

I would like to welcome everyone back to the beginning of a new academic year. A special welcome to our new families and ākongā who have started at Knighton. We hope you are all settling into life here at your new school. It's been lovely reconnecting with all the children over the past few days. They are all eager to get back into their year of learning which is great.

This year is full of new opportunities for us as a staff and for our students. We are now teaching the new English and Mathematics Curriculums and we're very excited to have Emma Nahna, an educational consultant, working closely with us throughout the year to help guide us through these changes. Emma brings a wealth of expertise and experience, especially in literacy.

This year we are continuing to focus on attendance. It is really important that your child comes to school everyday they are able to. This will help them with their learning and with their socialisation at school.

A friendly reminder that parents wanting to drop off or pick up their children from the Knighton Road entrance are able to use the carpark at the local church on the corner of Knighton Road and Clyde Street. As you are aware, the area directly in front of the school gets very busy and, at times, unsafe. We would appreciate you finding a park further down the road as this would ease congestion. Please don't park in the driveways of our school neighbours. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

A reminder that our annual **Whānau Picnic** will be held on Tuesday 17th February 5.00 - 6.30pm. We would love to see you there. More information will come out over the next couple of days.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge Victoria Chen, a Year 5 student attending our kura, who gained an Achievement in a Level 3 NCEA English paper late last year. You may have read about her achievement in the New Zealand Herald over the holidays. We were thrilled for Victoria and her family.

[Hamilton girl, 9, becomes youngest to pass NCEA Level 3 English exam - NZ Herald](#)

### **Stationery Purchase**

Your child's stationery pack can be purchased via [myKindo](#) (our preferred method) or by EFTPOS at the school office.

\*Please note we no longer accept cash payments.

- **Change of clothes:** Please make sure your child has a change of clothes in their school bag, they may get wet and muddy playing on the field in the break times, or have a toileting accident.
- **Medication:** A reminder that a consent form must be filled in and left at the school office for any medication administered at school. A consent form can be downloaded from our website [https://www.kns.ac.nz/21/file\\_sets/3-links](https://www.kns.ac.nz/21/file_sets/3-links) or collected from the office. All medication remains in the office for safekeeping during the day.
- Our school has a **No Sweets** and **No Nuts** policy. Please refrain from including these items in your child's lunches.
- We are a **Water Only** school. Please encourage your child to bring a drink bottle filled with water and to drink regularly during the day.
- At 10am daily the children have a **Brain Break** in the classroom. Appropriate low sugar, healthy snack foods could be a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks, yoghurt, or a small sandwich.
- Teachers aim to check their emails, Class Dojo or Seesaw throughout the day, however if you have an urgent message that is time sensitive it is best to contact the office on 07 8565399 and they will get a message to the teacher or student.



**Bikes and Scooters**

- If your child brings a skateboard, bike, scooter or roller blades to school please ensure they are clearly labelled with your child's name so they can be easily identified.
- **Bikes** should be locked to the bike stand opposite the Literacy Centre/swimming pool.
- **Scooters** should be put in the racks at the back of room 9, opposite the junior book room.
- Skateboards, scooters, bikes and roller blades are **not** to be ridden in the grounds or on pathways at any time.
- **Scooters and bikes etc are brought to school at the owner's risk.**

# Waikato Regional Theatre Opening

During the holidays some of our staff and students were involved in the show To The Stars - Ki Ngā Whetū. It was to celebrate the opening of the new BNZ Regional Theatre.

## **TO THE STARS KI NGĀ WHETŪ**

Lights like a star. Music drifting off. Butterflies in my tummy.  
Nerves running through me. Shining brightly in front of  
1300 people. I felt like a star.

My friend I have been in the most magical performance  
ever. The joy we had, and the fun we made. Looking up in  
into the heavens, shining, shimmering, we sung.

We were lucky enough to be in the opening of the brand new  
BNZ Theatre in the holidays. Laura and Jane were too. It  
was a brand new piece of theatre written by our directors  
Jeremy and Courtenay Mayall, Our choir, the Tron Songsters  
were a part of the Youth Choir, and we learnt and sang 3  
songs. We were beautiful. We practised hard in the 10 days  
before we opened and we performed for 3 nights. We were  
tired but it was so worth it.

We had an enjoyable experience. We were a part of history  
in the making, because we were the only childrens singing in  
the first ever show on the new theatre stage. We will never  
forget it.

Ki Ngā Whetū  
by Heidi Keenan  
(Akomanga 31)



## **Playtime Visits**

Enrolled preschoolers can attend Playtime sessions with their parents/caregivers before they turn 5 years old. These sessions are held each Wednesday from 1:50 pm to 2:45 pm for up to 4 weeks prior to starting school. The enrollment paperwork must be completed before they can attend these visits. These sessions will begin on Wednesday, 11th February 2026.



## **Lost Property**

Please come and look through the lost property outside Mrs Cowie's office regularly. Named items can be returned to children but unfortunately most of the clothing and shoes that are lost by children are unnamed. All unnamed belongings that are not claimed are donated. PLEASE name ALL your children's clothes and footwear.

## **"LEARN TO PLAY" INLINE HOCKEY**

The Hamilton Inline Hockey Club is running a Learn to Play inline hockey program in Term 1. Register at <https://www.hamiltoninline.co.nz>

This is a great way for children to learn and develop skills and knowledge of the game. Beginners welcome. Places are limited, so register soon!

- 6 weeks from 19th February – 26th March
- Thursdays 5:30pm-6:45pm
- \$65 per player

Skates, helmets and sticks provided. Please bring long socks and a water bottle and if possible additional protective gear such as elbow and knee pads.

## **Note your calendar**

- 23 Feb - Board of Trustees hui: 6:00 - 8:00pm
- 17 Feb - Whānau picnic: 5:00 - 6:30pm
- 24 Feb - Year 5/6 Noho Marae information evening
- 25 Feb - Year 5/6 Senior swimming sports: 9:30 - 12:30
- 9 March - New entrant cohort entry
- 19 - 25 March - Cultural week
- 25 March - Cultural Parade: 9:15 - 11:00am
- 2 April - Term 1 ends

## **Ngā mihi nui**

**Andrew Campbell**  
**Principal**

## **Cell phones**

We prefer children to leave cell phones at home but understand that some children require a cell phone for safety reasons and to contact family members after school. If children do bring a cellphone to school this needs to be handed into the office or to the kaiako/teacher until the end of the day.



## **MyKindo - Pay It Forward**

There is a payment option on myKindo called Pay It Forward. You may like to use this facility to support a child in need by gifting a stationery pack or hat

[myKindo](#)

Thank you to those whānau who have already donated stationery and hats through the Pay-it-forward option.