

Kahikatea Newsletter

Term Three, July 2017



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to school and to Term 3. We hope you all had a lovely holiday break and got to enjoy some valuable family time. We are all looking forward to an exciting term in Team Kahikatea

Term 3 Focus:

Visual Arts: Digital and Photography skills

Health: Food and Nutrition

P.E: Pathways and flight/Control with feet

Technology: Technology practices/brief development

Te Reo: He Reo Tupu, He reo ora

Camp:

Our Kahikatea camp is slowly getting closer. We are looking forward to our time at Forest Lakes on November 14-17th.

Thank you all for returning your medical forms so quickly, it makes our jobs a lot easier.

As a reminder, the total cost of camp this year is \$174. Please check with the office or Alisa Schilder (alisas@westpark.school.nz) if you are unsure of how much you have left to pay. If you would prefer you are welcome to split your outstanding balance across terms, paying in instalments. However, you can choose to cover the camp funds any way that works for your family. The deadline for camp payments is November 3rd.

Physical Education:

We think it is important for our students to be involved in regular physical activity whilst they are at school. If for any reason your child is unable to join in on a particular day please provide a signed and dated note to the classroom teacher explaining the reason for non-participation.



Parent Teacher Interviews:

Thank you to everyone who booked and attended our Parent Teacher Interviews in Week 9 & 10 of Term 2. This year saw Room 12 & 13 and Room 14 & 15 complete their interviews together over the course of 4 evenings. Across Team Kahikatea we had our students share their learning as part of the interviews. It was fantastic to see our students taking greater ownership of their learning by sharing what they have learnt over the course of Term 1 & 2 and what their next learning steps are.

Production:

We are looking for parent helpers for our upcoming production. Below are a list of tasks we need support with. These jobs will probably require you to work with small groups of students during lunchtimes. Please contact Cherie Geddes if you are willing and able to help. cherieg@westpark.school.nz

Help with making and organising costumes:

- *Jail house rock dance*- black and white stripes t-shirts and hats (either painting them on or with black tape)
- *Dancing Queen dance* - hippy headbands
- *YMCA dance* - making bibs for the different characters

Gathering and making props for the set and dances:

- *Count on me* - making cardboard fish and boat
- *Rock around the clock* - making cardboard clocks

Designing and creating the set

- Creating background for the classroom e.g. Posters
- Taking photos of the playground for background

Technology:

Team Kahikatea's focus for Term 3 is Technology. Through this unit we will be looking at different types of games played in the past in New Zealand and all around the world. The students will also be asked to develop their own concept and design for a game. We would like the students to bring a game to share that their parents or grandparents played when they were young.



Road Patrol

We are looking for any parents who are able to help out as a Road Patrol helper, can you please contact Cherie Geddes or Alisa Schilder. We are short of parent helpers and it would be great if we could get a few people who are willing to help in one or more days in the mornings from 8.20-9.10 then 2.50 -3.15.

West Park School gmail accounts

One of the challenges of using devices in our classrooms is how students use their West Park School gmail accounts. Appropriate ways include:

- Teachers sharing learning activities through google drive or email
- Students collaborating on an activity together or independently working on an activity

Inappropriate ways include:

- Using their emails to sign up to websites without their teachers knowledge
- Subscribing to Youtube channels
- Having email conversations with others that is not related to their learning and without their teachers knowledge

Over the next couple of months, Years 4-6 will be trialling a programme called Hapara. This online programme allows teachers to have an even greater insight into what their students are doing online and how they are working.

We encourage families to help support our journey by checking in with your child and making sure they are not using their West Park School accounts for anything but their learning.

Shout out!

Congratulations and good luck to Straten Palamidias (Year 5), Alexander Popa (Year 6) and Brianna Higgan (Year 6) who have qualified and will be competing in the GKR World Cup championship in Queensland, Australia, in August 2017. We wish them all the very best!

Also a big shout out to Joshua Ingham (Year 6) who qualified and competed in the Regional Zone Cross Country Event. Well done.



We look forward to another fantastic and busy term working with you and your child and hope to see you as often as possible. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have or if you would like to spend time with us during the day. All teachers are keen to have parents be more involved in the classroom to help out.

Warm Regards,

Team Kahikatea

Emily Osborn (Team Leader/R13), Alisa Schilder (R15), Logan Mead (R14), Cherie Geddes (R12), Tania Bailey (R11)