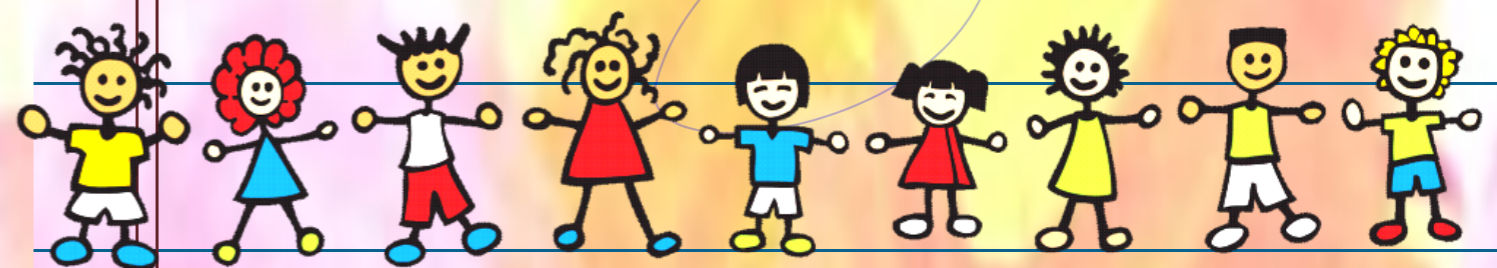
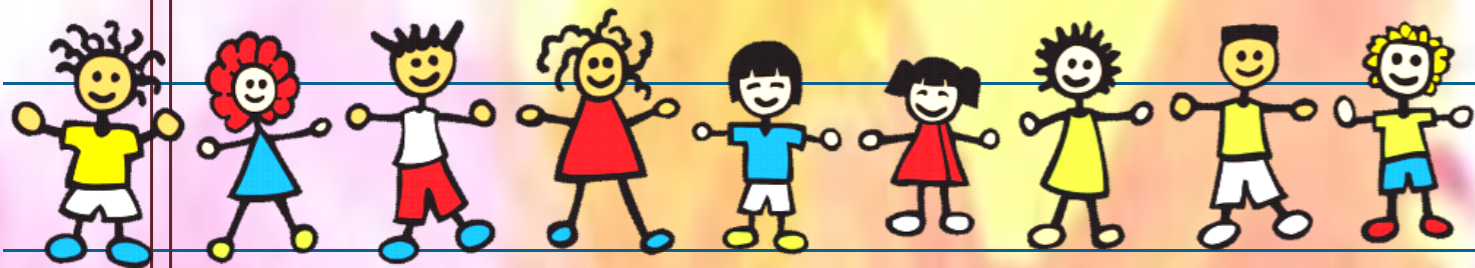


Welcome to Te Kakano 2015





Dear Parents and Caregivers,
Greetings from Te Kakano!

This booklet has been put
together to give you some
information about the class
programme and routines.

Feel free to contact me if you have
any concerns. You can make an
appointment by ringing the school
office or come and arrange a time

Kind regards,
Robyn Dane
School phone number 4067360

News

Children are able to share their news with the class on a Friday morning. If they have something to bring from home to show and share with the class they may bring it on Friday.

Toys

Please do not encourage your child to bring their toys to school in case they get lost or broken.

Home Learning

In addition to the home reading, alphabet and word cards, activities based on a current theme or topic may sometimes be sent home to be completed.

In your child's book bag is a counting to 50 card. It is expected that counting and numeracy skills be practised 5-10 minutes, 4 days a week for homework.

It is important that all children be able to recognize numbers to at least 20, to be able to count forwards and backwards and know the numbers that come before, after and between a given number to 20. Use the number chart to practise these skills in a fun way.

Mathematics

We will focus on number knowledge and strategies suitable to your child's level.

Library

Our library time is on a Tuesday after Lunch. Your child is able to take out one library book. Please make sure it is returned on the following Tuesday so another can be borrowed.



Swimming

During the first and last term all the children in the class are expected to bring their swimming togs every day. If they are not swimming I need to have a note explaining why they will not be swimming and for how long. Lessons will focus on water confidence and safety and then progress to floating, gliding and then stroke development.

Absent

If your child is away, (sick or for family reasons), the school needs to be informed by a phone call or a note when they return to school.



The Classroom Programme

There is a set timetable that the class will follow to establish routines, ensuring all curriculum areas are covered. As an integral part of their classroom activities, children are taught and encouraged to talk about their learning. Ask your child to tell you what they have been learning at school.

Starting the day...

The first few minutes of every school day are a very important settling time especially for New Entrants who are taking that next big step in their lives. It is important that children are on time each day before the school bell at 8.30am so that they have plenty of time to prepare for the school day, meet their friends and settle in peacefully to the learning environment. Children coming in late not only disrupt early morning roll call and notices but also start the day off on a back foot, as they have not had time to relax and prepare themselves.

Writing

Formal writing lessons occur from Monday to Thursday focusing on a current topic or form of writing. Handwriting will occur after our writing lessons.

Reading

Following writing and handwriting we will have instructional/guided reading. Pupils from Te Kakano will be grouped according to their reading abilities. I aim to read with each group at least 4 times a week.



The book they read with me is to be taken home and read to a parent or another adult. Please record the title of the book on the 100 Nights Home Reading Sheet, date and sign it and make sure the book is returned to school the next day in your child's book bag. If your child does not remember to bring their book bag back to school they will not be able to take the next daily reader home.

Your child will also bring home **Alphabet Cards** and lists of **Basic Sight Words** to learn.

The Alphabet Card is to help establish letter names and their sounds until they can instantly say the name of the letter and the sound or sounds it makes. The picture can be used as a clue for the initial sound. Each letter has a little song and action to help children remember the sound it makes.

The words are sorted according to reading levels. They are words introduced and used frequently at the different levels. It is essential that children can recognise and read the words with ease before they move to the next stage. The words are colour coded according to our reading levels.

How Can Parents Help At Home With Reading?

1. **Read to your children** - books, poems, newspapers, anything that is written. Share the things you learn from reading. Show how useful reading is to you.
2. **Read with your children**. If a book appears too difficult for your child, it can be **read to** or **read with**.

- Get the child to predict. Ask what they think the story might be about.
- Child reads the story
- Reread the story together.
- Read slowly and point to each word as you go.
- Give a clue by saying the initial sound of the word.
- Ask the child to say the initial sound then you read the word.

Refer them to the picture, get them to leave the word out and read to the end of the sentence and then make efforts to say the first sound or sound the word out to make sense of what they are reading. If the attempt isn't successful then tell them the word, so they don't lose the story plot.



Encourage them to sound the whole word out breaking the word into letter sounds e.g. the word "man." Sound out "m" "a" "n" and then 'swoosh' the letter sounds together - "man" or "l" "oo" "k" ... "look".

Praise the efforts your child makes!

Talk about the main or big idea in the story.

**Most of all, have fun and read together often.
By doing this you will encourage a life-long love of reading.**