

Welcome to
Te Kākano

Whānau information
booklet

Hope



Excellence



Love



Peace



Through our faith we **HELP
bring light to the world**

Welcome

Welcome to Te Kākano (TK). We are so blessed to have your family join our team. This booklet is designed to help you smoothly transition into Te Kākano, which is our play-based, ages 5-6 year Hub. Have a good read through and feel free to ask your child's kōhanga teacher any questions you may have.

Checklist

There are a few things that will help your transition to school. Have you...

- joined the Facebook Group? Search 'Rolleston Christian School - Parent & Staff'
- followed the 'Rolleston Christian School' Facebook page
- made sure the office has your correct email address for the newsletter and reports to be sent to
- downloaded and set up the etap parent app. You will receive school communication through this app. Ask Tracey in the office for help if you need it
- read the 'Parent Handbook' and Te Kakano's EnviroSchools & Foundation LIGHTS Information Booklet
- put the school phone number into your phone: 03 550 2653
- looked through the RCS website

Te Kākano tips

- ★ Name everything with a waterproof vivid
- ★ Pack a spare change of clothes in your child's bag for messy play / toileting accidents
- ★ Black velcro shoes are best as children do not wear shoes inside and frequently take them on and off
- ★ TK teachers will mainly communicate with you face to face, by email or via the eTap app. At times the Facebook page will feature reminders about upcoming school events
- ★ Correct uniform must be worn at all times. On Mondays, the sports uniform may be worn.

Transitioning to School

The start of the day is signalled by the bell ringing at 8:55am, rings at the beginning and end of break times and will ring again at 3:00pm to signal the end of the day. Your child may not be familiar with this concept, please take the time to discuss how the bell helps us keep to schedule.

Transitioning to a new school, whether it be for the first time or moving schools, is the start of a wonderful journey. Children react differently to new things. For some it takes time for them to settle into new routines and to make friends. This is completely normal. We find that over time, as teachers intentionally implement the strategies they know help children settle, children begin to develop a sense of belonging at school. The timeframe for this varies for each child and it's a great time to practice the fruit of Patience.

Our Timetable (Note: Odd and even Friday programmes differ)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday (odd week)	Friday (even week)
8:55-9:25	Hui time				Hub worship	
9:25-10:25	Reading/Learning Through Play					Art Library Health and P.E
10:25-10:55	Maths/Learning Through Play					
10:55-11:20	Break time					
11:20-11:30	Storytime and Snack					
11:30-12:00	Maths/Learning Through Play					Art Library Health and P.E
12:00-1:00	Writing					
1:00-1:55	Lunch					
1:55-3:00	Circle Time Handwriting	LIGHTS Handwriting	LIGHTS Handwriting	Assembly from 2:30pm - odd weeks Library/ Fitness-even weeks	Friday Tiaki Wilderness Play	Friday Tiaki Hui Time
3:00pm	Home Time					

Odd Week Fridays

On these Fridays, Mrs K and Mrs Bell will be teaching an alternative programme, rā rerekē, which will include:

- Arts; Music, Drama, Visual Arts and Dance.
- P.E & Health
- Library

The children will be in rotation around these activities throughout the day on odd Fridays. The other hub teachers will be released for planning, assessment and meetings. Our regular teacher aides will be the hub.

Attendance

School begins at **8:55am** and finishes at **3:00pm**. We will call parents if children are not collected by **3:10pm**.



Absence: Login to eTap to report an absence for your child or call the office on 03 550 2653 before 9am to leave a message. Urgent or timely communication should go through the office as teachers do not check emails during lesson time.

Living Christianly

Seeing your child developing their relationship with God is a privilege and joy for us. Our Living Christianly programme aims to develop bible knowledge, a basic and practical understanding of The Word, as well as embracing child-like faith through singing and dancing. We teach children to pray from their hearts. As teachers we see it as part of our mission to be role models as Christ-followers and work in partnership with you as together we seek the will of God for each of the children He has given us.

Learning through Play

At RCS, we believe in nurturing the 'whole' child, particularly as we know they have been made by in the image of our Heavenly Father. To support this, in Te Kākano, we have a **Learning Through Play** philosophy which runs alongside our core learning areas of reading, writing and maths. Learning Through Play is essentially a time of 'Free Play'. Free play is unstructured, voluntary, child-initiated activity that allows children to develop their imaginations while exploring and experiencing the world around them. It is the spontaneous play that comes naturally from children's natural curiosity, love of discovery, and enthusiasm.

