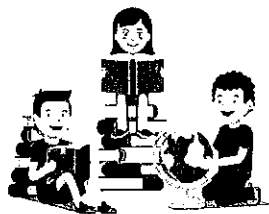


July 2019
Falcon
Term 3 Newsletter

Tena koutou katoa
Hello Everyone

Term Overview

We are going to be spending some time focusing on the Inquiry process this term. To help guide our ideas through the various curriculum areas we are using the theme of WATER. We are hoping to expose children in the different STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) areas through this lens, and have planned some exciting experiences for your children throughout the term.



Arrival in the Morning

The school grounds are open to children from 8:30am. We also welcome and encourage parents to come in and have a chat with us or have a look at your child's current learning. If you have any questions or concerns that might take more than a few moments, please ensure you email your teacher to make an appointment outside of school time. Our school day officially starts at 8:55am. At this time, we do the roll and expect all children to be in their classrooms ready to learn. If your child arrives later than 8:55am, they must first report to the school office and collect a late slip before coming into the classroom. Please note that on Friday mornings, all Windy Ridge teachers are in a meeting. These can run past 8:30 am, so please be mindful when planning your drop off routine for your child on that day as teachers may not be in class from 8:30am.

End of the Day

If for any reason you will be late collecting your child please phone the office.

School Assemblies

Windy Ridge runs school wide assemblies each fortnight on a Friday. These include opportunities for the children to share their learning and celebrate their successes. All whanau are welcome to attend these assemblies which begin at 9:45am in the school hall.

Clothing

Please name all clothes and shoes especially items often taken off throughout the school day. A spare set of clothes kept in their school bags is often a good idea throughout the winter months. Also, please have appropriate winter clothing for your kids as it often rains. A named raincoat and/or umbrella kept in their school bag.

Lunchboxes and Drink Bottles

While the school does have drinking taps, we highly encourage children to bring their own **named** water bottle to school each day. Our school is an enviro school, and so we encourage you as much as possible to send a litterless lunch. This can be done by having reusable containers for your child's snacks and sandwiches. Any rubbish will be sent back with your child in their lunch box.



Personal Items and Toys

As a play based environment, we have many toys for children to play with that will enhance their learning. As a result, we found children bringing their own toys from home, or taking toys from school home with them. Can you please help us monitor that toys brought home are not school toys. Also, remind your children if they choose to bring toys to school that this is their choice and their responsibility. We do not encourage this.

Communication

Seesaw is one way that we share your child's learning with you. It is a digital portfolio of some examples of your child's work. More information on this will be available in the coming weeks.

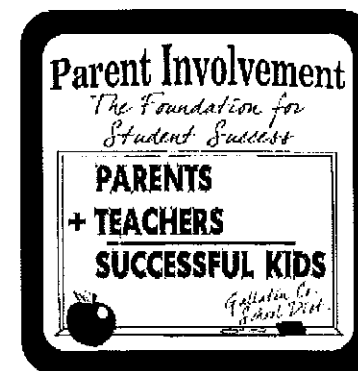
Please feel free to contact us if there is a question or situation you would like to discuss. Open lines of communication between the parent, learner and teachers are vital to us and help us in promoting a positive learning experience for everyone. If the matter requires more time we recommend making an appointment. **The Whanau teacher will always be the first port of call.**

Loose Parts and Other Donations

Things you may have and wish to donate, if you no longer need:

- Playing cards
- Board games
- Cardboard boxes
- Plastic bottle tops
- Ice block sticks, pipe cleaners, straws

Another way you can help is, if you have spare time in the week and would like to join us in our learning hub please speak to one of the teachers. We would love help with teaching children board games and card games. We would appreciate your time and support. We are looking forward to working with you and your child.



Learning in Team Falcon

Values and NZ Key Competencies

The Vision of the New Zealand Curriculum:
Young people who will be confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners.

Windy Ridge School promotes Positive Behaviour for Learning. We use these values to guide the behaviour of our students throughout the day. We also include our National Curriculum Key Competencies throughout our daily programme.

Our Values are	NZ Key Competencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect • Kindness • Integrity • Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking • Using language symbols and text • Managing self • Relating to others • Participating and contribution



Library Trip

As we move into the second half of the year, we are concentrating on "Learning to Learn", how to pursue one's natural curiosity about the world around them. At the end of last term, we introduced the children to the Inquiry process in order to answer a question. This term we will be continuing to focus on the skills required for inquiry. On July 31st we will be going to the Glenfield Library for a session on how to search for information.

Student Agency

As we continue to increase our expectations of children's independence, we will be introducing them to strategies to manage their time. This term, we are going to coach children through creating themselves a weekly timetable which will help them keep track of the various tasks they are responsible for throughout the day. Even as adults, this can sometimes be a challenge so we expect that as with all new things, this will likely take a few weeks for the children to get used to; managing their time, completing the tasks they are responsible for and being flexible when things need to be changed. You can encourage your children by asking them what was on their timetable for the day and discussing how they went with completing the tasks they had set for themselves.



Term Ahead:

Student Led Conferences - TBC
Rippa Days - Aug 1st, Sept 12th
Cross Country - August 12th
Dance for year 4's - Tuesday afternoons
Forest Day with Ms Maxwell - please refer to notice

Your Falcon Teachers

Nick Upton Room 9 nupton@windyridge.school.nz
Sarah Turner Room 10 sturner@windyridge.school.nz
Angela Hall Room 11 ahall@windyridge.school.nz
Hannah Ross-Thompson Room 10
hross-thompson@windyridge.school.nz
Caroline Walker Room 12
cwalker@windyridge.school.nz



Home Learning



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We have changed the format of our reading slightly to accommodate families. We noticed that children were struggling to fit in some time to read their journals during the weekend, so will be starting the week with children on Mondays with a new reader, and they will keep the book until the following Monday. This means children will still have a reader with them at home on the weekends to read with you, and we do encourage you to continue to fit in reading with your child when possible.

Some of the activities in our Home Learning Programme include:

- Time on Mathletics or Reading Eggs
- Time reading at home
- Service to the family or community (laundry, set the table, helping neighbours etc)
- After school activities (sports or arts lessons/practice etc)
- Independent Inquiry at home

Please remind your children that the writing that they do to document the task they have done is an important skill in itself, and encourage your child to elaborate on the activity or task they have completed for home learning.

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

Jane D. Hull