



Welcome to Timatanga for 2019



Hi and Welcome to Timatanga

There are a few things that we thought we would update and keep you posted on. Your class teacher has set up an email group for the class and will use this to keep in touch and inform you of any new updates. Please ensure that teachers have your up to date email address.

Firstly - who are we?

Kate Findlay - teaching in R 14 (Year 2), Timatanga Leader of Learning

Helen Edwards - teaching in R 11 (Year 1)

Zoe McMillan - teaching R 10 (Year 1)

Cora Bomans & Dianne Walker - teaching R 15 (Year 1)

Coralie Savage - teaching R 12 (Year 2)

Renaë Townsend - teaching R 13 (Year 2)

Dianne Walker - Reading Recovery Teacher

Phillippa Ramsay - Room 14 release teacher

The meaning of Timatanga

Timatanga is a word from Te Reo Maori which translated into English means

- beginning
- starting
- introduction
- start
- commencement

We are the team where our five year olds begin their school journey. It is our responsibility to 'ignite the fire' and get them excited for learning and school.

Our symbol is a Maori Star. A star has been chosen as it signifies new life. Matariki (the Maori New Year) is an example of celebrating new life. Matariki translates to 'little eyes' and we feel that encompasses what our young learners see the world through. Matariki is also a time when seeds are planted for new crops, and in an essence that is what we do, we plant the seed for learning with our learners. The star also signifies the beginning, and can be linked to beginning of light when Tane (god of the forests) forced his parents Rangi (the sky father) and Papatuanuku (mother earth) apart.

Health / Allergies:

We have a number of children in our centre who have a variety of allergies, some which are severe. These include peanut, dairy/milk, egg, pineapple and kiwi fruit allergies. Teachers are aware of who these students are and will be monitoring them. However, we are also encouraging children to wash their hands before and after eating. Thank you for your understanding with this.

Daily Timetable:

8:55am - 10:10am
10:10am - 10:30am = Morning Tea
10:30am - 11:30am
11:30am - 11:40am = Brain Break
11:40am - 12:45pm
12:45pm - 1:30pm = Lunch
1:30pm - 3pm

Fruit/Brain Break:

This year we have changed our daily timetable and we now have a Fruit/Brain Break. Only fruit and vegetables are able to be eaten at this time so please ensure your children has a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat at this time each day.

Named Clothing:

Could you please make sure that all clothing is named. Teachers will ensure that there is a space in your child's classroom where they can store their clothing as they take it off.

Hats:

During Term 1 and 4 we wear our school hat, your child should have a school hat in their classroom. We do ensure that your child wears this during the breaks and returns with them to class after the break too.

Swimming:

We swim every day and encourage our learners to bring named togs, towel and a rashtop every day. If there is a problem or concern about swimming please let your class teacher know so that we can help.

Swimming Demonstration:

This will be happening on Monday 18th March in the indoor pool at St. Peters School. More information regarding this will follow but please mark this date on your calendar.

Homework - Home Tasks:

Please make sure your child brings their book bag to school every day so that we can send home new readers regularly. The aim of the home activities is to support the development and enjoyment of your child's learning and to give the children the opportunity to practise, share their skills and talk about what they are learning.

See Saw:

See Saw is an app - programme that teachers use to support and encourage the sharing of learning. Teachers will have either emailed you with the details you require to sign up for SeeSaw, or have sent home a paper copy of the instructions. Please do take the time to 'join up' with your child as SeeSaw provides your child the opportunity to share their learning with you 'as it happens'.

Meet the Teacher:

Wednesday 13th February from 5.30pm at school. Please come along and meet your child's teacher and find out what is happening in the classroom.

Helpers:

If you have any time free and you would like to offer your support in class or for any extra tasks please speak to your child's teacher as we are always looking for helpers to support learning in our classes.

EnD:

In a few weeks time we will begin our EnD (Enrich and Discover programme). EnD is held each Friday from 9 - 10am and ensures our students can engage in a wide range of opportunities. We will have an alternate week programme - Kapa Haka and Singing one week, and then a range of activities provided by staff and our community the opposite week. If you have a skill set you would be keen to share with us please let Kate in Room 14 know.

As always we thank you in advance for your support. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Kate, Helen, Zoe, Coralie, Renae, Dianne, Cora, and Phillippa