

# THE WAIPA WAY

*...and how it works in The Golden Goose!*

*The Waipa Way is underway again! I hope you are all safe and well and ready for the learning term ahead, all 9 weeks of it! Here at Waipa in The Golden Goose, it's business as usual. So, to my geese and their whānau—let's go!*

*However, although it is time to get back to it, there are still a few vital points we all need to stick to. If your tamariki are unwell they must be kept at home, and we will continue to call you if they become unwell while at school, we appreciate your cooperation with this. Amongst all this, it is STILL exciting to be kicking off a term that includes: Basic Facts (wk2), Fitness (3x wk), Computation Test (wk4), Soccer/Hockey Tournament (wk4) and a trip to the Stardome Observatory in Auckland (Wk 5)! Along with The Waipa Word, your child's Student Diary is the best way to keep informed.*

*Educational times are ahead as we begin our Unit, Space - The Final Frontier next week, allowing the students to pursue inquiries into our skies and our universe. This will be an exciting unit with lots of opportunities for discoveries with astronomy, all with Matariki all on the horizon! Our PE focus is large ball skills, alongside soccer and hockey. It's great to still have such beautiful weather!*

*We will be continuing our math work with our PR1ME programme, it's proving itself to be invaluable. Let's not forget the basics. Times tables learnt! Basic facts coming quickly and accurately! Our Computation Test is in week 4, so we will be working to nail those strategies that make computation accurate and easy. This term we are focussing on Financial Mathematics, Equations and Relationships, Algorithmic Thinking, and Measuring. I better brush up!!*

*As always, my main focus will be to improve literacy and numeracy levels. Here in Kākāpō we are making a huge push to improve our students' reading fluency, both speed and accuracy. Test your tamariki at home to see if they can improve on the number of words they read correctly in 1 minute! The students in The Golden Goose are expected to read daily, both at school and at home. I love language and I hope to share this love with the class so we can all have a passion for lifelong learning. Top readers read for 21 minutes a day!*

*I am always happy to hui with you before and after school at an arranged time. Although it's great to see faces in and round the classroom, if I'm on duty or in a meeting, it's hard to make time to korero with you properly if you have concerns. Feel free to pop in and check out how we are going! My email address is sgrant@waipa.school.nz*

*Perhaps one of my favourite subjects, art and observational drawing this term, will be centred around more technical and topic related mahi. This is an awesome opportunity for our students to apply their observational skills to the topic we are studying they know so well.*

*And before I forget, (and should've started with!), homai te pakipaki for The Golden Goose tamariki! They are a dedicated, hardworking, fun, supportive and tight team and I'm pleased to say we are all paddling our waka in the same direction. After ending our long term on a high with personal words of praise from Mr T. for the Kākāpō kids, I cannot stress how much I appreciate the whanau support and understanding. No wonder our tamariki are so special. Tangata ako ana i te whare, te turanga ki te marae, tau ana. A person who is taught at home, will stand collected on the Marae.*

***W**ell, despite all the new topics and focus, nothing else will change in The Golden Goose routine and expectation-wise! For homework, Monday is a maths worksheet, Tuesday-Thursday will be spelling, times tables, Thoughts or Observational drawings, but the majority of this work will be completed in class. Other than that, all stationery and school equipment should remain at school.*

***A**t the end of the day today, we will check our desks and sort out our stationery needs. Each student will do an individual checklist and bring home a request for stationery, if required. It helps everyone to be prepared and organised, so please check that your child has everything they need to learn and achieve.*

***Y**es, we are at the end! Last minute reminder: our fitness sessions take place on a Mon, Tues, Thurs at 10.10. It's helpful if the tamariki have the right gear for this. Research shows that children benefit from a break in screentime, so here in the Golden Goose we take a break from our screens for the whole day on Thursdays. Try it at home! My door is always open, and I look forward to seeing and talking with you, our Golden Goose whānau, soon.  
Ngaa mihi nui, Sarah Grant*

