

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

5 February, 2026

Kia ora koutou. Nau mai, haere mai ki te tau hou!

Welcome to the new year with the Year 5-6 Team. We are looking forward to an awesome year of learning and fun. This year there are three Year 5-6 classes in our teaching team for 2026, but we are also fortunate to have Eileen Mueller joining our teaching team from 9:00-11:00am Monday-Thursday each week.

Teaching Team



Room 12 Janine Imrie



Room 13 Jayshri Dayal



Room 14 Charles Daily



Room 3 Eileen Mueller

Matt Finnigan (STEAM class) and Senior School Associate Principal
Marion Hair (Music class)

Classroom Organisation

In 2026 our Year 5-6 classes are larger than they have been for the past couple of years. Each class has 31-32 students this year. To help manage this, we have Eileen Mueller joining us. This will mean that your child has their regular home classroom teacher, but may have a different teacher for the teaching of Maths and Writing. This will mean smaller classes that range from 22-24 students in each for the first 2 hours of the day.

Friday Enrichment

Every Friday afternoon, our students are involved in our enrichment program. It is truly a highlight of the week for many students. This year, your child will spend 6 weeks learning in each of the following curriculum areas;

- Cooking
- Soft Materials
- Paint (art)
- Photography
- Pickleball
- Digital Technology and Drama

Integrated unit - Moanamana: 'Marine Science & Local Geography'

Our integrated unit for Term 1, will be about exploring and monitoring our local marine environment, as well as learning about our local geography. This unit will be in conjunction with the Worser Bay Yacht Club [Beach and Boatwise programmes](#).

One thing we really value is parent involvement in the Year 5-6 team. One opportunity for helping us is during our day trip to Worser Bay. **Please contact your child's classroom teacher if you can help on these days.**

- Sailing & Science Monitoring
 - Room 14 Tuesday 24/2/26
 - Room 13 Wednesday 25/2/26
 - Room 12 Thursday 26/2/26

Health & Physical Education

During Weeks 7&8 our students will be participating in Pedal Ready. This is from Monday 16 March - Wednesday 25 March. It is a bike safety program run by Wellington Regional Council. Please make sure your child has a well-maintained bike and helmet that can be used for the unit. Let us know if you need to borrow equipment for your child, as Pedal Ready do have bikes that can be borrowed. <https://www.pedalready.org.nz/> More information will come out closer to the time.



Home Learning

In the Year 5-6 team the Steeple Rock badge is an important component of home learning. The students have a booklet with all the information and challenges explained.

The Challenges are the same for both class year levels. However, the minimum number of Challenges differs

- Y5 must complete a minimum of 9 challenges
- Y6 must complete a minimum of 10 challenges

We expect that all students establish a habit of reading 10-15 mins each school night. This could be either independent student reading or it could be the parent reading to the child.

Note: Some incidental home learning tasks may be assigned, especially linked to our integrated unit for the term.

Upcoming Events

Thursday 5 February - A group of 4 international students will be learning with the Year 5-6 team for 2 weeks.

Tuesday 17 February - Meet the Teacher Evening

This is an opportunity to hear how we teach and organise the learning in the Year 5-6 team, and we discuss some topics and themes covered over the year.

Tuesday 24 - Thursday 26 February - Sailing at Worsler Bay

Friday 6 March - Year 5-6 Hui

We are really looking forward to a fabulous year.

Ngā mihi,

Year 5&6 Teaching Team