

Te Kākano Hub Newsletter

Term 1 ~ Week 1 & 2 ~ 2020

Nau Mai Haere Mai - Welcome

How exciting was it to see the joy on the children's faces as they entered their play-based learning environment for the first time ever, or the first time in a few weeks. There were so many joy-filled faces and reconnection with friends and teachers.

If you are new to our hub, we hope that you build a sense of belonging here with us as you get to know our teachers. It was lovely to introduce our new students to Te Kākano today and I'm sure they will come home with some new things to tell you. Miss Kendra Liggett (Team Leader) would like to touch base with all of our new parents, so hopefully you can connect with her sometime this week. She has an induction booklet to give you to help you understand our Hub and our school.

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.

TIME SPENT
PLAYING
WITH CHILDREN
IS
NEVER
WASTED
-DAWN LANTERO

Snack Time

A friendly reminder that we are an Enviro-School which means we promote **rubbish-free** lunchboxes. Please ensure all reusable containers are named. Children need to be provided with snacks that assist the brain to learn such as proteins and complex carbohydrates. We encourage children to eat when they need to and provide a space in our kitchen for them to do so.



Meet Our New Team

We have a new team teaching Te Kākano this year. We are really excited about seeing these teachers bring their unique gifts and talents to provide an engaging, quality programme to meet the 'holistic' needs of our Te Kākano children.



Miss Kendra Liggett
Learning Leader/Koru
Year 0
k.liggett@rcs.school.nz

Miss Liggett is a qualified Primary & ECE teacher and has been at RCS for 5 years. She is passionate about seeing children discover who they are in a play-based curriculum.



Miss Emily Langridge
Kōhanga Mānuka
Year 1
e.langridge@rcs.school.nz

Miss Langridge has been teaching in TK for 3 years. Her calm and kind nature draws children into her artistic passions, which she loves to share.



Mr Mark Smith
Kōhanga Kōwhai
Years 1/2/3
m.smith@rcs.school.nz

Mr Smith has been teaching for 9 years and has a passion for all things outdoors. He is skilled at teaching children resilience and teamwork through sports activities.



Mrs Gabby Nuthall
Kōhanga Rarahu Teacher
Years 2/3
g.nuthall@rcs.school.nz

Mrs Gabby Nuthall has over 20 years of teaching experience in both ECE and Primary. She shares new ideas, as well as grounding the team in the tried and true. She's very creative too.

Our Wonderful Teacher Aides



Mrs Monica Verwoerd (Mrs V)
Special Needs
Classroom Support



Mrs Elizabeth Mundt
Special Needs

A Lens on Learning: Routines

Having a daily routine can help to **reduce children's stress and anxiety levels**. Trying to remember things can be really stressful and can fill their brains up with all the things they have to do; which can be incredibly overwhelming. When they have a routine, a lot of the things children do day-to-day slot in, and they don't have to think about them anymore. We encourage you to come up with your own 'morning routine' at school that you do daily. Come in and do the same things and say goodbye to your child in the same way everyday day. This is particularly important if your child struggles at this transition time.

Over the next fortnight, a major focus for our team is getting children settled into the routine of Learning Through Play. All teachers will be amongst the play for the first week in order to establish relationships with the children. In Week 2, teachers will slowly start to take instructional groups with the intention of teaching them the routine of coming to the teaching table. We are getting children ready to learn.

Friday Learning Through Play

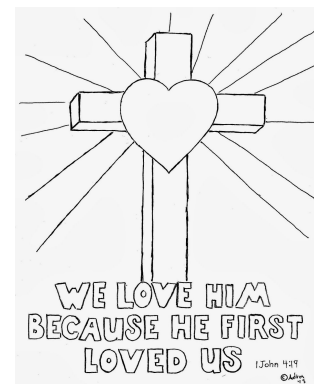
The Te Kākano team is going to be trailing outdoor Learning Through Play in our Native Forest this term, every second week. We will be going down as a whole hub and this is not weather dependant. This means that children need to be prepared for the weather. They will be in their PE top and appropriate attire for the weather. Feel free to put their black tights/shorts & sneakers in their bag for them to change into if required. See Miss Liggett if you need further clarification around this. This starts in Week 2.

Reminders

- Hats must be worn everyday. Please name this clearly or ask your child's Kōhanga teacher to use their silver pen to name it.
- This is the best time of year to make sure EVERYTHING that your child brings to school has their NAME on
- Children need sunscreen on daily please
- Teachers are available for quick 'transition' chats before school, please save longer chats for after school or make an appointment
- Correct uniform must be worn every day
- Toys are not to be brought to school.

Up-and-Coming Events

Week 1	Mon 3 Feb Fri 7 Feb	School Starts Friday Rotation: Wear PE top, black leggings/shorts, and sneakers
Week 2	Tues 11 Feb Thur 13 Feb Fri 14 Feb	Learning Conferences: Please ensure you have booked with your child's kōhanga teacher and you arrive on time. Learning Conferences: Please arrive on time. Happy Valentine's Day! Outdoor LTP: Dress for the weather!
Weekly	Monday & Tuesday	Meetings: Please be aware TK teachers have meetings on these days, so please pick your children up promptly so we can get ready for these.
Weeks 1, 5, 10	Friday	Whole School Assembly: at 9.05 am in the Te Pihinga building. There is no Te Kākano assembly on those weeks.
All Other Weeks	Thursday	Te Kākano Assembly at 2:30pm in Te Kākano. We invite you to join us! There is no Whole School assembly on those weeks.



Blessings,
Miss Emily Langridge (Mānuka),
Mr Mark Smith (Kōwhai),
Mrs Gabby Nuthall (Rarahu)
& Miss Kendra Liggett (Koru)