



Welcome to the Kea Team (Home Groups 12, 13 & 14)

Thursday 10 February 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We would like to welcome you and your child to the Kea Team. A warm welcome to our new families joining us, Kai, Adriana and Evania.

In the Kea Team we will be encouraging the children to be curious, creative, contributing and critical thinkers - just like the Kea bird! The next few weeks will be a time of settling in as we get to know each other, and the children adjust to their new learning spaces and settle into routines. We will do this through various learning experiences to help our tamariki (children) learn what is expected of them.

As the teachers of the Kea 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.

The teachers in the Kea Team are:

Home Group 12 (Ohanga):	Mrs Jean Linehan - Year 2 jeanl@sj.school.nz
Home Group 13 (Nest):	Miss Annette Woodhead (DRS)/ Mrs Shona Douthwaite - Year 2 annettew@sj.school.nz
Home Group 14 (Nest):	Mrs Martinique Anthony - Year 2 martiniquea@sj.school.nz

We will be assisted by Mrs Sioux Manning as our Release Teacher and Mrs Lisa O'Grady as our Learning Support Assistant.

The Kea Team works collaboratively, this means that your child will get to know, and be taught by all Kea teachers. However, due to us being at Red Light, we will be working in our Home Group spaces. Our aim is that once we are able to, we will be sharing both learning spaces. The Nest (downstairs) and The Ohanga (formally the library).

Morning and Afternoon Routines - See Principals Message for information on drop off and pick up.

- Be at school before the bell goes at **8.50am** for your child to hang up their bags and bring their book bag and drink bottle into the class.
- School bags to be placed next to their chairs.. These need to be zipped up at all times
 - Book bags to stay in there school bag at this stage
 - Hats to stay in bags - we recommend the front pocket of bag and clearly NAMED

- Notices to teacher - to be given to HG teacher at this stage
- Water bottles to stay inside bags - Please make sure that it is only water.

Home Learning and Kea Communication

Your child will have a Home Learning Book. In this book you will find your child's reading log for the week and relevant updates and communication from the Kea teachers. Please ensure you read these notices.

Each night your child will bring home a reading book. Beginning readers will need you to sit with them and listen to them read. The children who are independent readers will need questioning work to help them develop a deeper understanding of what they are reading. Remind your child to make their reading sound interesting. Once they have enjoyed the story, ask them to tell you the story in their own words. Most importantly we are developing the child's attitude, '**Reading is fun**'. Please remember to sign the reading log (in your child's Home Learning book) and return the book to school the following day. On a Friday your child will bring home a poem in their Home Learning book that you can read with them.

All children will have their password for Mathletics glued inside the front cover of their 'Home Learning' book. This is the same as last year. Please work with your child initially and encourage them to go to the Statistics content as we find this is the best place to start the year at. Find the sound button so that they can listen to the problems. Rainforest Maths also has a Statistics section.

Religious Education work will come home at regular intervals with work that needs to be done with family support. Please see that your child completes all work with the reverence it deserves. It is important that this work is returned the next day. Work must be completed using HB pencils for written work and coloured pencils **only** for illustrations (**no felt pens or crayons**). Information on the strands and comment ideas can be found on the Family/whanau site <http://www.faithalive.org.nz/families/>

Library

This year we will be visiting the library once a week to choose a new book. Our library day this term is Thursday - beginning next week.

Uniforms

Please ensure that sandals, shoes, sun hats, school vests, lunch boxes and drink bottles are all **clearly named**. Lost property increases daily and if items are not named they cannot be returned to the rightful owners. Named uniforms will be returned to the teachers' cubbies.

During Terms 1 & 4, we require all students to be wearing a **school sunhat** (No hat, No play), and strongly suggest all students have a roll on sunblock in their bags, as well as on their skin.

Packing **spare underwear and shorts/ pants/ skirt** in a plastic bag that can be kept in their school bag in case of an accident, is advised. Even if your child is not prone to toileting accidents, settling into school can give rise to the odd accident.

Girls' hair needs to be tied up if it is past their shoulders with either a red, blue or black simple hair tie.

Miscellaneous

It would be appreciated if each child could bring a **box of tissues** to school for use in the learning space during the year.

Book Club Orders: Scholastic book club information is sent home throughout the year. Parents can order from these if you wish. Due to Covid, please place your order online.

Birthdays: We value the children's birthdays but ask that you 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.

Lunch orders are available on certain days of the week. See school website for ordering lunches.

Communication:

Important dates and events are on the school calendar on the school website, 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.

Ngā mihi,

Yours sincerely,

Kea Team Teachers

Annette Woodhead, Jean Linehan, Martinique Anthony



Our term of learning in on the next page.

Welcome back to a new term of learning in Kea
Here is some of the learning we will be encountering in Term 1...

<p>Religious Education: <u>Strands:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer • Jesus <p><u>Liturgical Year:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ash Wednesday • Shrove Tuesday • Holy Week • Ascension • Easter 	<p>Maths: Topics to be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number knowledge • Addition and subtraction • Statistics <p>Please help your child to complete the Mathletics activities for these topics as this will support their school learning. Passwords will be in the front of their home learning book.</p>
<p>Writing Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal recounts with a focus on writing sentences correctly - capital letters and punctuation • Phonics - alphabet sounds, consonants and vowels, blends • Handwriting - forming lowercase letters correctly - direction, size and shape 	<p>Reading Focus: Reading strategies we are going to be working this term include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading routine - read to self, read to buddy - building reading mileage, book manners • activating prior knowledge and making connections • predicting • self monitoring <p>Reading takes many different forms and over the term we will be exploring some of these, e.g reading a picture, reading signs, poems</p>
<p>Inquiry: Social Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belonging and my culture <p>Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student interest 	
<p>Physical Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate and contribute in a range of co-operative team building games • Health - describe feelings, and personal needs and wants • Health - take personal responsibility for keeping myself and my friends safe (COVID) 	<p>Key Competencies: During prayer and our programmes we have an emphasis on developing the School Values and our School Motto. What will these look like and sound like for the Kea children?</p>