



Welcome back to school everybody! I hope we are well rested and ready for what is going to be a sensational 2019. We have had an amazing start to the year with two very short weeks to ease us into the term.

A warm welcome to all our new whaanau and tamariki who have joined us this year. As with all our children and families, it is an absolute privilege to have you as part of our Elstow-Waihou school community. I am really looking forward to getting to know you all. Our next community event **Splash Mania!** will be held next Friday from 4pm and I am looking forward to catching up with you all then. This event has been organised by our amazing PTA. If you are interested in getting involved or can help out on the day please be in contact with us here at the office.

Our school vision continues to be to connect our children with their learning by sparking enthusiasm and curiosity so they will become lifelong learners. In order to achieve this our 6 classes are up and running and our STEAM HQ will be open for classes from next week. Although our roll is growing, we have smaller more targeted class sizes, which we believe will help us in our aspiration to accelerate learning for all our children. We have lots of surprises for the year as we take on new initiatives and teaching techniques with the aim of connecting all our children with their learning. If you would like to find out more about our curriculum delivery I am always more than happy to catch up to share our vision and goals!

We are well placed to have a phenomenal 2019. I can't wait to take this journey with you all.

Great mahi tahi everyone

Ngā mihi nui,  
Sandy Stirling

## WELCOME:

This year started with seven new children! Starting in Room 1 are Darcie and Beauden, in Room 3 are Ena, Nicholas and Leighton and in Room 4 are Zoe and Zeke. A special warm welcome to our school community to all children and their parents Sherryn, Dale, Richard, Stephanie, Rebecca, Daniel, Mary-Bess, Fiona and Gareth.



## CELEBRATING SUCCESS:



Well done to our Wk 2 **Reach for the Stars** achievers:  
Quiell - Connecting, Manners, and Contributing  
Reid - Contributing and Manners  
Kase - Attitude  
Logan - Confidence and Contributing  
Cooper - Attitude  
Florescia - Contributing

## FROM THE CLASSES:

**THE LIGHTHOUSE, ROOM 4:** Kia Ora Whanau and friends, The Lighthouse have settled into their new year and new class superbly! Welcome to our new Year 7 students, Zeke Norman, and Zoe Rogalski. In the last few days we have focused on work ethic, presentation in books, started a reading unit about the Treaty of Waitangi and learning survival skills for water safety. Continue the great work "The Lighthouse".

**NGĀ KEA, ROOM 5:** have been getting up to lots. We changed our class name because we are cheeky, intelligent and blend in but also stand out when we stretch our wings. We have been doing spelling tests and working together on our 'Let's reach for the stars' poster, we also have been working on our visual pepeha. We have been Learning about Waitangi day, the treaty and what we can do to keep the promises of protection, partnership and participation. Some ways we do it here are by learning pepeha, te reo, waiata and respect - some people have been lucky enough to present mihi and pepeha to the class. We also did a very difficult math test. By Seth and Hunter

**ROOM 3:** Kia ora whanau! It is fantastic to be back at school in 2019 and quite surreal to be back where I started in Room 3 - my first room at Elstow-Waihou

way back in 2004. I have taught some of your tamariki before and it is quite special to have the chance to re-engage with them again, we are also lucky enough to have 3 new whanau in our class. I am really excited about the year ahead and cannot wait to help your children make the most of their school day and work toward achieving success and growth in everything they attempt. I hope to get the chance to catch up with you all over the next few weeks.

**THE GLOW WORM CAVE, ROOM 6:** Kia ora whanau, We're already through the second week of the term, and everybody in Room 6 (The Glow Worm Cave) has settled in well into our new classroom and made a brilliant start of the year! It has been fantastic meeting and getting to know everybody. We have been revising our Star Values and talked about new classroom rules and expectations. We also learned how to use our Writing and Maths books in a tidy, organised manner. We have also been making cover pages for our portfolios and some paper glow worms to display on our classroom wall. We cannot wait to see the finished artworks!

**THE ROCKETSHIP, Room 2:** Welcome to our new classroom the Rocketship where we will be launching ourselves to the STARS. In the Rocketship we will achieve Success, work as a Team, have many Achievements and show Respect as we go. On the way we'll be zooming around into the unknown and making new discoveries. We have got off to a great start and we have been getting to know each other and our new classroom.

**THE BEEHIVE, Room 1:** Kia Ora ki te whanau. I hope you all had a relaxing holiday. A big welcome to the new children who have started in Room1 and a welcome back to the Year 1 children returning for this term. We will be swimming everyday, please remember to send the children to school with named togs and towel in a separate bag so the children can carry it to/from the pool. Our school focus for the Term is Special Places. We will be learning our pepeha (for the new children) and using this in the classroom on a daily basis as our inclusive approach to Tikanga Maori at Elstow-Waihou School. I look forwards to our exciting learning journey for Term 1. Nga mihi nui

### A VERY, VERY SPECIAL WELCOME:

We are thrilled to congratulate Steve and Ali Andersen and Michelle and Nathan Richards on the safe arrival of baby boys. Welcome to our world Sonny Anderson and Ashton Richards.



### NOTICES:

**STATIONERY BOXES:** We have a large number of cardboard file boxes which the children's stationery came in. If you have a use for them, please pop into the office.

**LOST PROPERTY:** To better manage the Lost Property, Mrs Oliver has organised a large white cupboard just outside her classroom The Lighthouse. Please feel free to check this at any time.

**INVOICES:** I have had a big push to get Invoices out this week. Please check your children's bags for them. I have offered various options to pay these accounts and am happy to make any arrangements to make payment easier. Just pop in to the office or give me a call.

Included in the account is our Activity Fee, \$80 for the first and second child with \$200 for three or more children.

Due to our fast growing junior roll the decision was made to set up a new classroom and to employ an extra unfunded teacher. These small class sizes and extra space will enable our teachers to better meet the needs of our tamariki. Needless to say that this does come at a cost to the school, and to this end we ask that you carefully consider paying the Activity Fee, which is a Tax Deductible Donation. If every child could pay the \$2 per week it would help our school finances considerably.

### COMMUNITY NOTICES:

**WANTED:** Looking for a 3 bedroom home to rent preferably long term and ideally in the country. Very house-proud people. Both work full time and can help with milking, farm work and/or chores on the weekends. We have a son at Elstow-Waihou, so ideally in the area. Please contact Dan (0273456408) or Jenn (0277648803) if you have or know of anything. We don't have to move until 1 June however, starting the search early.

**FREE EAR CLINIC:** Visit the ear nurse for advice on: glue ear, wax/foreign body removal, grommet checks, discharging ears, etc. Monday 18th Feb at Plunket Rooms, Cnr Wharf & Marshall St's, Paeroa 9.30 – 2.00 pm and on Friday 22 February Morrinsville Primary School, Lincoln St, Morrinsville 9:00-2:30pm. Phone 07-838-3565 for an appointment.



**Do you want to learn English in Te Aroha?**

**To register your interest, contact Ellena Butcher**

**07 853 2188 OR 027 562 2991**

**ellena.butcher@englishlanguage.org.nz**

	<b>DATES TO REMEMBER</b>
Fri 15th	<b>SPLASH MANIA</b> Starting at 4pm
Fri 22nd	Whanau Fridays start 1:30-2:30
Tues 26th	School Swimming Sports
Mar 5th	<b>PTA AGM</b> —Please join us
Regards	Sandy, Wendy, Lydia, Darren, Ara, Lynda, Rachel B, Laura, Sarah, Hayley, Rachel S, Gordon, Aroha and Jocelyn