

## Junior Team Newsletter

### Term 1, 2019

Welcome back to the new school year. It is great to see everyone back from holiday looking rested and ready for a wonderful year ahead. A great big welcome to all our new

families this term. We look forward to working with you. We are also excited to welcome Ulla Page and Louise Bain to our junior team this year. Ulla has been working in the new entrant transition class at Coastal Taranaki School and will be working in the Penguin Room this year. Louise is returning back to Oakura School after some time away raising her son Reggie. Louise will be teaching in Room 3.

#### Starting and ending the day

Please remember that school **starts at 9am**. Children should arrive between 8.30 and 8.50 so they have time to organise themselves for their day and have some time to play with their friends. Children should not be arriving earlier than 8:30 unless they are bus children. If your child arrives after the 9.00 bell you will need to report to the office to sign your child in. Children are often tired after a busy day at school. **We ask parents to ensure they are here to collect their children no earlier than 2.50pm to minimise distraction during teaching time and head home by no later than the 3.15 bell.**

#### This Term's Topics

**School Values** – Whakaaro Pai: respect, Pono: honesty and Manawanui: perseverance. We look in depth at each value and what it means for us as a class and school – What does it look like, sound like and feel like?

**Waitangi Day** – What this holiday means to us and symbolises for New Zealand. Making links with partnerships within our classroom, school and community.

**Being a 'Super Me'** - We will be learning about how we can be 'Super' in different contexts and situations. This will link to our learner profile in the area of 'ako' (being an active learner). We will also be focusing on 'Kia Kaha' which is a programme based on building respectful relationships.

**Mathematics** - Number knowledge (reading and writing numerals along with counting forwards and backwards) and strategies, measurement-length, addition and subtraction, statistics - data handling.

**Swimming** – Water confidence and flotation. Please ensure your child brings **named** togs, towel and swimming cap in a bag. If your child is unable to swim due to illness please send a note to their teacher. Our swimming timetable is as follows:



| Swimming days          | Week 1,3,5,7,9,11 (odd weeks) | Week 2,4,6,8,10 (even weeks) |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Room Penguin and Gecko | Monday, Wednesday and Friday  | Tuesday and Thursday         |
| Room 2 and 3           | Tuesday and Thursday          | Monday, Wednesday and Friday |

If you are unsure when it is your child's swimming day, pack togs and a towel each day so that they do not miss out.

## General Information

#### Phonics

Our wonderful phonics programme continues this year with children working throughout the Junior School at their stage of development. The programme we are utilising is called the Yolanda Soryl Phonics programme. Here is a link

to some information about the programme and videos that show one stage of lessons.

[http://www.yolandasoryl.com/html/phonics\\_primary.htm](http://www.yolandasoryl.com/html/phonics_primary.htm)

### Homework and book bags

Each child needs a book bag to carry notices, home reading, library books and homework to and from school. No book bag, no reader.

**Please make sure that home readers are returned each day. Each reading book costs approximately \$8 -\$12 and replacing sets is a costly exercise. If you have found any at home over the holidays we would welcome them back.**

### Library Days

Library day for Rooms 2 and 3 is Wednesday, Gecko and Penguin Rooms are Tuesday.

Please would you ensure your child brings their library books in their book bag each week on library day.

### Poetry and Nursery Rhymes

Once a week children will bring home a poem folder/book to share for reading homework instead of a reader. These are to be returned to school the next day. It is important that you read this poem/nursery rhyme with your child, as you would a reading book. Poetry and nursery rhymes help children with their reading fluency and phrasing.

### Friends

We ask parents that you arrange social activities at least a day ahead to minimise after school issues. Your child's class teacher needs to be aware of where children are going after school or if anyone different is collecting your child to help keep them safe. Thank you for your support with this.



### Parent Help

We welcome parent help in our classrooms. As we are busy setting up routines and expectations in the first few weeks of school this will commence later in the term. Please see your classroom teacher if you would be willing to help in class. Parent help can take a variety of forms e.g. tidying/cleaning resources, making resources, supporting children with learning.

### Sunhats, drink bottles, sunblock and swimming caps

We are a sunsmart school and all children must have a black or red school hat to wear every day. These can be bought from the office. Please apply Sunblock at home in the morning. To minimise sun exposure to the skin, we recommend children wear tops that cover the shoulders. Please also make sure children have a named drink bottle every day. There is filtered water available in each room for topping up drink bottles. Swimming caps are compulsory and can be purchased from the office. Please name children's clothing.



### Toys at school

We encourage students to leave their toys and personal items at home. At times, we may request that the students bring in something from home to share but this must be given to the teacher for safe keeping. We would appreciate your support with this, as bringing toys to school can cause issues in the classroom and we do not want the children's special items to get lost or broken.

## Important Dates

**Beach clean up day** - Tuesday 26th February. More information to come.

**Meet the teacher evening** - To be confirmed.

**Marae visit** - Date to be confirmed.

Please call in and see us if you have any queries. Please note, from 8.50am we will be getting children settled for the day. If this is the case, we will book in a meeting time with you.

Kind regards, Thais, Ulla, Helen and Louise