

# WELCOME TO

# *2021*

## ROOM 10 & 11

Kia Ora and welcome to Harakeke Team!

### Introductions

Ben Nisbett is the teacher in Room 10

Gaylene Hewlett is the teacher in Room 11

Amy Turner in for Gaylene on a Friday in Room 11

For these first few weeks we will be focusing on establishing a class culture where everyone feels valued and included. The children are positive about learning and are quick to support each other. They are a great group and we are looking forward to the year ahead.

We have had an excellent start! Our goal is to provide a classroom environment that is fully conducive to stimulating, challenging and fun learning opportunities to ensure that your child loves learning.

Physical fitness can reactivate focus when children need a bit of a break during the day so when work is not quite so fun we will respond to the children's needs.

# Communication

Class emails will be sent out fortnightly to keep you up to date with your child's life at school.

Please also check the school newsletter and Hero. If you have any questions or concerns, or need to discuss anything please contact your child's classroom teacher. We welcome and value your perspective. A quick chat before or after school may be enough to clarify any questions. Otherwise we can arrange a time to meet.

Email is often the best form of contact;

[ben@kts.school.nz](mailto:ben@kts.school.nz)

[gaylene@kts.school.nz](mailto:gaylene@kts.school.nz)

# Routines

Children are allowed into the classroom at 8.30am. At this time the children are expected to get themselves ready for the day ahead.

They may also play outside until the 8.50am bell rings.

Children are expected to arrive at school by 8.45am, enabling them to be seated in class, ready and equipped for learning when the 8.50am bell indicates the start of the school day.

If you arrive after 8.50am please check in at the school office before coming to class.

The daily timetable is on the whiteboard for the children to refer to in order to organise themselves.

The general pattern will be as follows:

Time table 2021					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 - 9:30	Roll - Fitness	Roll - Fitness	Roll - Fitness	Roll - Fitness	Roll -
9:30 - 10:30	Maths	Maths	Maths	Maths	Assembly/Harakeke Hui
Morning tea 10:30-11:00					
10:50 - 12:40	Writing/Writing	Writing/Writing	Writing/Writing	Writing/Writing	Writing/Writing
Lunch 12:40 - 1:30					
1:30 - 3:00	Music Inquiry/Art	Year 3-4 sports rotations Inquiry/Art	Inquiry/Art	Inquiry/Art	Inquiry/Art

Please note that Amy Turner teaches room 11 on Fridays

This timetable may alter to accommodate events such as athletics, cross country, trips, science etc.



# Day to day

## **Assembly**

School assembly is held every second Friday at 9:00 am. Rooms 10 and 11 will host and organise an assembly at a yet to be specified time this year. You are welcome to come to any of our school assemblies and we will remind you when your child's assembly is coming up.

## **Science**

Carolyn Bowden will be teaching science in rooms 10 and 11 most weeks. Children will learn about the Nature of Science as they develop their scientific capability.

## **Home Learning**

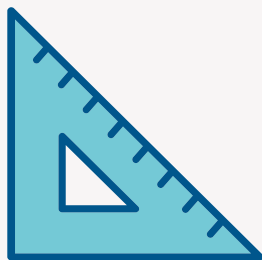
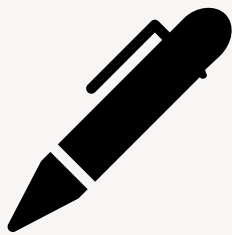
Home learning is a useful way to establish a positive home – school partnership. It is a valuable tool for opening communication with your child about what is happening at school.

Home Learning is set each fortnight. It will be collected on a Friday and your child will receive feedback on their efforts. Homework will be given out and glued into students books on a Monday.

## **Reading**

The more your child reads, the better they get! Reading at home every day is a great way to help children learn to love books, as they read for enjoyment as well as knowledge. In Year 4 the children do not bring 'readers' home in a book bag every day. They will be bringing home books from the school library that they have chosen to read for pleasure. The books they read at Literacy time are kept at school as they take more than one session to read then complete followup activities that consolidate the learning intention.





### **Writing**

The writing programme teaches skills that can be applied across the curriculum. Some examples are recounts, narrative, report writing, persuasion, notetaking, presentations.

