

Rakaia School
Whanau Newsletter
Week one, Term one
2020



Welcome to Team
Whanau
Room 7 & 8
Years 3 and 4
Teachers:
Jill Cogger, Simone
Stapleton and
Amanda Smith

Welcome To Whanau 2020

Welcome back to 2020, we hope you enjoyed some quality time with family and are refreshed for the year ahead.

We would like to introduce ourselves and offer you the opportunity to meet with us should that be required.

We will be holding a 'Meet The Teacher' evening on the Tuesday the 11th of February at 6.30pm- 7pm so we'll see you all then.

Introductions

Jill Cogger

It has been wonderful to meet many of you this week and to begin to work with your children. My teaching career has been spread across middle sized to very small rural and isolated schools on the West Coast. I have been teaching at Rakaia School for 5 terms now, goodness where has that time gone. It is a privilege to be a part of your learning community.

Simone Stapleton

Simone has been teaching a Rakaia for many years and will be teaching in both Whanau 7 & 8. She will be in Whanau 8 on Mondays and Tuesdays and in Whanau 7 on Wednesdays. Simone also covers the two teacher release days per term and any relieving as required, if available.

Amanda Smith

2018 was a big year for my family and I. We packed up our home in South Africa and moved to New Zealand to make a new life for ourselves. My first year I taught in a school in Auckland before moving down to Christchurch in April last year. I look forward to this wonderful opportunity that's been afforded me and I am excited to get to know you all.

Homework

Homework will begin in week two. This will consist of reading, spelling, math basic facts. On occasions children might be required to work on their I.P.C. inquiries, or finish work that for various reasons may not have been completed in class time. For spelling we will be sending home any words spelt incorrectly from our weekly spelling programme and there will be an essential word list in your child's homework book and you will be able to add to their list of words to learn for the week. The essential words are tested each term and we will highlight the words they have been able to spell correctly on each occasion to keep your list updated. Every child in Whanau has a book bag in their stationery pack and will need to bring this to school everyday for readers, notices and any other requirements from school. Thankyou for your support in this.

Uniforms

Can parents please ensure that all of their children's uniform is named, we already have had several pieces of uniform lost that have not been named and claimed. Finding the owner of these items is so much easier when they are named clearly.

Swimming

We will be swimming every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (weather permitting and excluding assemblies). We anticipate that all children will participate in our swimming programme as this is aimed at ensuring child safety in the many bodies of water within their reach.

Contact

We are both available should you wish to contact us during business hours. We often have meetings so a little bit of notice would be appreciated.

jillcogger@rakaia.school.nz

amandasmith@rakaia.school.nz

I.P.C. Inquiry

As with last year we will be continuing with the I.P.C. (International Primary Curriculum). Our topic this term is "Living Together", but we will be beginning the year with a 'Brainwave' unit to reinforce what learning Knowledge, Skills and Understandings are. If you feel you are in a position to help us out with our units in anyway please don't hesitate to contact us.

Important Dates

7th February	Whole School Assembly 2.15
10th February	Rakaia Swimming Carnival
21st February	Whanau ASsembly

Jill, Simone and Amanda

