

PetiPeti Pod



Term 1 Newsletter

February 2021

Welcome to **PetiPeti Pod** for 2021. PetiPeti Pod is a Māori name for Jellyfish, a sea creature who is of interest, in its ability to move and grow and absorb things, much like how we learn. We are excited about the year and putting lots of sting into our learning! Our pod consists of Room 1 - Kirsty Ferguson, Room 2 - Lisette Wilson and Room 3 - Josh McDonald.

Communication

Our contact details are below for any communication.

- Rm 1 **Kirsty Ferguson** kferguson@cdps.school.nz
- Rm 2 **Lisette Wilson** lwilson@cdps.school.nz
- Rm 3 **Josh McDonald** jmcdonald@cdps.school.nz
- **Kriss Rose** - PRT teacher for Term 1 krrose@cdps.school.nz
- **Stacey Campbell** - CRT (classroom release teacher) scampbell@cdps.school.nz and in Rm 1 every Thursday morning to release Kirsty 9-10.35 am.

If you have problems or queries, your first point of contact should be your child's **class teacher**, (homeroom) then the Pod Leader Kirsty Ferguson.

It's important to follow the process mentioned so that we can support you and your child and work together with any issues.

Communication to office staff re children being absent

Please let the school office know if there is any change to your email or contact details as soon as possible. Also, if your child is going to be away or is unwell, please email Carolyn **and your child's homeroom teacher**. Carolyn's email is office@cdps.school.nz

School Newsletters and Website

The school's primary form of communication is through Justin's newsletters. It is important that you read this and take note of the information on it and dates. The new school website (www.cdps.school.nz) is also a rich source of information.

Year 5-6 Responsibilities and Expectations

Our Year 5-6 students have a wide range of responsibilities within the school and part of their learning is to step up to the role of senior students, within the school body. This will mean undertaking positions of leadership, role modelling appropriate behaviours to our younger students and applying themselves to appointed tasks reliably. It may also mean that we have to remind them from time to time about their behaviour and the expectations we have for them, as guardians/role models in the school. e.g.: being inclusive and respectful of our leaders at Jump Jam. The jobs the students help with include librarians, road patrols, play buddies, big buddies, sandpit buddies, jump jam, environmental buddies, flag buddies tuakana/ teina, PE SHED to name a few!.

What does the day look like?

As a pod our programmes will involve being with our homeroom for mornings (maths and literacy) and moving around as a class or mixed groups as the day progresses and in the afternoons. We have some Te Reo Ao with Fiona Maddever on Thursday afternoons and Kapa Haka with Hemi Pride, a new face to our school.

Literacy - our focus this term is around a Chapter Chat type approach working through the novel Artemis Fowl. This will include responses to characters, settings and events in written and visual ways. Our Inquiry focus will link into writing about animals, plants and water cycles.

Maths - we have started the term with tests including basic facts, stage tests and PAT tests., Our first focus will be around tessellations, with our other focus being on Addition and Subtraction strategies.

Inquiry - will be in the afternoons and our inquiry will focus on 'Take Action' (Science Based), looking into systems and processes of animals, water and plants. We are keen to explore our local area more later in the term, so we will reach out to you regarding this, once we have settled into the term. Any experts in the areas above, please let Kirsty know.

Rotations - KiVa, ART, Sparklers

For the first part of the term, we will be rotating between the three classes in the afternoons, for 3 focuses.

KiVa - with Lisette - As you may be aware of, we are a KiVa school and will be running our bullying prevention programme as per normal, run by Lisette this term. It is research based and we are very pleased with how it supports our students, being more aware of each other, being kind and more aware of how they can prevent bullying situations. (including online safety also.) For more information please visit KiVa NZ [here](#).

Sparklers - with Josh - Sparklers is a wellbeing toolkit full of activities to help young people be calmer and ready to learn, Sparklers helps our tamariki to be their best and embrace the things that make them unique. We will be using parts of this programme to encourage kindness and celebrate each other for Term 1 and using parts of Sparklers all year. More information about how to support well being, can be found [here](#).

Art - with Kirsty - Kirsty will be taking the pod through some graffiti art with names & brick walls to brighten up our spaces and have some fun exploring colour mixing with pastels.

Helping at home with Maths

A good starting point is learning basic facts, addition and subtraction facts to 20, then tables starting with 2s, 5s, 10s, 11s, before the other tables. A times table poster in a central place where your child can view and recall is helpful.

Square numbers are useful also and any tables chart that shows the square numbers. If your child has mastered tables, then division facts and square roots.

Some useful websites/ apps that can help include:

[numberock](#) - DK 10 minutes a day

Hit the Button (an app and online packs)

Skip counting - kids math game

Squeebles maths (bulk packs and individual packs)
Chicken coop fraction games

Emergency Kits/tissues

Please ensure your child has a named emergency kit with non-perishable items in it. Preferably things that are self-sealed already, not anything you have to re-package. Tissues will be stored and used throughout the year, as we need them as a class.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

This is an opportunity to meet with us to discuss how your child has settled in and how they are doing academically. These evenings are being held 30th March and April 1st in week 9. More information around bookings will come out through the school newsletter, via Justin.

Swimming on Fridays week 2-11 all term

Your child will need their gear clearly labelled for swimming, plus a decent size lunch and drink, as swimming is energy-sapping. We will be out between 10.15 - 1.00 pm.

A parent help roster will be shared with our parent helpers on Thursday so you are ready for next Friday. Thanks to the offers of help.

Northern Zone Sport

This year, [Erin Davies](#) and myself are leading sport across the school and we send students along to Northern Zone events each term. It is a competitive environment and an exciting time for students to excel at sports and also to try out new sports.

If your child is interested in being part of a sport, we will be holding trials throughout the year. Sports we compete against include:

Term 1 - **cricket, football, futsal**

Term 2 - Cross country, **hockey**

Term 3 - Swimming

Term 4 - Athletics

Events such as cross country, swimming and athletics, we take students from results on the day of events. If your child already plays or would like to trial out for any of these events, please show their interest (have a discussion at home) by [completing this form](#).

Parent helpers, of course, are required to help us along the way and if you can indicate this on this form, to help with our organisation.

PERMISSION FOR TRIPS

From time to time we have trips and need parent permission. This year we are using a [2021 Trip Permission Form](#) to cover most of our Wellington trips. An example is the Yr 6 students visit Rarua twice during the year and also the Orange Day Parade at the end of the year. With trips needing more details, eg: swimming, permissions will be sent out as a separate form.

In order to support this, we need you to complete this form. We will inform you of any costs incurred and when trips are occurring, but we felt it might save us having to chase you up each time! **Please click on the link above to complete the form by Friday 12 February.**

Road Patrols

Thank you to our amazing Yr 6 students and their parents for helping out on Road Patrols each morning or afternoon. Parent helpers, please watch the safety videos Kirsty sent you before your duty. We do have our Police Educator visit us often during Term 1, so they will be checking in on your skills also! (If you were not rostered on, your time will come next term!)

Camp November 9-12th 2021

This year is a camp year for our EOTC programme which will be held at Forest Lakes in Otaki. The cost is yet to be confirmed, but the office will accept payments, should you want to drip feed payments, to suit your family budget. We will let you know more about camp closer to the time.

We look forward to developing strong relationships with your children and supporting them to achieve their goals and getting to know some newer families in the Petipeti Pod.

Ka kite,

Kirsty, Josh and Lisette

Petipeti Pod Teachers

