

POROPORO NEWS

WELCOME TO 2026

Kia ora whānau, my name is Kate Nelson, and I am so excited to be the latest addition to the teaching team here at Wainuioru School, stepping into the Poroporo classroom. As a Wairarapa local, born and bred on a farm, I am very happy to be working here in our community. I am starting out as a beginner teacher and am very much looking forward to beginning my career at Wainuioru.

The students in Poroporo have been absolutely lovely and have welcomed me with open arms, making the transition such a joy.

I come to teaching with a background in psychology, which drives my passion for supporting student wellbeing and helping our tamariki reach their full potential.

Outside of school, I'm a true country girl at heart. My biggest passions are horses and farm life, so my weekends usually involve mucking about on the land or riding. When I need to slow down, I love curling up with a good book, hitting the golf course for a round, or catching up on much-needed time with my loved ones.

Please pop in and say hi, I look forward to meeting you all!

CONTACT DETAILS

Kate Nelson

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COMMUNICATION & AVAILABILITY

I'm a big believer in open and honest communication to get the best for our tamariki. My door is open from **8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday**, so please feel free to get in touch during those times—whether it's about learning, wellbeing or just a catch-up.

To make sure I can bring my best energy to the classroom, I keep my weekends and evenings strictly for recharging (usually out on the farm!), so I won't be checking emails during that time. I really appreciate you respecting this balance so I can be 100% present for the students during the week.

REMINDERS



- Please bring togs everyday
- Have a change of clothes in your bag
- Sunblock children before school
- Sausage sizzle Friday- \$2

LEARNING IN TERM 1

This term, we are turning the lens inward to explore the most important topic of all—**Ourselves!** We will be looking at our identities, our backgrounds, and what makes each of us unique.

In **writing** we are using iDEAL Structured Literacy, we are exploring our identities by creating both a Written and Visual Pepeha, helping students share their connections to people and places with pride.

In **reading** we are focusing on texts that reflect our own lives and experiences, helping students build personal connections to the stories they read.

In **math** students will engage with the Pr1me Math approach, developing problem-solving skills and strengthening their foundation in basic facts.

We are also very excited to introduce **Passion Projects** as one of the independent learning tasks! Students will choose a topic they truly love, research it, and present their learning. This is a fantastic way to foster independence and genuine excitement for learning.

SUPPORT

We are very lucky to have a great support team around us this year.

Kim will be working closely with me as my PRT release teacher and providing my CRT (Classroom Release Time).

We also have the wonderful Emma supporting us in the classroom throughout the day.

HOMEWORK

Each of our tamariki will be sent home with a reading book and spelling words to practise. While it is great if these can be looked over each night to reinforce their learning, I fully understand that everyone has busy lives outside of school. If it doesn't happen every night, please don't worry—it is certainly not the end of the world! We want to keep learning positive.

If you need to communicate anything specific about homework, please just pop a note in their spelling book, and I will pick it up there.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **6th Feb** Waitangi Day
- **9th Feb** Ki o Rahi instructor visit @9:00am
- **25th Feb** Community picnic @5:30pm-7:00pm
- **3rd March** Rural swimming sports
- **25th March** Aratoi visit
- **3rd April** Good Friday



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