

18-02-22

Rimu News - Term 1



Tēnā koutou katoa,

A huge welcome to our new whānau and students in Rimu Syndicate, and welcome back to those of you who have had students in our syndicate in the past.

Welcome also to our new staff member, Miss Tessa Willis, who is teaching in Room 17. Having been into the class and spoken to the children, there seems to be a lot of laughter, fun and learning going on in there already. Welcome Tessa.

We also welcome an old teacher back, but with a new name. Mrs Robinson (nee Miss Bullock) joins us in Rimu as Room 20's Wednesday teacher when Mrs Miles has her senior teacher release, and also as a reliever in some classrooms when needed. The children all know her and we are so happy to have her back.

We have had a wonderful, yet eventful, start to the year. As you all will be aware, we had a large tree which wanted to join Rimu Syndicate last weekend, trying to join Room 21. Unfortunately, this has meant that Rooms 20 and 21 started the week in the hall, however, we have had the all clear from the experts to say we can use the new modulars. Room 20 is back in their room and Room 21 is currently using the shared space between Rooms 20 and 21, until building repairs can be made to the roof...full steam ahead!



Having had a couple of disrupted years behind us, and the threat of another year of uncertainty, we are keeping things very calm and positive here at school. The children have arrived back full of energy and smiles. Thank you for keeping things going and helping us to keep things as normal as possible for them.

Syndicate Culture

This term we are focusing on stepping up as Rimu Syndicate members and showing responsibility, with an emphasis on kindness. We encourage kindness every day, with the mantra of treating others how you would like to be treated.

We have a syndicate challenge each fortnight where each class competes for the hotly contested 'Nickson Trophy'. This gorgeous trophy was donated by Carla Nickson before she left last year. This challenge can be anything from dance, to art, to games...absolutely anything. The focus is on collaboration but also integrity and learning how to be good winners and losers. We don't always win in life and it is important we know how to handle that.

Topic

Our topic for this term is *Whānaungatanga*. We are looking at the fact that we are all unique and have our own strengths and challenges. This has dovetailed nicely with the developing of our class and syndicate culture, working together to help each other where and when needed. We are also looking at teamwork, how we fit into teams and how teams work together. All these things seem obvious at times, but are actually quite complex.

Mau Rākau

We are lucky enough to have Matua Whaitiri taking this wonderful programme for the next 3 weeks after which Mr Mac will be continuing. It gives our Māori students the opportunity to connect with Māoritanga, focusing on positive messages, discipline, self-esteem and leadership all through the use of modified taiaha (Māori staff weaponry).

During this time, we are also running a rotation for the students who are not involved. The activities are Te Reo Māori (Māori language), Tī Rākau (traditional stick games), Toi Māori (Māori art) and ki o rahi (an exciting Māori invasion game).

REMINDERS

- Children must have a named, school brimmed hat at school in terms 1 and 4.
- Toys are not to be brought to school.
- Clothing needs to be named.
- All students need to have a named drink bottle.
- While we provide sunscreen, it would be helpful for children to put sunscreen on before they leave for school.
- As part of stationery requirements all students are expected to provide a box of tissues for the class.
- We are a nut free school as we do have children with serious allergies, therefore no nuts or nut products are to be brought to school.

If you have any concerns or queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Ngā mihi nui,

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