It is a time where children get to develop the natural gifts and talents that God has given them, as well as build relationships and revel in the joy of the season of childhood.

TK Connect

Mrs Lee hosts TK Connect throughout the term. This is a time for parents and caregivers to learn more about Te Kākano and how to best support your child's transition to school. Time to be confirmed via the Te Kākano newsletter.



Te Kākano Teaching Team

We work collaboratively to teach to the needs of your child. Children will get to know all of the teachers and Learning Assistants in TK.



Mrs Lorne Lee
TK Learning Leader
Kōhanga Koru
l.lee@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Lisa Morgan
Kōhanga Mānuka
l.morgan@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Li-Ann Viviers
Kōhanga Mikimiki
l.viviers@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Gabby Nuthall
Literacy support
g.nuthall@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Meeling McMillan
Specialist Teacher
m.mcmillan@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Esther Koch
Friday teacher
e.koch@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Amber Bell
Friday teacher, Mrs Lee's
leadership release cover
a.bell@rcs.school.nz

Te Kākano Learning Support



Mrs Monica Verwoerd
(Mrs V)



Mrs Kate van Garderen
(Whaea Kate)

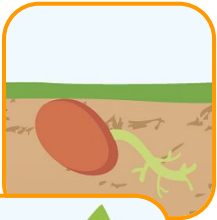


Mrs Carol Spreckley

Māori translations

As part of our bicultural responsiveness, we have made an effort to honour the Māori heritage of the Rolleston area by giving our classrooms and hubs Māori names.

Hub names



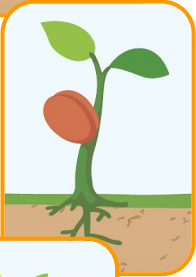
Te Kākano means seed – Years NE/1/2
(*teh caah-cah-naw*)

Our role in TK is planting the foundational seeds in your child's education journey, in the soil that you have prepared as their first teachers.



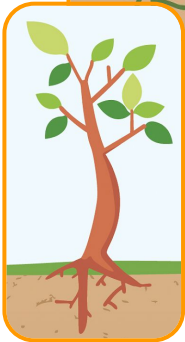
Te Wana means shoot – Years 2/3/4
(*teh wah-nah*)

Our role in TW is to nurture the seed by watering your child's independent learning habits, critical thinking and self management skills as they grow in confidence in who they are as a learner.



Te Pihinga means seedling – Years 4/5/6
(*teh pee-hee-ngah*)

Our role in TP is to nurture the seed by watering your child's independent learning habits, critical thinking and self management skills as they grow in confidence in who they are as a learner.



Te Māhuri means sapling – Years 7/8
(*teh maah-'who'-ree*)

Our role in TM is deepening your child's roots by expanding and consolidating their understanding of who they are as learners and what they contribute to this world.

Class names

Research shows that relationships are the key to learning. In order to foster these, we made the decision to have each Hub split in Kōhanga groups. Like the nature imagery, teachers 'look after' the children in their kōhanga. Your child's kōhanga teacher is your first contact for any pastoral or academic conversations. Teachers work together collaboratively in our space to best meet the needs of all our Te Kākano students.



Kōhanga
(*core-hung-a*)
Nest



Mikimiki
(*me-ke-me-ke*)
Mrs Vivers



Koru
(*caw-roo*)
Mrs Lee



Mānuka
(*mah-noo-cah*)
Mrs Morgan

Senior Leadership Team



Mrs Liz Coyle
Principal
l.horn@rcs.school.nz



Mr Polu Luatua
Deputy Principal
p.luatua@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Lynda Siave
Deputy Principal
Special Needs Coordinator (SENCO)
l.siave@rcs.school.nz

Administration / Office Staff



Mrs Tracey Kennedy
Administration &
Enrolments
office@rcs.school.nz



Mrs Amy Burke
Communications
Accounts & Uniform
communications@rcs.school.nz
accounts@rcs.school.nz

Whānau Groups

Whānau (*far-no*) Groups are made up of children from all year levels in the school. They meet together twice a term to do environmental-based projects. This is a great time for students to form relationships throughout the school. Your child will be in the same whānau group throughout their time at school. Our whānau groups are:

- Toroa** (*tore-rore-a*) Colour: gold / yellow
- Kiwi** (*kee-wee*) Colour: green
- Tūī** (*too-ee*) Colour: purple
- Pīwakawaka** (*pee-wock-ar-wock-ar*) Colour: blue
- Pūkeko** (*pooh-keck-or*) Colour: red
- Kereru** Colour: white

