



# ARAPOHUE SCHOOL

*Te ara ki mātauranga • The pathway to knowledge*

28 January 2022

Kia ora, ngā mihi mahana mō te tau hōu – warm New Years greetings to you all! I trust you are all busy enjoying the last few days of the summer holidays and are starting to think about the 2022 school year! My family and I have had a great break and enjoyed going back to Christchurch to spend Christmas with our family. We are now trying to get back into routines and work out how we can be out of bed and ready for school by 8:30 each day – eek.

The teaching staff have been in at school this week, planning and setting up for the new year. We are excited by what looks to be a fun term and can't wait to have the students back with us. We have got a few changes in and around school this year so thought we would send out an early newsletter so everyone is in the know!

We would like to also take this opportunity to welcome and congratulate Mrs Rochelle Cleary who won the position of office administrator at our school. Rochelle has supported Leanne in this role over the last two years and I anticipate a seamless transition!

We would also like to congratulate Mrs Catherine Christey who won the position of cleaner and caretaker. We know Catherine will do an amazing job of keeping our school looking amazing AND we are pleased that she is also continuing on in her teacher aide role as well.

## 2022 CLASSES

Due to higher numbers in the senior school currently we have made minimal changes to classes from 2021, with most students remaining in the same class again this year. The only students moving will be Kaycee, Brax, Jonathan and Rowan who will be moving from Kākano to Māhuri.

I will again be teaching our Year 7/8s in Rākau for part of the day – they will return to Māhuri at 12pm.

## NEW STUDENTS

We already have new students enrolled to start next week, if you have any new neighbours, family or friends that have children likely to start, please encourage them to email or call me to complete enrolment paperwork so we can plan accordingly.

We will start our school term with a Mihi Whakataū, welcoming these new students and our teacher trainee, Nicole Yates who will be teaching in Māhuri at various times during the year. Unfortunately due to Covid Restrictions we are unable to invite our families to join in this welcome.

## OUR COVID RESPONSE

As our country appears to be preparing for an expected surge of Omicron cases- we have had to make further changes to our Covid Response Plan, as well as maintaining existing protocols, such as hand sanitising, surface cleaning, well ventilated classrooms and good contact tracing systems.



We will continue to ask parents to wait outside the gate at pick up/drop off time. If you come onsite (through the gate) we ask that you please sign in at the office and that you wear a mask at all times. Any parents/community members volunteering in our school for trips or classroom support will need to evidence their vaccine pass.

New for this year will be mask wearing for our students and staff while indoors.

- We will be requiring this from all students in Māhuri and Rākau.
- Kākano students will not be required to wear masks, however if they wish to, and can do so safely, they will be supported.
- While we are trying to source supplies of masks to support with this we ask that you provide your child with **two masks** for school.
- Teachers will develop systems to store and clean these.
- Teachers will also be adjusting timetables to include additional 'outdoor' opportunities to allow breaks in mask wearing.



If you have any concerns regarding any of these requirements please email me and we can arrange a time to meet and discuss. Our goal is to have ALL of our students AT school, happy and learning – if you require support to do this please make contact!

## STATIONERY

This year we were unable to access sponsorship for our stationery so the cost will be \$25 for each student. All students will be issued with the required stationery and we ask that you make payments to the school to cover costs as soon as you are able. Please contact Rochelle in the office if you would like to start weekly payments, our school account number is **School Bank a/c 12-3098-0257114-00**. Please ensure to include your child's name and 'stationery' in the reference.

As we have opted into the MOE donations scheme there are no school fees required.

## POOL



Unfortunately, we have had some delays getting our pool up and running as there have been shortages of pool chemicals. As soon as we are up and running (hopefully by week 2) we will then be swimming every day for the first few months this term. Students should bring their togs from day one JUST IN CASE!

Swimming is a core part of our curriculum and all students are expected to participate. Please send togs AND a towel in a bag each day with your child, or a note to their teacher if they are unable to swim for any reason.

Renee and Maree Anderson from Sport Northland will be in on Wednesdays from week 2 supporting our swimming programme.

A reminder that students need TOGS to swim in – not their clothes and long hair needs to be tied up.

## FACEBOOK/WEBSITE

I am aware of how easy it could be to feel disconnected with the school when you are working long hours and now with Covid restrictions making onsite access a little more challenging. Therefore, I would encourage you, if you are a Facebook user, to PLEASE follow our school facebook page, Arapohue School, we put regular posts on there of what is happening in classes, and information about any events coming up. Our school website is hopefully another helpful source of information and we aim to update it regularly. Every notice we put on the website should generate an automatic email to our families – if you do not receive these please let us know.

## M.A.C CLUBS

Our MAC (make and create) clubs will be up and running again this year on a Friday afternoon from 1:20 – 2:10. In Term 1 there will be a variety of options, more hopefully if we get some volunteers from our parent community! Previously we have had sports, games, building, crafts, gardening, coding, ukulele, recorder, painting, sketching, mosaic tiling, screen printing, baking – the talents of our community are never ending...

If you are willing and able to help AND able to evidence your vaccine pass PLEASE let me know as soon as possible.

## CURRICULUM

This term we have a lot of exciting learning opportunities planned, some of which will require trips outside of school. We are aware of the challenges that COVID restrictions bring to these trips but are keen to continue with plans and provide our students with these experiences. Trips will however be reliant on our ability to be able to source enough parents who are vaccinated and able to help. Please make note of the dates below – a further permission newsletter will be sent out in the next couple of weeks asking for help – please keep an eye out for it.

So, don't forget – 6 more sleeps until school starts, sunhats, masks, togs for day one. Let me know if you have any questions 😊

Mauriora,  
Kylie Piper

**[kylie@arapohue.school.nz](mailto:kylie@arapohue.school.nz)**

### 2022 Term 1 Some Dates to Remember

Thursday	3 Feb	First day of school
Monday	7 Feb	School closed – Waitangi Day observed
Thursday	10 Feb	Tech starts for our Yr 7/8s – they need covered shoes on these days.
Thursday	17 Feb	BOT meeting – staffroom at 6:30
Thursday	24 Feb	Māhuri overnight camp at school
Friday	25 Feb	WHOLE SCHOOL TRIP – Beach Education @ Mangawhai Students need to be at school at 8am and will return by 4pm
Tuesday	1 March	Goal Setting conferences – school finishes at 12:30. (TBC)
Thur/Fri	3/4 March tbc	Year 7/8 Sailing at Kai Iwi Lakes

*Dates yet to be confirmed but likely to be the last two weeks in March*

- whole school trip to Dargaville Gardens

- whole school trip to Whangarei Quarry