

Meet the Teacher

Room 4- Ms. Ash

Room 5- Whaea Sarid



Whaea Sarid

I am delighted to be part of the Koru team in my fourth year as a classroom teacher at Kohia.

Before Kohia, I taught in Mexico, where I am from. I also worked as a teacher in China, a culture that I love.

Apart from teaching, I love gardening, going around the city trying all types of cuisines, reading and traveling.

Ms. Ash

I am so excited to be teaching year 2 again!

This is my fourth year as a year 2 teacher and sixth year at KTS.

I am originally from Perth, Australia but call NZ home, too!

My passion is teaching literacy!

Daily Routines and Learning Experiences

8.30 – When the first bell rings in the morning, children are welcomed into the classroom. They are encouraged to hang their bag on a peg outside Room 4/5, take their guided reading book out of their book bag and put it into their allocated box. They then put their book bag in their named box. We encourage drink bottles to be brought into the classroom and put in the box next to the door. After this, they may then choose to play on the playground, or work on a quiet activity inside the classroom until 8.50am when the bell rings for school to start.

10.30 – 11.00 – Morning tea. The children have a drink, healthy snack and a play. In Terms 1 and 4, students need to wear a hat to play outside. If they forget their hat, they must sit in the shaded area on the deck. We always encourage students to use the toilets and have a drink at morning tea time.

12.40 – 1.30 – Lunchtime. Students sit down for the first 10 minutes of lunch in the shade to eat their lunch. They must show the duty teacher their lunchbox to ensure they have eaten enough. They then are free to play with their friends.

We Switch around literacy and math, so that one subject isn't always at the start of the day because each subject needs fresh brains.

At the end of the day, we work together to tidy the class, sing some songs and collect all of our belongings. When the bell rings at 3pm the children are dismissed. Please phone or email the school office to let them know if you are running late. At 3:15, children will be taken to the office. If you are not able to pick up your child by 3:15, you could book them into the after school care programme. **For more information contact our lovely Sarah at afterschoolcare@kts.school.nz**

Fridays –. Every even week on Friday, we start the day with a whole school assembly, Kohia Korero (circle time).

Other curriculum areas we explore throughout the week are Te Reo, visual art and Science.

Literacy (Writing-Reading)

Our writing programme is based around developing students ideas, understanding of audience/purpose and phonological awareness (what letters sound like and how they are put together to form words and sentences). We have structured group guided writing sessions with the teacher, whole class shared writing sessions, and time for students to write independently.

Handwriting and Phonics is also included in the writing programme. This encourages children to learn how to correctly form the letters of the alphabet, and identify the sounds they make, as well as making and breaking words into chunks of sounds. We also learn spelling rules, how to add details to our writing and how to edit effectively.

We read at school every day and encourage your child to read with someone each evening in some form at home. Students will take home some form of reading practice home each night Monday through to Thursday. This may not always be a book. On library day, students will bring home their library books to share with you.

Students complete independent activities that give them opportunities to delve deeper and respond to texts in a variety of ways. Reading lessons focus on developing children's phonological awareness, comprehension strategies, as well as nurturing a love of books and stories.

Maths

Similarly to reading and writing, we teach maths in a combination of whole class, independent and guided group teaching. Throughout the week we focus on either Maths knowledge (Number sequences, identification, patterns), strategies (how to understand and manipulate numbers to solve problems), strand of maths (geometry, measurement, or statistics). There are many opportunities to incorporate maths in daily classroom life and this also happens regularly, with lots of hands-on activities.

Library

Books are to be taken home and can be kept at home for the week to read with your child. If children would like to change their book before the next library session, they can do this during lunchtime or before school starts. All library books are to be returned before their due date.

Assemblies

We have whole school assembly fortnightly on a Friday from 9am - 9.30am. Here we celebrate learning and present awards to children who are showing the KTS values. Parents are welcome to attend these.

Lost Property

Please ensure all belongings are clearly name labeled. Any lost property will be placed in the box in the corridor in the senior area past the front office.

Fitness/Physical Education

We take part in fitness daily and we also include many 'brain breaks' where students are encouraged to move and be active. Once a week the students will receive Physical Education where they learn specific skills.

Behaviour

We work on praising positive behaviour and good choices on a daily basis. If any behaviours are causing concern or affecting a child's learning, we will contact you to arrange a time to meet. Please let us know if you are concerned or worried about any change in behaviour. Please refer to the KTS Behaviour Policy for further information on the guidelines.



Communication

Learning will be shared through termly posts on HERO. In addition to this we also send out weekly parent posts to keep you informed about activities and events. Please also read the weekly KTS newsletter and check our school website regularly as events will be added to the calendar. We are always open to questions and enjoy communicating with parents. The best way to contact us is via email at alicea@kts.school.nz (Room 4) & sarido@kts.school.nz (Room 5). We look forward to working alongside you in your child's learning journey, please always feel welcome to talk to us.

