



## Welcome to Kakapo 2021

Kia Ora Parents/Caregivers,

We would like to welcome you and your child to the Kakapo Team 2021, a special welcome to Kerrison, Millie, Khloe, Cynthia, Mary, Chloe, Ejay, Luka and their families who are new to St Joseph's School this year. We will spend the first few weeks learning and discussing routines and expectations as well as getting reacquainted with old friends and meeting new ones. Establishing routines is an important part of starting the year and we would appreciate your support during this time when we discuss the routines and expectations of our learning space with your child. We begin the year with the topic of **'Cooperation - Ngātahi'**

As the teachers of the Kakapo Team, we intend to provide the very best learning environment and opportunities for the children. To achieve this we aim to create a happy, caring, warm, and supportive team atmosphere. Your child is in the Kakapo Team. The Kakapo Team is made up of 6 home groups. The teachers will be working closely together in our learning spaces.

The teachers in the Kakapo Year 3/4 Team are:

- Home Group 6:** Mrs Meidy Lambert - [meidyl@sj.school.nz](mailto:meidyl@sj.school.nz)  
**Home Group 7:** Ms Carol Braithwaite - [carolb@sj.school.nz](mailto:carolb@sj.school.nz)  
**Home Group 8:** Miss Alice Simmers (**Team Leader**) - [alices@sj.school.nz](mailto:alices@sj.school.nz)  
**Home Group 9:** Miss Angela Murdoch - [angelam@sj.school.nz](mailto:angelam@sj.school.nz)  
**Home Group 10:** Miss Michelle McEwan - [michellem@sj.school.nz](mailto:michellem@sj.school.nz)  
**Home Group 11:** Miss Natasha Luxford (**AP**) - [natashal@sj.school.nz](mailto:natashal@sj.school.nz)  
and Ms Kate Casey [katec@sj.school.nz](mailto:katec@sj.school.nz)

We will be assisted by Mrs Rose Douglas, Mrs Angela O'Grady and Mrs Michelle Kim as our Learning Support Assistants.

### Some important information:

- **Devices**

We ask that children who are bringing in devices do so from **Week 3 only** as we will be spending the first few weeks discussing digital citizenship and how to be safe online. Children from Year 3 onwards are allowed to bring a device to school for classroom use only, chromebooks are preferred as they are easiest for the children to use.

- **Headphones**

Children can bring in their own set of headphones to be used with devices. Please name your child's headphones.

- **Book Bag**

Could all children please bring a named book bag to school to put their home learning and reading books into.

- **Uniforms, Sun Hats & Sunscreen**

Children will need to wear their sun hats (by Week 2 at the latest). It is important that children wear their hats throughout Term 1 & Term 4 when they are outside. The expectation is that children wear their hats at morning tea and lunch breaks ("no hat, no play"). We recommend that children apply sunscreen before coming to school and that they bring their own sunscreen to school (roll-on is preferred). Please name your child's sunscreen. Please ensure that sandals, shoes, sun hats, school vests, lunch boxes and drink bottles are all **clearly named**. Lost property increases daily and if the items are not named they cannot be returned to the rightful owners. The lost property box is inside the sick bay. If your child is unable to wear correct footwear to school please ensure you provide a note to explain the reason why.

- **Parent Helpers**

We will let you know if we need parent helpers for any trips. If anyone has a few spare minutes to assist with sharpening pencils, putting away reading books or doing other odd jobs, please let your child's home group teacher know and we will call on you when needed.

St Joseph's Catholic School, 2 Taharoto Road, Takapuna, North Shore City 0622, Auckland.

Phone 09 489 4994 Email: [office@sj.school.nz](mailto:office@sj.school.nz)



## Welcome to Kakapo 2021

- **Meet the Teachers Picnic**

A 'Meet the Teacher' social event is scheduled to happen on Friday 19th February at 5.30pm at school. This event is an opportunity for you to meet the different teachers of the team and to also meet other parents from our school community.

- **Birthdays**

We value your child's birthday but ask that birthdays are not celebrated at school. Please do not send in cakes or other goody bags as we have children in our team who have severe allergies to particular food items. We also ask that children hand out party invitations either before or after school as children feel left out when they are not invited.

- **Morning and Afternoon Routines**

The children do need to be at school before the bell goes at 8.50 am. A handbell will ring at 8.45 am, which is a signal for the children to go into the learning space, ready to start Prayers at 8.50 am.

