

# Welcome Back!

## Junior School Newsletter Term 3 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

A big welcome back to school for returning and new whānau. We are ready and excited about a busy, productive term. Please ensure your child has warm, appropriate **named** clothing and footwear during winter.

### Upcoming Events

**Week 3** - Mid year conference forms emailed home, Open Classrooms (Friday).

**Week 4** - Monday - Laughton King, Dyslexia parents session. Tuesday/Wednesday - Parent/Teacher conferences.

**Week 6** - Hockey Skills lessons begin.

**Week 7** - Whānau lunch day (Friday).

### Before and After School

Please remember that school starts at 9.00am. We ask that students come to school between 8.30am - 8.45am to allow them enough time to get settled and organised for the day. At times, teachers have meetings in the mornings and may not be in the classroom before 8.30am.

A friendly reminder that our road crossings are patrolled until 3.15pm each day. We ask that if you are walking with your child, that you leave school in time to cross when the roads are patrolled. This is to keep all of the students safe, especially if they are crossing without an adult.

Also note that the school toilets are closed for cleaning from 3.15pm and are not open for children who have stayed late at school.

We thank you for your cooperation with this.

### Parent Help

We would love to have parents helping in our classrooms to help increase our students reading mileage and confidence with books. If you are available and keen to help in our classrooms, please let your child's teacher know.

### Discovery Time

Are you able to help us?

- Can you come in and share a passion or an interest with a small group of children?
- Would you like to come and work with one of the activities that have already been set up?
- Are you good with a hammer and could support our budding carpenters on the carpentry table?



If so then we would LOVE to have you join us on a **Friday at 11:10am** to share the fun, play and learning. Talk to your child's classroom teacher if this sounds like you.

### PMP - Perceptual motor programme

This term we will be restarting our PMP sessions. From Tuesday - Friday each morning the junior classes will be timetabled to attend a PMP session in the Pohutukawa Centre.

PMP is a programme that prepares the child for learning, through movement. To learn more about the programme, please go to the following website.

<https://www.movingsmart.co.nz/Education/Perceptual-Motor-Programme/>



We require parent help to run our PMP sessions. If you are available to help please let your child's teacher know. We cannot do it without parent help so we would really appreciate your support so that our students can benefit from this wonderful program.

## Term Topics

**Inquiry** - This term our overarching topic for inquiry is 'Change'. We will learn about how change is okay, and how our lives change over time. Through this lens we will also be exploring scientific topics such as life cycles and scientific experiments where change occurs.



**Mathematics** – Symmetry, add/sub using money, time and temperature, equal sharing/groups of, weekly problem solving.



**Physical Education** – Ball skills (throwing, catching, striking), Hockey Skills, team games.



**The Arts** - Mixed media art - based on letter and blend of the week. Junior Groovers - free and guided dance option at Discovery Time. Drama skills workshop option at Discovery Time.

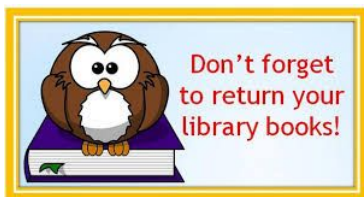
## Library

A reminder for your child to bring their books to school on the allocated day.

Rooms 2 and 3 – Wednesdays

Room 1, Gecko and Penguin – Tuesdays

You could support your child in remembering their library day by prompting them the night before so they can organise the return of their books with independence. The students can sometimes get confused and not realise their books have been returned for them and so miss out on getting new books.



## **Open Afternoons**

On Friday 7th of August we invite parents to come to our Open Classrooms. This is an opportunity for your child to share their learning with you. Our classrooms will be open from 1.30 - 2.30pm.

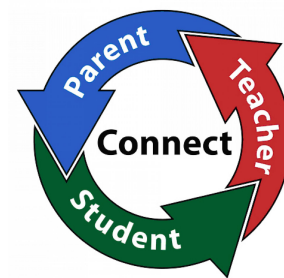
Thank you for your ongoing support. We are looking forward to a full and exciting term of learning.

Ngā mihi,

Thais, Ulla, Lois, Louise, Helen and Catrin

## **Parent/Teacher conferences**

This term we will be holding our parent/teacher conferences. A mid year conference form will be emailed home on Friday 7th of August. Information about these conferences, and how to book one with your child's teacher, will be in the school newsletter.



Please note, all children in the Gecko Room will **not** have a conference form or parent/teacher conference as the New Entrant testing and meetings are in place of this. This will also apply to some of the students in the Penguin Room. A separate notice, explaining this, will come home and be posted to Seesaw.

## **Sight word focus**

This term we would like to focus on the students learning their sight words at school and at home. Sight words are common words found in reading and writing. They are words that we want the students to know off by heart so that they build confidence and fluency in reading. For each reading level, there is a list of sight words for the students to learn. We will be posting the students individual sight word list to Seesaw for you to access at home. We ask that you practise these words at home. We will give you ideas and fun ways to learn these words.

You can print the words from Seesaw or write them out onto cards. A great activity is for the students to make their own sight word cards - this creates ownership and is great hands on learning.

If your child is able to quickly recall all of the words on their list, let your child's teacher know and they will upload the next list.

