

# TE KURA TUATAHI O PAPAIOEA

## CENTRAL NORMAL SCHOOL

Wahanga 1 Wiki 2

Whaia Kia Tutuki ~ Strive to your Potential

9 Hui-tanguru 2023

### Kia Ora koutou, Ni Hao, Bienvenue

It has been absolutely wonderful to see our tamariki enjoying our school pool. This term, we have Kelly Sports coming in to teach our tamariki swimming skills. While classes have allocated times and days, it is still worthwhile sending your child to school each day with their togs and towel, should there be a lunchtime swim or they have an additional session.

#### Te Ahu o Te Reo

This term, all kaiako (teachers) are participating in Te Ahu o Te Reo. Te Ahu o Te Reo is a Ministry funded programme aimed at developing and increasing the Te Reo capability of all kaiako, including Rumaki teachers. At the start of the year, all kaiako were involved in a full 2 day wānanga to start us off on this amazing journey. Our learning continues every week for the next two terms and we are all really excited about this fantastic learning opportunity.



Name Art - Akomanga 13

#### Two dates to be aware of:

There are two key dates we would like you to mark in your calendars:

- **Friday 3 March:** School will finish early on this day at **12.50pm** to allow teachers to attend their Paid Union Meeting. We would really value your support with collecting your tamariki at 12.50pm on this day.
- **Monday 24 April:** School will be **closed** on this day for a Teacher Only Day. On this day, staff will be learning about the refresh of the New Zealand Curriculum. Tuesday 25 April is ANZAC Day, therefore Term 2 will begin on Wednesday 26 April.

#### Handwriting

We are proudly a 'Structured Literacy' school, which basically means we follow effective research and best practice to teach our tamariki how to read and write. Structured Literacy, among other things, has a strong focus on phonological awareness and understanding how letters/sounds come together to make words and sentences.

This year, we are also focusing on the specifics of the teaching of handwriting. Forming letters correctly and developing a fluent style of handwriting, supports our tamariki to understand the formation, name and sound of letters. Fluent handwriting also allows children to write more freely, without the constraints of not knowing how to form letters. Handwriting also supports the development of children's fine motor skills, which helps with a range of many other skills.

# Early Finish - Friday 3 March, 12.50pm

## What fees do I need to pay at Central Normal School?

This year, our School Board have again opted into the Government School Donation Scheme. This means, rather than asking parents to pay a school donation, the government provides us with additional funding to provide opportunities for our tamariki, such as trips, activities and excellent resources.

**HOWEVER**, this does not extend to Sports Fees. If you would like your child to play sport for our kura, **parents must pay the sport fee**. Sports Fees go directly to the governing sport, such as Netball or Basketball and not to our school. If paying for sport could be a potential barrier for you, please talk to Matua Regan about the possibility of setting up a payment plan.



Story Art - Akomanga 18

## Stationery

All tamariki have their own stationery in class, which we bulk purchase from Office Max. The cost to whānau for stationery is **only \$10 per child**. This is made possible due to our school receiving the government donation scheme, which we use to reduce the cost to you.

Many thanks to those whānau who have already paid. If you haven't already paid, invoices for stationery will be sent out from the Office.

## Happy Birthday to us!

This year our kura turns 150 years old!! We are the oldest school in Palmerston North, which is reflected in our Te Reo name - Te Kura Tuatahi o Te Papaioea - the first school of Palmerston North. On 24 - 25 March, we will be celebrating our birthday with some events.

There will be an official pōwhiri welcome on Friday, followed by an open invitation to visit our classes. That evening, there will be a band and nibbles, which, if you are interested, you will need to register for. On the Saturday, we will be having more of a party vibe, with bouncy castles, a sausage sizzle and a birthday cake. You are welcome to attend all or some of the events. More information will be shared next week on our Facebook page.

## Have you met your child's teacher yet?

While we have not yet planned any start of year whānau event - have you popped in and met your child's teacher? We welcome you coming in either before or after school to meet with your child's teacher.

All kaiako are in class from 8.30am - 9.00am before school, should you wish to pop in and meet with them then.