



# Kōwhai Whānau Information Session

STEADFAST AND TRUE • TE KURA O TE RIMU TAHI

# Meet the team



**Stephen Bergin**  
Year 5  
Room 7



**Jay Keshaw**  
Year 6  
Room 8



**Sarah Vollmer**  
Year 5  
Room 6




**Amy Marron**  
Year 6  
Room 9

# School Values

**TRUSTWORTHY TUI**

Kia pono

- I celebrate all of our differences.
- I stand up for myself and others.
- I am kind.



I show that  
**I AM T.R.U.E.**

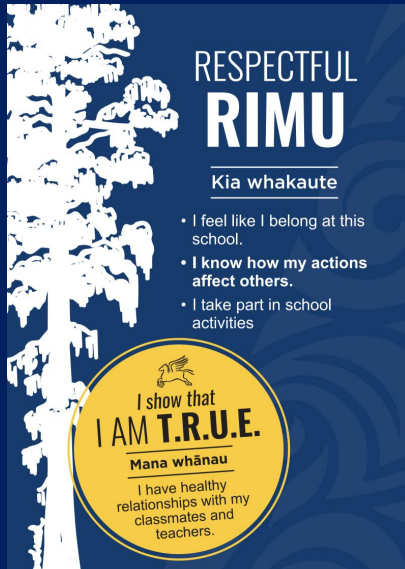
Mana whānau

I make my school  
a safe and supportive  
place

**RESPECTFUL RIMU**

Kia whakaute

- I feel like I belong at this school.
- I know how my actions affect others.
- I take part in school activities



I show that  
**I AM T.R.U.E.**

Mana whānau

I have healthy  
relationships with my  
classmates and  
teachers.

**UNDERSTANDING UREIA**

Kia atawhai

- I show resilience.
- I use a GROWTH mindset.
- I am humble.



I show that  
**I AM T.R.U.E.**

Mana whānau

I am proud of myself,  
my family and my culture.

I show that  
**I AM T.R.U.E.**

Mana whānau

I am a kaitiaki of our  
kura and of  
Aotearoa



**EXCELLENCE ĒKARA**

Kia rawe

- I have high expectations for myself.
- I am ready to learn.
- I ask for help or feedback.

# Kōwhai Expectations

We want our Year 5 and 6 students to:

- Become role models
- Develop personal resilience
- Develop self-management
- Get involved and have fun!
- Be leaders!



# Communication - HERO

- All communication is now through Hero
- Make sure you have downloaded the app and signed in
- Allow notifications



# Curriculum Overview

## Maths

This year we are supplementing our Maths teaching with a programme designed by Oxford University Press to align with New Zealand's refreshed curriculum. It follows a mastery approach grounded in the science of learning.

## Spelling & Reading

We are continuing our Structured Literacy approach this year. Students will participate in daily spelling lessons, learning spelling patterns and morphology. Reading lessons focus on helping students decode unfamiliar words and build their fluency. We have daily opportunities for personal reading as well as a weekly visit to the school library.

## Writing

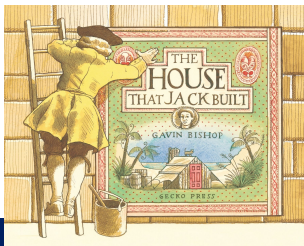
Our writing focus this term includes learning the skills needed when writing to entertain. We will be exploring different types of recount and linking this to our inquiry learning about Te Tiriti o Waitangi. We will also be learning about parts of a sentence and exploring different sentence types.

# Curriculum Overview

## STEAM & Inquiry

This term our inquiry is focused on *Ko wai au? Who am I?* Students will explore their identities and connections through pepeha. This learning will culminate in a visual pepeha showcase at the end of the term.

Through different texts and “big ideas”, in our STEAM and Inquiry learning we cover a range of different curriculum areas.



## PE

This term we are focusing on swimming skills and pool safety in preparation for Swimming Sports on March 24th.

Across the year we will set up P.E rotations across Kōwhai to ensure the students get an opportunity to practice all health and physical education skills for Year 5-6.

# Homework

Homework begins in **Week 3**. Homework books will be sent home on a **Monday** and need to be returned to school by **Friday**. Homework will include:



## Daily Reading



## Maths

Maths homework is a combination of two key areas: **basic facts practice** and **topic revision**



## Spelling & Phonics

Spelling words are linked to specific **spelling rules and sound patterns** we are learning in class that week.

# Leadership Groups

In Year 6, every student has the opportunity to be a leader. There are 3 different leadership groups: Cultural Toa, House Captains and Sustainability Leaders. These groups meet every fortnight with their lead teacher.

The leadership groups have been announced and badges will be handed out during the next whole school assembly.



# Thursday Programme

Thursday Programme runs from 11:30 - 3:00 every Thursday. It will start in Week 3.

Your child will sign up to different activities each term. We encourage them to get involved and give things a go that they might not have tried before!

# Sport

**Sports Offered:** Netball, Basketball, Flippa Ball, and Inner City events.

**Fair Play:** All representatives must uphold our school's sportsmanship values.

**Action Required:** Sign and return the **Code of Conduct** before competing.

**Contact:** Stephen Bergin  
([sbergin@ponsprim.school.nz](mailto:sbergin@ponsprim.school.nz))



# EOTC

**Year 5:**

Marae stay

Surf trip @ Orewa

**Year 6:**

Motutapu Camp



# Parent Liaison - we need you!

- **You help make the fun happen.** Fundraisers and events only succeed when someone helps rally the troops — that someone could be you!
- **You're a motivator and organiser.** Sending the occasional email, encouraging volunteers, and helping coordinate small things among our parents makes a big difference.
- **You make our job easier.** Having a Parent Liaison means we can focus more on teaching while knowing communication and events are supported.
- **You help create special memories.** With the first event being the Colour Run, you help build the “extras” that kids remember.

# Term 1 Key Dates

2nd and 3rd March - Parent teacher interviews (book on Hero)

9th March - Positive puberty parent information evening via Zoom (Year 6)

17th March - Positive puberty day (Year 6)

24th March - Swimming sports @ Millenium Pool

29th March - Colour Run