




Year 3-4/5 Team Newsletter

TERM ONE



Kia Ora and welcome back to another new and exciting school year!
We hope that you have had a wonderful summer break and your child is ready to begin the year.

Who Are We? Our Team consists of three classes...

	TUI		KAKAPO		TAKAHE
	Miss Neena Hari		Mrs Sonja King		Mrs Julia Brachi
	Year 3 & 4		Year 4 & 5		Year 3 & 4

School Values

Our school values are a very important part of our school culture. We focus on these throughout the year, beginning this term with unpacking what they mean and what they look like both in and out of our classrooms. We appreciate your help by reinforcing these school values at home and encouraging your child to practise these values in all aspects of their life.

✦ Respect - Kia u ✦ Responsibility - Kai Mau ✦ Resilience - Kia Manawanui ✦

Term 1 Learning

Our big focus for this term is **My Culture & Identity**. Starting with getting to know each other and sharing about ourselves, we will then learn more about the Buckland area and history behind our school. To further help us learn about your child and what makes them unique we appreciate you taking the time to fill in our Family Questionnaire that has been sent home along with this letter and thank you for getting it back to your child's teacher.

ClassDojo

Across the school this year we will be using ClassDojo as a platform for sharing and communicating with whanau. If you have not already, please accept the invite that has been sent out by your child's teacher so you can join our class pages.

Teachers can be contacted using the message function on ClassDojo or via the following emails:

- TUI - Neena Hari nhari@buckland.school.nz
- KAKAPO - Sonja King sking@buckland.school.nz
- TAKAHE - Julia Brachi jbrachi@buckland.school.nz

REMINDER: Please use Skool Loop App or call the office directly for all absences. Thank you!



ClassDojo

Digital Technologies

From Year 3 up, the children are allowed to bring their own Chromebook to school for use in the classroom. This is optional as each class does have a set of shared Chromebooks for the children to use also. Personal Chromebooks go home each day and it is the child's responsibility to charge them overnight ready for use the next day.

We use a number of programmes on the Chromebooks that require the children to be able to listen carefully such as our spelling programme StepsWeb. We ask that all children **please provide a set of headphones** from home so they can use these programmes most effectively. Please name your child's headphones and send them to school in a named zip lock bag. These headphones will remain at school until the end of the year for use in your child's day to day learning. Please note, for hygiene reasons there will be no sharing of headphones.



Bookbags

All students must have a bookbag that is brought to school **daily** in order to take home library books and readers. Bookbags ensure books are kept safe between home and school as damaged books cost the school a lot to replace. We appreciate your support with ensuring all readers are returned to school each day and Library books returned weekly.



Homework

Homework is an important part of supporting a child's learning and is a great opportunity for children to share what they are learning with their whanau at home. Homework requirements this year are as follows;

- Nightly reading of a classroom reader or Library book (From Wk 3)
- Mathematics - 10 mins of Course Work and 5 mins of 'Live' basic facts practise (From Wk 3)
- Spelling word practise (From Wk 5)

Please support your child to complete their Homework each night and thank you for signing their Reading Log so we can keep track of their Homework progress.

Swimming

Swimming is every day and is part of the curriculum (Term 1 and end of Term 4). We are very lucky to have a heated pool at our school and it is an expectation that all students participate during this time. Our daily swimming lessons are valuable life skills and reinforce the skills needed to participate in the school Swimming Demonstration in Week 5. Please make sure your child comes to school with their named togs, rash shirt, towel and bag everyday. If your child cannot swim on a particular day please send a note to their classroom teacher or message on ClassDojo.



Health & Wellbeing

We continue to encourage and practise good hygiene at school so appreciate that children are kept home when they are visibly unwell to restrict the spread of illness.

Term 1 is our hottest term of the year so it is a good idea for children to sunblock in the morning and wear layers for those unpredictable changes in weather. Each of our classrooms has its own supply of sunblock and children are encouraged to put sunblock on prior to break times. If your child has allergies to our sunblock we would appreciate it if you could send your child with their own supply.

Keeping your child hydrated is essential, especially in these Summer months. We ask that your child brings a named water bottle to school each day. We also have drinking fountains available when children are outside in the playground. A reminder that we are a **water only** school so please save any other types of drinks for home.

To help your child manage their belongings **all** clothing including swimming gear and towels must be clearly named. We also encourage parents to clearly label footwear to avoid mix ups of similar footwear. A lot of learning time can be spent trying to track down lost clothing that is made more difficult when it is not named.

Hats are compulsory for Terms 1 and 4 and are essential sun protection during break times and other outdoor activities. We have a 'No Hat, No Play' policy at our school.



Years 3 and 4 Camp

We will be returning to Lakewood Lodge again this year with our Year 3 and 4 students in **Week 8 of Term 2 - Thursday 20th & Friday 21st**. This is an action packed two day camp that provides an amazing range of learning opportunities which the children love. We will be sending further information home about camp later in the term. Exact cost is yet to be confirmed but costs for camps in previous years were around.... if you would like to start putting money aside now.

Year 5 Camp

Year 5 Children will receive information about their camp later in the term once it has been finalised.

Team Assemblies

Team assemblies will be on Friday at 2.30pm in the school hall on the following weeks:

Week 5 - *Kakapo hosting*

Week 7 - *Thursday due to Good Friday - Tui hosting*

Week 9 - *Takahe hosting*



Families are welcome to join us at our team assemblies!

We are looking forward to working with your children and having a productive and fun year!

Kind Regards,

Sonja King, Julia Brachi, Neena Hari
Kakapo, Takahe and Tui Teachers

WHAT'S HAPPENING	
in.... Term One!	
Waitangi Day	Wk 2 - Tuesday 6th February
Parent Meetings	Wk 2 - Thursday 8th February 3.10pm & 3.30pm
PTA Family BBQ & Swim Evening	Wk 3 - Friday 16th
Y3/4 Swimming Demonstration	Wk 5 - Tuesday 27th
EASTER	Wk 9 - Friday 29th (Good Friday) & Week 10 Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd April
Last Day of Term	Wk 11 - Friday 12th April
Wheels Day	Date TBC