

Junior Syndicate Newsletter Term 2 2019

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to term 2. We trust you enjoyed the holidays. We are looking forward to continuing the great work the children started last term. We extend a special welcome to children new to our school. We would also like to welcome back Mrs Amy Hooper. Amy will be taking over in Room 2 at the beginning of Week 3 as Mrs Peters will be taking maternity leave. We wish Mrs Peters all the very best for the upcoming arrival of her bundle of joy.

Curriculum



Literacy

This term we will continue to teach children how to write interesting and detailed recounts of their personal experiences on a regular basis. We will also be teaching the children how to write simple reports and narratives, for example facts about different foods or countries people come from and traditional tales from countries.

Each child will read daily with a group of children at a similar level, where they will be taught reading strategies. Please refer to the Greenhithe website to watch a video showing how you can read with your child at home. Remember to regularly practice the Magic Sight Words at home. When children can recognise words immediately they are free to concentrate on reading for meaning. Please encourage your child to talk about what they are learning in reading. You can help to foster this by talking about the goals at the top of the reading logs, for example, "Can you tell me what you think will happen next in the story?"

The Spelling programme will continue to be based on the most commonly used words. May we remind you that lists of spelling words can be found on our school website under Our Curriculum, Reading and Spelling. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child learn these words which are used so frequently in their writing.

The children are tested regularly to ensure their specific needs are met. Please make sure that you have a chat with your classroom teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Throughout the year we will be teaching the children to actively listen to one another, talk in full sentences and elaborate on their ideas.



Mathematics

In term 2 we will continue to focus on number. We will also build on a range of addition, subtraction and multiplication strategies that children can use to solve number problems. In addition to this, we will be learning to tell the time (Measurement) and looking at position, orientation and transformation (Geometry).

Inquiry

A trip to MOTAT has been planned around our Inquiry topic where we will be focusing on early learning robotics and coding. The staff have designed a special workshop called 'Itsy Bitsy Bots' for us to attend.

There will continue to be a focus on learning how to become confident, resilient, active and self-regulating learners. You can support this by asking questions, such as, "What do great learners do?" and "What are you learning?" at home.



The Arts

This term we will be learning about the artist Piet Mondrian who is best known for his abstract paintings made from squares and rectangles.

Health and PE

The children will be busy training for cross country in the first part of the term. Please ensure your child has shoes suitable for running. They will also be improving their throwing and catching skills while playing games with big ball.

Maori language

The Junior School will continue to focus on simple Mihi (introducing ourselves), greetings and days of the week. The Year Two children will be taught by Whaea Kylie and the Year One children will continue to meet together to learn Te Reo. The children are learning to use and remember the language through action songs (waiata) and follow up activities in the classroom.

Key Competencies

The Key Competency of 'Thinking' will be taught. This competency will be evident throughout the inquiry learning process where the children will be asked to actively think about "I wonder why, what, how?"

Parent Help

We are always looking for kind parents to help out in our classrooms. If you are keen, please let your child's classroom teacher know.

Tissues

Donations of boxes of tissues are always gratefully received!

Important Dates

Mother's day market	7 & 8 May
Staff to attend NZEI meeting	10 May (12.30pm pick up)
Disco	10 May (5 - 6pm for Years 1-3)
Junior school cross country (Year 1 & 2)	27 May (Saver day 28 May)
Y2 MOTAT trip	7 May
Y1 MOTAT trip	8 May
Teachers Only Day	31 May
Queen's birthday holiday	3 June
Matariki open afternoon	11 June
Individual and class photos	11 June
Sibling photos	18 June
Reports go home	28 June
Parent Interviews	3 July (School finishes at 12.50pm)
	4 July (3.00 - 5.30pm)
Last day of Term 2	5 July

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to a wonderful term ahead.

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