



Meet the Ruru teachers 8 February 2024

Below are notes about what was discussed during the sessions.

We have a really lovely group of students in Ruru.

Our aim is to have students happy to come to school and to be learning as effectively as possible.

Every effort is made to maximise learning for your child and we work hard to achieve this. Programmes are as individualised as it is possible to do.

Groupings may vary depending on what it is that your child is learning. So they may not always be in the same reading/writing/maths group. Sometimes they may even be in two groups.

Expectations- Class tikanga/school values are followed. Basically it can be summed up in the phrase.....

“I need to be in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing.”

We also have high learning expectations and do our best to get the balance between achieving as highly as we can..and being happy to learn.(Making the learning achievable).

Encouraging independence is seen as very important.

In the room we are about to operate a C23B4ME (see 23 other people for the answer to your query before you come and see the teacher).

This ensures that group teaching time is not interrupted by student queries...the students help each other.

Emails- Kerry is NOT good at clearing emails early or during the day- I usually do these at night- so if it is something more urgent please email Glenis at the office as well as Kerry and Angela

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Book bags stay in Ruru over the weekend.

Homework is TOTALLY optional. No worries if it is not done.

Spelling homework will start coming home next term.

Our Daily timetable is essentially....

Greetings and exercises to stimulate good brain activity (8.55 - 9.10)

Maths- until Morning Teatime (9.10 - 10.10)

Reading- until Brain Break (10.30 - 11.35)

Writing - until Lunchtime (11.35 - 12.40)

Swimming- after lunch

Then News/Learning pathways (topic) discussions/class discussions.

Maori is threaded through the day and has a 30 minute time allocated in a regular weekly slot (usually Friday).

Parent questions/queries that arose during the sessions (follow on on the next page)....

1. **Reading levels.**

The levels 1 up to 14 are aimed to be achieved by (or near) the beginning of Year 2.

After that each level takes about 1 term to cover as by this time the children are moving from learning to read, to reading to learn.

There are a lot more strategies and skills to cover as they move up through the levels.

So by the end of Year 2 we would hope to have covered up to Level 17 or 18.

Reading/ Maths and Writing detailed learning objectives are in the classroom, on hooks, and you are most welcome to look at them/ ask questions about them/ have copies.

These are often shared with the students so that they know what it is that they are learning.

Some of them are currently being modified to align with the current curriculum refresh being undertaken by the Ministry Of education. When modifications are complete they will replace the ones that are currently on display in the room.

2. **How much Screen time do students have?**

iPads are used mainly for Mathletics and Reading Eggs. The combined total time on the ipads is approximately 1 hour per day. This does vary- some days it is lower, some days a little more.

3. **Assessments**

Assessments to see what students have retained over the holiday break have already begun.

Assessments are ongoing throughout the year- they are not just done when reports are due.

If you would like to know about your child's level of achievement you are always welcome to ask.

You are very welcome in the classroom at any time.

If you cannot get in to talk to us in person you are very welcome to make contact via email.

We are looking forward to a positive year in Ruru.

Kerry and Angela