

## Team 5 News Term 1 2010

Dear Parents and Caregivers

A very special welcome to all of the new families that have come to Whenuapai school. We hope you all enjoy your time here.

This year Team 5 starts with 3 classes. They are:

Room 1	Catherine Heald
Room 7	Jane Loudon
Room 6	Odessa Holmes (Team Leader)

Each term you will receive a team newsletter to let you know what is happening in the term. You will also receive a weekly school newsletter and occasional letters to inform you of trips and special events so please remember to check your children's book bags for these. We value the input you have towards your child's learning and we are keen to establish strong links between home and school. If you would like to discuss your child's learning please feel free to make an appointment with your child's teacher. Before school is not always the best time to talk about your child's progress as the teachers are usually very busy. You can also contact the teachers via e-mail.

School starts at 9am, therefore it is important that children arrive at least 15 minutes before 9 to give them time to complete their classroom responsibilities before school so they are ready for the day.

The children look very smart in their uniforms. Thank you for this. If for any reason your child is unable to wear their full school uniform please send a note to your child's Teacher.

Most children have all their stationery and have the exercise books covered to protect them. However, if you have not yet covered them could you please do this as soon as possible.

At 10 am the children have a quick break and have some 'Brain Food'. The type of foods that are acceptable for this are; dried fruit or cut up fresh fruit, crackers and vegetables. (PLEASE no sweet biscuits, roll ups or chips) The 'Brain Food' should be put into a separate named container so they can bring it into the class before school. We have several children who are allergic to nuts and nut products so please try to avoid these where possible.

It is also a good idea for the children to have an extra named drink bottle that they can leave at school for the week. This drink bottle is for water only which they can drink throughout the day. The bottles should be taken home on Fridays to be cleaned out for the next week.

If you are able to help in the classroom please approach your child's teacher and let her know. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Terms 1 and 4 are compulsory hat terms. If your child does not have a hat they will be asked to play in shady areas. With this sunny weather it is imperative that every child is wearing their hat for all outside activities. We are strongly committed to establishing sun safe practices.

The children will be bringing a reading book home to read on Monday to Thursday with a poem book coming home on Fridays for weekend reading. Please fill out their log books as a record of their reading. There are also some very good pointers in the reading log that can help you with your child's reading. They may also have some spelling homework. Please ensure that the children keep their things in their book bag so they always have them at their finger tips.

We use an integrated learning approach in the classrooms with this year's theme being "Our Life Long Learning Journey" This term our focus is on Friendship and our Key Competency is 'Relating To others'. The value we are focussing on is Compassion. We are also celebrating excellence in children's work presentation. This "A1 Quality" work will be displayed in the A1 quality area in your child's classroom. Please encourage your child to share their A1 quality work with you. We will also be encouraging A1 Quality Behaviour and working to support your child to achieve consistent pro social behaviours, especially in the playground setting.

We ask that children put all their used lunch wrap, glad wrap etc into their lunchbox and take it home each day. This is a huge help to our property manager. All food scraps and empty yoghurt containers can be put into the outside rubbish bins at school.

Please respect all the "out of bounds" areas at school. Parents with children are not permitted in the carpark areas. Please help us to keep your children safe by using only the designated paths. The Junior Adventure Playground is now out of bounds before and after school due to safety and supervision concerns. Children are welcome to use the sandpit before school.

Children can take up to a month to settle into their new classes, learn the rules and routines and the ways of their new teacher. Please keep encouraging and reassuring your child as they become familiar with their new surroundings.

#### Dates to Note:

Team 4/5 Assembly & Teddy Bears Picnic: Friday 26 March

Term 1 Report: Monday 29 March

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a great year with your children.  
Kind regards...

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