

# Manahau Team News!

Term 1, 2026 – Thursday 29 January to Thursday 2 April

Welcome back to school! We have many new students joining our team this year – we are so glad that new families have chosen Cornerstone, and we look forward to meeting you. Our name, Manahau, means **JOY** and we encourage you to help your children **ENJOY** learning this year. They are at an age where their attitude makes a big impact on their ability to learn. Let's help them be all they can in God!

The teachers in our team are Mrs Claire Thompson and Mrs Christine Little (D1), Mrs Kiri Parkinson and Mrs Kathleen Christensen (D3), Mrs Chantelle Mulder and Mrs Vicki Campbell (D5) and Mr Gareth Smith (D6). We have a teacher aide working within our team, Mrs Anne-Marie Mitchell, and other wonderful support staff you will meet during the year.



## Our learning this term is:

- Devotions – the Bible (learning all about the Old Testament)
- Theme – our term 1 thinking will be based on a programme called 'My Life Rulz' and in year 4 "Being the best version of Me".
- School value – Respect
- We will also be looking at Safety.
- Training for Cross Country!



## Some important things for Manahau families to know:

- Your child will have a digital portfolio on Class Dojo this year so that they can share work more regularly with you. Your child's teacher will give you information soon about how it will work. Please do not pay for it - it is a free app.
- Year 3 children must be collected from the classroom at the end of the day. Please speak to your child's teacher if you need to make another arrangement.
- Sun hats (navy blue bucket hat) must be worn this term. No hat - no play!
- Children should have a named water bottle at school every day. Please avoid sending milks, fizzy and juices etc. Water only please.
- Wednesday is 'Wheels Day'. Children can bring scooters, skateboards, and roller blades to use at play times. Helmets and safety gear must be worn.
- Our team assemblies will be on Mondays at 1.40pm. Due to the small space, we apologise that we are unable to have visitors. Assemblies will start in week 2.
- Every term we have a "Cornerstone Assembly" for the entire Primary school (in the Gym), where some children will receive a special award (similar to a Principal's Award). Parents are warmly welcome and you will be notified if your child is receiving an award.



## School events to be aware of:

- Parent conferences to meet the teacher will be held in week 4 (18-19 Feb). School will finish at 2pm on Wednesday 18 February for these.
- There will be a Teacher's Only Day planned for **Friday 27 March** for all staff.

Finally, your child's teacher will provide you with class information about things such as homework. If you have any questions, please contact them in the first instance. If you need further assistance, please contact the Manahau team leader, Vicki Campbell, by emailing: [vicki@cornerstone.ac.nz](mailto:vicki@cornerstone.ac.nz).

**We appreciate your support as we head into an exciting year of learning...and JOY!**

The Manahau Teachers