

Team One Newsletter Term One 2019

Monday 4th February – Friday 12th April



Diary Dates

7th Feb - School Picnic
Wainuiomata Pool.

12th Feb - Meet the teacher

13th Feb - PMP begins

14th Feb - Pōwhiri for new families

Staying Sun Smart

We are a Sunsmart school, and as part of school policy, we require all children and staff to wear brimmed hats (not caps) in Terms 1 and 4. Classrooms also have a supply of sunscreen for children to use.

Student Portfolios

At the end of last year, your child would have brought home their portfolio. These are blue clearfiles, with samples of work from each year. If you could please hand these back to your child's teacher over the next couple of weeks, that would be greatly appreciated.

Contacting the teachers

If you have any questions or queries please feel free to pop in, email, or arrange a time to meet.

Room 1: Emma McElrea
emmam@northland.school.nz
Room 2: Lauren Peatfield
lauren@northland.school.nz
Room 3: Hannah Fairbairn
hannahf@northland.school.nz
Room 4: Gill Sim
gills@northland.school.nz
Room 5: Emma Chapman
emmac@northland.school.nz

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome to 2019. We hope you have all had a fabulous break, enjoying time with your loved ones.

Our teaching team this year is-

Emma McElrea (Rm 1)

It is wonderful to be back in Team one at Northland School. I spent last year travelling around the world and immersing myself in different cultures. I also taught in London for a short stint. Previously I have taught Year 2 in Rm 5. I originally hail from the beautiful metropolis that is Balclutha, I moved to Wellington in 2015 and haven't looked back since. In my spare time I enjoy playing netball, jet skiing and spending time with my partner, friends and family.

Lauren Peatfield (Rm 2)

I'm brand new to New Zealand and come from near Birmingham in the United Kingdom. I have taught in the UK and most recently have spent 5 years teaching in an international school in Prague, Czech Republic. I am an only child, enjoy learning about new cultures and speak a little French. In my free time I like to play netball, touch rugby and Gaelic Football and in the winter I love to ski! I also play the saxophone, am a jazz fan and can often be caught singing all the old hits! I love dogs and guinea pigs. I am fascinated by nature and the scientific wonders of our world, particularly the stars! My favourite place so far in NZ is the Mackenzie Country. However I am very excited to explore the local bush and coastline around what I have already found to be a very windy but wonderful Wellington!

Hannah Fairbairn (Rm 3)

I am continuing this year in the role of Associate Principal and SENCO (Special Needs Co-ordinator). As the numbers grow in Year 1, I will start the third Year 1 class in Room 3. I love being part of the Northland School community and working alongside students and families right across the school. Outside of school I enjoy participating in and coaching CrossFit, making the most of Wellington on a good day, and spending time with my family and friends.

Gill Sim (Rm 4)

I had a wonderful first year at Northland School last year and am looking forward to my new role as Team Leader in the Junior Syndicate. I was born in Okato, Taranaki and that is where my teaching career began. I have also worked in the business world, but returned to teaching for better work stories. I have a passion for literacy in the classroom and love children to share their reading discoveries with me. At home I raise Sophie and Caelan and Bluebelle our ragdoll cat. When I'm not working I love getting together with friends, drinking coffee and hanging out with my own children.

Emma Chapman (Rm 5)

I'm really excited about starting at Northland School this year. I was born and raised in Wellington and taught in the area before heading overseas. For the past eight years I taught in Europe, first in Dusseldorf, Germany and then in Innsbruck, Austria. I loved my time teaching and living in Europe, but I am happy to be back home. In my spare time I enjoy being in the mountains either hiking or skiing. I am also a keen swimmer, enjoy travelling and hanging out with friends and family.

School Picnic

This Thursday, February 7th, we will be having our school picnic at Wainuiomata pool. We hope to see many of you joining us for this beginning of the school year tradition at Northland School. If you are willing to help supervise a small group of children for part of the day, please let your child's teacher know. A separate letter with more details is being sent home today.

The signed EOTC permission slip must be returned by Thursday morning for your child to attend the picnic. If your child wishes to go on the slide, that notice must be returned and signed also.

Starting the Day

School begins at 8.55am. It's important for children to arrive before this so they have time to unpack their own bag, put down a chair, bring in their reading books and socialise with classmates. Children arriving earlier than 8:30 need to go to our Before School Care programme in the library. Across the school, we focus on the Key Competency of 'Managing Self.'

Perceptual Motor Programme (PMP)

Next Wednesday 13th February, our PMP begins and will be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings of Term 1. Please ensure that your child is wearing appropriate clothing on these days (shorts or tights are great).

Thank you to Deborah Quinn who has prepared and sent out the roster of parent volunteers, and to the parents who have kindly offered time to help out with the running of this programme. We are hugely appreciative of the wonderful parent support we receive, and could not offer this programme without that help. We are still short of volunteers on some days. Please see Gill if you would like to know more about this and can offer some help.

Requests for Help

Quality Time Together (QTT)

Coming home today is a request for helpers for our Thursday afternoon QTT, which begins next week. If you are unable to commit yourself to a rostered time, you are more than welcome to join us on any Thursday afternoon. As all our Year 1s and 2s are working together in Rooms 1, 2 and 3, there is very little extra space and we are unable to accommodate preschoolers. Gill is our QTT contact person for term one, if you have any queries or forms, please drop them into Room 4.

Shelving Readers

We would love some assistance with regularly shelving the readers in circulation in Team 1 classes each week. If you are able to help with this, please email Gill or pop into Room 4. It may be a task that a group of parents may be able to work on together. We would really appreciate offers of help with this.

Learning this term in Team One

Topic

Our topic this term is 'Friends.' Through this topic we will be getting to know each other within the classroom and learn what makes a great friend. Children will also be learning about our Vision Statement and Qualities programme and how they help us relate to others and manage ourselves. Keep an eye out in the school weekly newsletter for the 'Quality of the Week.'

Mathematics

In Mathematics we focus daily on building up Number knowledge and strategies through providing equipment based problem solving activities. Children are encouraged to share their findings with others. We will also cover Measurement (Statistical Investigations) and Geometry (Positional Language) this term.

Health and Physical Education

As mentioned earlier, this term all children will participate in PMP and this will be our main PE focus for the term. Classes will also be involved in daily fitness activities and there will be fortnightly sports rotation at Northland Park for the whole team.

Literacy

Each class will be involved in daily (Monday – Thursday) guided reading and writing programmes. Please keep an eye out for further details of individual classroom literacy programmes, which will come in classroom newsletters coming out next week.

We are very much looking forward to getting to know both you and your children this year, and working together to support your child's learning.

Ngā mihi,
Gill, Emma M, Emma C, Lauren and Hannah

**Tū mai Te Ahūmairangi, tū mai hoki tātou
As Te Ahūmairangi stands, we also reach for great heights**