### **Spelling**

Lists will be sent home weekly. Spelling will be tested every Friday so children need to bring their spelling notebooks every Friday. Please support your child to apply these words in different contexts. It is important that children learn the spelling patterns and rules so that they can be applied to a range of words. They also need to be able to demonstrate an understanding of the meaning of words by writing/using unknown words in a sentence.

### **Maths**

For children to be able to tackle more complex mathematical problems, generally, they will need to have instant recall of basic facts. Family of facts sheets and Mathletics are valuable tools for learning basic facts at home.

### **Inquiry.**

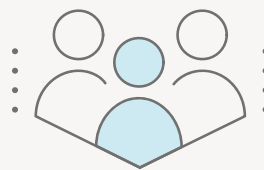
A big part of using the skills we teach goes into our inquiry. Students have the opportunity to learn about each other, our families, our cultures, our past, our world. Not all inquiry outcomes will be the same giving the students a variety of ways to see how information can be displayed or presented.

### **Children's School Email Address**

This year your child will receive a school email address. This will be used for digital learning, using Google Docs, emailing/sharing work on Hero and with the teacher etc. More to come on this later.

### **Library**

Room 10 - Monday after morning tea Room 11 - Wednesday after morning tea. Each week we go to the school Library. This is a chance for students to find a quiet space in the library with a book and check out what new ones are available as advertised by our wonderful librarian Jane. Students can take out 2 books, 1 to take home.



### **Fitness/PE/Sports**

Most mornings we complete some sort of fitness. Skills based lessons are taught on at different times for each class during the week and games where children can practice their skills are played on Tuesday afternoon.

### **Camp**

The Year 4 Marae visit and overnight stay at school will happen in term 4 again this year. This is always noted as a highlight of the year by our Year 4 students. More information will come out about this later.

### **Behaviour**

Every year children consider what it means to be a learner at Kohia Terrace School. Together we have developed class treaties. We have all agreed to the terms of each class treaty. The students are encouraged to respect themselves, those around them, their environment and their belongings in accordance with the Kohia values. The school's behaviour policy can be found on the school website [kts.school.nz](http://kts.school.nz)

### **Communication**

If you have anything you need to discuss in detail, send us an email and we can arrange a time to meet. FYI We have regular school meetings each week on Monday and Tuesday afternoons that start at 3:10 and on a Friday morning until 8:30. There is a newsletter published weekly on the school website <http://www.kts.school.nz/>. There is a lot of important information in the newsletter. Please also check the School Notices on Hero for other notices about the class and school.

### **Uniform and Lost Property**

Clearly named uniforms can be easily returned to their rightful owners. Unclaimed items will be put in the lost property bin in the corridor by Room 9. The school uniform policy is on the website.



# A bit about Gaylene

This is my sixteenth year at Kohia Terrace School. For the first four years I worked supporting children with special learning needs. During this time I completed the Bachelor of Education and became a classroom teacher.

I have a particularly strong interest in Maths teaching and learning, and in Te Reo. I believe reading is the key to a world of wisdom, and writing a portal to understanding and expression.

I love teaching Year 4. I like to assure children right from the start that there is nothing we cannot sort out together. I like children to enjoy learning of course, sometimes though learning can be a bit tricky and not so much fun. Regular breaks and drinking lots of water can help children to re-focus.

Kapa Haka

Gaylene will be teaching Kapa Haka again this year, supported by Matua Maru who is a trained singer and kapa haka coach. This is one of the many lunchtime activities that children can opt into. See the school website for details about all of the options.





# A bit about Ben

I started at Kohia terrace in mid 2018 as part of the Pohutukawa team. I was able to learn a great deal about the school and its philosophies during this time. This is my second year teaching year 4, and I could not be more excited. I love telling stories and encouraging the children to be the best they can in every area. Their excited faces are what inspire me.

I come from a family of builders and have been in the trade industry myself for a few years prior to teaching. I look for the practical side in learning as it gives the lesson purpose and helps the students understand that practical learning is a skill that can be used outside of school.

One of my philosophies is if the children are having fun then they are going to learn. Understandably not every aspect of school can be fun for all children. However, I try to accomodate breaks in the class day from sitting down for too long whenever I can. A quick lap around the playground and a drink generally gets them back in the zone.

If you have any further questions please feel free to email me or approach me for a chat. I look forward to meeting you all.

Ben

