteering in aged care. We know many parents will miss her warm welcome on arrival at school or over the phone. We thank Barbara for all the hard work she put into the role helping the staff, students and their whanau, not to mention many of the outside agencies during her time at Kimi Ora.

Communication between home and school at Kimi Ora....

At Kimi Ora School we have many ways in which you can communicate with us. These include:

Home/School Communication books: At the start of this term you would have received your child's weekly timetable for term 1. The activities listed are carried out on a daily basis each week for the whole term. Any deviation from the timetable will be noted in your child's book. Any health or personal cares will also be noted. If there is any other information you would like included in the daily communication book then please just let your child's teacher know.

We are trialling this system for Term One as we are looking at ways in which our teachers can maximise their teaching time and take a regular break at lunchtime to refuel before afternoon groups.

We still love hearing about what has been happening at home, exciting news, how their sleep was and any other information you may think is relevant for the school team.

Email/Phone: You can email your child's teacher with anything you would like to discuss, or call them on the school landline during school hours. Alternatively, should you prefer, a meeting can be arranged.

Storypark: We use Storypark as an ePortfolio for your child. Here we collect and share evidence towards their IEP and Curriculum related goals. We also share magic moments or exciting events from their week. We love hearing about and seeing photos from home as well!

IEP Meetings: In Terms 1/2 we have the initial IEP meeting with the school team and parents/caregivers (and any other people you would like to attend.) This is to develop a vision and specific goals that you would like the school team to work on with your child. In Terms 3/4 we have an IEP review meeting with you and the school team. IEP meetings are on set days and you will hear from your child's teacher about what day it will be and be asked to choose the best time to suit you. At Kimi Ora we work with families the way in which they feel the most comfortable, so please let us know if you have any specific requests or would like your child's meeting to run in a different way.

Shirley is available to talk or catch up with you if you need to. This can be arranged by contacting her via email or phone on: 027 531 3478 or (04) 5675834 principal@kimiora.school.nz

For any of our new whanau who have not already joined the Kimi Ora Facebook page please feel free to do so. Here we provide a private (we are a 'friend' not a 'like') place to share everything that is Kimi! We provide information about school and any courses or meetings you might be interested in as well as events and photos. Many of our parents/caregivers/extended community friends share information, tips and tricks and ideas on this page also. You can find us by searching 'Kimi Ora'. The profile picture is our school logo.

The sun is still here! What an amazing summer we have had. Please put a hat in your child's bag each day as we are often out and about in the sun. If your child does not like wearing a hat, rest assured we will apply sunblock and try and keep them in the shade.

Congratulations to the following students who have won 'Student of the Week' this term so far!

If your child is absent from school:

If your child is unwell or not coming to school for any reason, including appointments, we really appreciate you letting us know. You can do this by letting the teacher know in the home school communication or you can call the school and leave a message.

For Naenae, Pomare Satellite and HVDRT Satellite call (04) 5675834 and push 1 to leave a message on the absence line.

For Evans Bay please call and leave a message on: (04) 3879301

Thanks heaps!

Daley and Tom for awesome independent teeth brushing - amazing progress!

Izack for an amazing start to the year. Demonstrating some great listening skills and following instructions well.

Hamish for taking 12 independent steps and independence in personal cares.

Vinnie for waiting patiently and happily for his friends at RDA after his turn.

Asha for happily participating in a variety of class activities.

Isabel for seeking an activity to play independently without prompting after morning tea.

Guen for hard work and great progress in physical skills.

Fletch for awesome participation in afternoon groups.

Haere Mai, Welcome, Afio Mai, Welkom, Velkommen, Bienvenido

Welcome to all the new members of our school, both students and their whānau and staff. We are so happy to have you all at Kimi Ora. We look forward to seeing all our tamariki learn and grow in their own individual ways during their Kimi Ora journey.

At Evans Bay we welcome:

Ava Cregan and her whānau

Sophie Hamilton, Teacher in Pōhutukawa class Tuesday and Wednesdays

Frances Mulligan, Teacher in Pōhutukawa class Monday, Thursday and Friday

Steph Mentor, Teacher in Tōtara class

Kerri Patchett, Speech and Language Therapist

Anne Yong, Teacher aide

At Naenae Base we welcome:

Jayden Montgomery and his whānau

Frankie Pople and his whānau

Lucan Coulson and his whānau

Charlotte Knapton and her whānau

Jesse Rivers and his whānau

Abi Malan and her whānau

Elsa Dimock, teacher in Piwakawaka class

Andrea Riley, teacher in Pūkeko class

Sammy Allen, teacher in Kāhu class

Brooke McCord, throughout the school releasing teachers

Anne Marie McIlroy, teaching in Kea on a Thursday

Jane Wild, Physiotherapist

Rachel Renata, Teacher aide

Tegan Pringle, Teacher aide

Holly Barnes, Teacher aide

Simone Verdonschot, Teacher aide

Stephanie Spence, Teacher aide

Erana Jurd, Teacher aide

At Pomare Satellite we welcome:

Aerin Barnes and her whānau

Adam Tiedemann and his whānau

Reuben and Lily Prince and their whānau

Sarah Trustrum and her whānau

Aisyha Siti, Teacher Aide

Sharee Cleland, Teacher Aide

