

TEAM TWO - To be the best we can be!



Meet our wonderful teaching team for 2018...



Linda Sperring
Team Leader



Michelle Hover



Joanne Pulman



Sara Kwok



Alice Holman



Margot Harper

POD LIFE - Innovative Learning Environments

At Ellerslie School we always strive to create an innovative learning environment that enables students to be connected, engaged and creative lifelong learners. Society has changed considerably over the last 50 years and our modern workforce values people who are creative, adaptable, team workers and good communicators. Technology and knowledge is changing quickly, and therefore we are striving to prepare our students for modern education as well as the modern workforce. The New Zealand curriculum focuses on 'learning how to learn', and on supporting students to take responsibility for their learning, so that they become competent lifelong learners.

Ellerslie Schools latest classroom build and renovations has been designed to be a 'collaborative learning space' with adjoining larger and smaller learning spaces. In 2017 we will be making a greater use of our space to ensure we develop strengths-based teaching and that we offer students and teachers flexibility, openness and access to resources. Our teachers will have greater flexibility to meet the diverse needs and abilities of students. In our case it will mean teachers and students working together across up to three classroom spaces. Teachers can share their strengths and skills to better support the learning and needs of each and every student. Learning spaces include open areas for collaborative learning and quiet spaces for independent learning as well as technology, media, arts resources, reading spaces etc. Every learning space may look different, as it is developed to suit the needs of the learners in the space.

Team 2 is in the Rata Pod where multiple guardian groups and teachers will work together and alongside each other. Your child will be attached to one guardian teacher who is your first point of contact, and responsible for the pastoral care of your child, but they will be taught by all the teachers working within the pod throughout the year.

DAILY ADMIN

Bell Times

Our bell times are as follows:

Classes open for arrival:	8.30am - 8.50am (Yr 7/8 begin classes at 8.30am)
School begins:	8.50am
1st block:	8.50am - 10.30am
Morning Tea & Play:	10.30am - 10.50am
2nd Block:	10.50 am - 12.20pm
Lunch & Play:	12.20 - 1.15 (Supervised eating time)
3rd Block:	1.15pm - 2.45pm
School ends:	2.45pm

Before school

If your child arrives at school before 8.30, they will need to wait behind the painted yellow line. This time is important preparation time for teachers. Please do not take your child to the playground and classes before 8.30am. We appreciate your co-operation with this. The bell to signal learning time goes at 8.50. It is important that your child is in class before this and not arriving late as this gives them time to settle and prepare themselves emotionally for the day.

Morning Tea & Lunch Time

There are two eating times at school. At morning tea, children are encouraged to eat 1-2 items before going off to play. At lunch time all children must sit for 10 minutes to eat under the supervision of their teachers, who endeavour to check lunch boxes before they go off to play. All play times are supervised by duty teachers.

The school offers the following options for purchasing lunches. Purchased lunches will be delivered to your child's class at lunchtime.

- **Tuesdays - \$5.00 sushi** (order before school in the hall or via KINDO)
- **Fridays - \$2.00 sausage sizzle** - order and pay in class before school or via KINDO
- **Rest of the week:** See our online shop KINDO for ordering options that will be delivered to your child at lunchtime

Lateness and Removal from school

If your child is late for school, they will need to be report to the office to sign in and pick up a pink slip that is then handed to their guardian teacher. If you need to remove your child from school early, or for an appointment please report to the office first and sign your child out. You will be given a green slip that needs to be handed to your child's guardian teacher before they can leave with you. At break times our students are scattered through the playground so for ease of pick up, try to come before the break begins or when it has finished.

Sickness

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home to give them time to recuperate and to prevent the spread of illnesses to other children. Please contact the office and leave a message if your child is not coming into school.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Food

At Ellerslie School we encourage healthy eating. Please be conscious of the food you are packing in your child's lunch box. They will require lots of what we refer to as 'brain food' - things that are good for the brain. Fruit, vegetable sticks, sandwiches, crackers etc will sustain your child well over the day. We ask that you leave treat foods such as chocolates and lollies at home. Drink bottles are to be filled with water only.



Uniform

It is important that your child has the correct uniform. Please ensure that all items are named clearly - including shoes and socks! Hats are compulsory in the summer terms (1 & 4) and children that do not have them will have to sit in our designated shade area during playtimes. New uniform items can be purchased online through KINDO or from our uniform shop on Mondays before school.