The learning spaces will not be opened until after 8.15 am daily. Staff prayers are held in the Staffroom each Tuesday morning at 8.00am. Teachers will not be in the learning space until approximately 8.20 am, on this day. Tuesday after school is our Staff meeting day.

The children should be encouraged to play outside, when possible. Lateness can be unsettling for your child, the other children and the teachers. The children are expected to hang up their bags and bring their book bags and devices into the home group. Please encourage your child to be independent and let them do these tasks on their own. Any notices being returned to school, should be given to home group teachers, in a named envelope please.

- **Drink bottles**

Your child is encouraged to keep a drink bottle inside the learning space. It is important however that the bottles are named and contain only water.

- **Communication**

Important dates and events are on the **school calendar** on the school website, [www.sj.school.nz](http://www.sj.school.nz). All newsletter alerts, notices, teacher and team emails are sent to the parent email address on the school records. If you have any questions or concerns during the year please communicate them with the home group teacher as we will be able to help answer your questions and clarify any confusions immediately. The best way to address any concerns is to arrange an appointment with the **teacher** either through the office or with the teacher directly. Mornings are usually busy so arranging a time ensures that you have our undivided attention.

Teachers can also be easily contacted via email as above.

We look forward to an exciting year filled with learning,

Kakapo Team Teachers



## Welcome to Kakapo 2021

Welcome back to a new term of learning in Kakapo using the theme of:

# Co-Operation - Ngātahi

Here is some of the learning we will be encountering in the first few weeks of Term 1...

<p><b>Religious Education:</b> <u>Strands:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer</li> <li>• Jesus</li> </ul> <p><u>Liturgical Year:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ash Wednesday</li> <li>• Shrove Tuesday</li> <li>• Holy Week</li> <li>• Ascension</li> <li>• Easter</li> </ul> <p><b>Reminder all whanau are invited to Wednesday team prayers and celebration of learning in the school hall and school prayers in the hall on Fridays.</b></p>	<p><b>Maths:</b> Topics to be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number knowledge</li> <li>• Place Value</li> <li>• Addition and Subtraction</li> <li>• Statistics</li> </ul> <p>Please help your child to complete the Mathletics activities for these topics as this will support their school learning.</p>
<p><b>Writing Focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narratives</li> <li>• Procedural Writing</li> <li>• Personal recounts</li> </ul> <p><b>Inquiry: Co-Operation</b></p> <p><b>Social Sciences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treaty of Waitangi</li> <li>• Building a co-operative community</li> </ul> <p><b>Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital Safety</li> </ul>	<p><b>Reading Focus:</b> Reading strategies we are going to be working this term include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• activating prior knowledge.</li> <li>• predicting.</li> <li>• self monitoring.</li> <li>• questioning.</li> <li>• making connections.</li> <li>• visualising.</li> <li>• <b>summarising and retelling.</b></li> <li>• inferring.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Physical Education:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate and contribute in a range of cooperative team building games</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Competencies:</b> <b>During prayer and our programmes we have an emphasis on developing the Key Competencies. Thinking, Relating to Others, Understanding Symbols and Texts, Managing Self, Participating and Contributing.</b> <b>What will these look like and sound like for the Kakapo children?</b></p>

**Home Learning:** Please remember to sign your child's weekly home learning.





## Welcome to Kakapo 2021

### Some dates to put in your diary:

<b>Week 1 - February</b> Waitangi Day Football Promo morning	<b>Week 2 - February</b> Shrove Tuesday - 16th February Ash Wednesday - 17th February School picnic - 19th February
<b>Week 3 - February</b> NZ Opera Visit	<b>Week 6 - March</b> <u><b>Mon 15th</b></u> Beach Education HG- 6&7 <u><b>Tues 16th</b></u> Beach Education HG-8&9 <u><b>Fri 19th</b></u> Beach Education HG- 10&11
<b>Week 8 - March</b> Holy Week Liturgy Good Friday - 2nd of April	<b>Week 9 - March</b> Easter Monday - 5th April and Tuesday - 6th April Shore to shore

\* Look for further dates on the school calendar and weekly Home Learning sheet.

### Weekly reminders:

**Wednesday** - Team Prayers and Celebration- Starting W3 in the School Hall  
KidzCan Drama

**Thursday** - Choir

**Friday** - School Prayers

As always you are welcome to be part of our class programmes and prayer.

Ngā mihi,

**Kakapo Team Teachers**