

# Whanake

## TERM ONE NEWSLETTER

### Welcome Back To School!

Kia ora!

A big warm welcome to all students and whaanau. This year is already shaping up to be a busy and exciting year of learning for our tamariki. We hope you had a wonderful break and are feeling refreshed and ready for 2024!

We look forward to working with you over the coming year and are excited to get started with our aakonga.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email us or pop in and see us in the mornings between 8:30am and 8:50am.

Team Whanake

### Important Dates:

**Feb 15:** Year 4 - 8 Swimming Sports

**Feb 16:** Powhiri -10am

**Feb 28:** Whole School Identity Parade - 11:45am

**Mar 4** - Beginning of Year Reports come home

**Mar 6:** Whaanau Talanoa Fun Night

**Mar 13:** North Counties Cricket / Ki - o - Rahi

**Mar 29 - April 2:** Easter

**April 12** - Term 1 Ends

**April 25** - ANZAC Day

**April 29** - Term 2 Begins

### Reminders

#### Stationery:

As in 2023, all student stationery will be provided by the school. This will include books, pens, pencils, glue sticks and other consumable items. Studets will not need to bring stationery from home.

#### Hats:

As this term is a summer term, it is expected that all students have a red bucket hat for all outdoor activities, including break time and P.E. lessons.

#### Uniform:

Students should come to school in the correct school uniform each day. This consists of:

- Green Conifer Grove polo neck t-shirt and jumper (if required)
- Black shorts/track pants, grey Conifer Grove shorts, or red CGS culottes
- Black or grey socks and black shoes (no Crocs please)
- Stud earrings (no hoops please)
- Red Conifer Grove P.E. shirt and black shorts (bring to change into for P.E.)



# Term One Learning



**Concept:** Identity

**Big Understanding:** Identity is shaped by relationships, connections and / or the environment.

This year, students will be learning about their identity and how this is shaped by relationships, connections and the environment. During Term One, students will begin by making an emotional connection to this concept by considering themselves and who they are. Later in the term, students will begin to explore how their identity is developed through 'Sports and Games' where learning will be focussed on Physical Education & Health, and developing key skills such as risk taking, collaboration, communication, team building and resilience.

## **Reading:**

We will begin by working on students' ability to apply their knowledge of letter sounds to read new words, increasing fluency, and using questioning to express their understanding of what they have read.

## **Writing:**

When possible students will be writing about topics that interest them or topics that are linked to their wider learning. They will be developing skills to write a variety of sentence types which will include a focus on the use of punctuation. Later in the term, students will work on using a range of interesting vocabulary in their writing.

## **Mathematics:**

Developing students understanding of Place Value, Addition and Subtraction and Measurement will be a focus in Term One. Students will also work on applying strategies to solve problems involving Measurement including length, weight and / or time.

## **P.E.:**

Students will be focusing on large ball skills this term, including striking, catching, throwing and kicking large balls.

**Art:** Welcome to Mrs Hormann, who is our new Visual Arts teacher. She will spend four sessions with each class in Years 1 - 6 each term.



# MEET THE TEAM

## Mrs Evelyn Hopkinson - Room 19

My name is Evelyn Hopkinson. I recently got married to my husband Jack, who is also a fellow teacher. I have been teaching for 7 years.

My passions include sports, reading, and enjoying a variety of different foods. I am an animal lover and have a dog called Bucket, affectionately known as Bucky, who is 3 years old. I am excited to begin teaching at Conifer Grove School this year.

Email: [evelynh@cgschool.ac.nz](mailto:evelynh@cgschool.ac.nz)



## Mrs Georgina Hamilton - Room 20

In my seven years as a primary school teacher, the joy of cultivating young minds has been a constant. I'm devoted to my family, partner, two kids and our quartet of cats. Beyond the classroom, you'll find me swimming at the beach, taking casual walks in the bush, or in the aisles of Spotlight in the craft section.

Email: [Georginah@cgschool.ac.nz](mailto:Georginah@cgschool.ac.nz)



## Miss Annalise Maggs - Room 21

I'm Annalise Maggs, and I've had the incredible privilege of being part of the Conifer Grove School family for six wonderful years. I am excited to continue my position this year as the Kahui Ako Within School Leader. Outside the classroom, you'll often find me in the kitchen, exploring new recipes, or out in nature, soaking up the beauty of our surroundings on walks. I can't wait to dive into another exciting school year filled with learning, laughter, and memorable moments together!

Email: [Annalisem@cgschool.ac.nz](mailto:Annalisem@cgschool.ac.nz)



## Miss Sophia Maher - Room 22

Kia ora! My name is Sophia Maher, and I am Teaching in Room 22 this year. This will be my third year teaching at Conifer Grove School. I enjoy spending weekends with friends and family, including my two cats! I am enjoying getting to know all the wonderful Whanake students, and I am feeling excited about the year ahead!

Email: [Sophiam@cgschool.ac.nz](mailto:Sophiam@cgschool.ac.nz)



## Mrs Louise Turner - Whanake Leader

Kia ora! My name is Louise Turner and I am the leader of the Whanake Team for 2024 as well as being the Assistant Principal for Year 4 - 8. I've been teaching for almost 20 years now, both in Aotearoa and in the U.K. I am married to my husband Lorcan, who is from Ireland, and we have a daughter called Aisling. In my spare time I love horse riding!

Email: [Louiset@cgschool.ac.nz](mailto:Louiset@cgschool.ac.nz)