Kindo

Kindo is our online school shop where you can register for an account and then use it to view and pay for your child's needs from the comfort of home. Anything from lunches, uniform, fees, stationery and school trips can be paid for through this service. Visit kindo.co.nz to register for an account now

Personal Belongings

Please ensure that everything is named. All uniform items should be named with permanent marker or have names sewn in, including shoes and socks. A '**Lost Property Box**' is located in our school hall.

At Ellerslie, personal items such as toys and collectables are not to be brought to school. They can get broken, become lost and cause disruption. There will be times when your child's teacher requests them to bring something from home for sharing, in this instance it is permitted.

Medical Issues

If there is anything significant such as allergies or asthma that we need to know about, please speak to your child's teacher directly. Any medication needs to be signed in at the office and kept in our sick bay.

WHANAU HOUSE SYSTEM

At Ellerslie School we run a Whanau House System across the entire school. There are 4 Whanau Houses: Whero, Kakariki, Kowhai and Kikorangi. Upon beginning school, your child will be allocated a Whanau house which they will remain in until they leave the school.



The primary purpose of our school houses is to develop a sense of belonging and community within our school. Throughout the year students will be provided many opportunities to earn whanau points. This will include the chance to earn daily points for learning, effort and behaviour as well as participating in House challenges, sporting and cultural events.

Communication and Parent Involvement

School Assemblies

Every Monday morning we have a whole school celebration assembly outside in our courtyard, beginning at 9.00. These are a wonderful opportunity for the whole school and parent community to come together to celebrate our learners and their successes from the week. If the weather does not permit us to hold the assembly, it will roll over to the following morning.

School Website

Here at Ellerslie we have an informative website with lots of up to date information for you read. We update this regularly and upload all school newsletters here.

Newsletters

- ❖ **School Newsletters:** these are sent home every Thursday with your eldest or only child. Please check your child's bag to ensure that you are receiving these and keeping up to date with everything you need to know. The newsletters are a great way to stay connected with the school community and keep you informed of everything that is happening
- ❖ **Team Newsletters:** These are sent home as appropriate and keep you informed about upcoming events and class trips that may be occurring. We will endeavour to send these on a Thursday but there may be occasion when they come home on a different day.

Meeting with your child's teacher

Our teachers are always in the Pod before and after school for a quick chat, however our main focus at these times is to make sure that all of the children are happy and settled. If you wish to speak to a teacher in more detail about an issue, just touch base with them to organise a time, or alternatively you can contact the office.

Parent teacher interviews are held at the beginning of Term 3 and school reports are sent home twice a year, in Term 2 and Term 4.

CLASSROOM ROUTINES

Homework

Your child will have a book that they have read in class that they can read to you - something that we do encourage you to try and do as often as possible. They will also be given lists of words that they are learning to read and write, and occasionally some maths homework.

CURRICULUM AREAS

Maths

We work on our number knowledge and learn to use that knowledge to solve simple number problems. We also spend a lot of time looking at concepts such as measuring, time, making patterns, investigating problems and sharing items equally.

Reading

Your child will read or experience reading daily. Expect to see a book most nights that your child has read in class. Children are guided closely by a teacher through each book in class and will bring it home to share with you. We are not only looking for a child that is able to read a text, but can discuss the story they have read and display comprehension of what the text is about.

Writing

In Team Two the children are learning to write several sentences on a topic using correct punctuation and making good spelling attempts. They are learning to write for a purpose, to edit, publish and to share their work with an audience..

Other Curriculum Areas

Health, Social Sciences, Technology, Science and the Arts (visual, drama, dance) are all covered within our Inquiries . Children will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of experiences that are planned in alliance with the school Inquiry focus. Our big umbrella concepts for 2018 are 'Change & Innovation' and 'Celebrations.'

Physical Education

We follow a P.E programme throughout the year, with a focus each term. Some of the areas we cover include swimming, athletics, ball skills, skipping, JumpJam (dance aerobics) and running. Team Two are swimming everyday during Weeks 6 & 7 this term. Please send children to school with their togs and towels in a suitable bag and NAMED.

ICT

Our ICT Programme begins by covering digital citizenship. We do have very detailed Cyber Safety and User Agreements that must be checked and signed by parents. If you have not yet completed one of these, please ask your guardian group teacher for a copy.

In Rata pod we use ipads to support the children's learning and to record and share their learning through SeeSaw.

Thank you for attending our Meet the Teacher evening. Please do not hesitate to chat to us about any questions or concerns you may have - we are here to help and ensure that both you and your child are as happy and as settled within the Ellerslie School family as possible.